

One of the outstanding characteristics about this man is that he was a Bible reading individual. We are told this in Acts 8:32-33: *"Now the passage of Scripture which he was reading was this: 'He was led as a sheep to slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearers is silent, so He does not open His mouth, in humiliation His judgment was taken away; who will relate His generation? For His life is removed from the earth.'" The Old Testament quotation is, of course, taken from Isaiah 53:7-8. Philip asked this man, "Do you understand what you are reading?" in Acts 8:30. You see, the Bible is supposed to be understood. There would be no value in any of us reading from it if we could never come to an understanding and learn from it. The Bible was given to man by God as a guide for his life. Psalm 119:105 reads: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Paul instructed Timothy, and us, to "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth," in 2 Timothy 2:15. The Bible can be understood, regardless of what some may tell us to the contrary. Those who are truly interested in learning God's will can find it in the scriptures. The Ethiopian replied to Philip, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" in Acts 8:31. It should be clear that he wanted Philip to teach him as we observe his next question: "Please tell me, of whom does the prophet say this? Of himself or of someone else?" (Acts 8:34).*

To answer the question, Philip began at the same scripture and preached Jesus to him. We have no record of exactly what was said, but he told the man about Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Savior of men. They presently came to some water and the Ethiopian said, *"Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?"* in Acts 8:36. This should make it plain to us that in preaching Jesus, Philip told the man about the necessity of immersion. That much is obvious since, after hearing him, the Ethiopian desired to be immersed. So Philip asked him if he believed, to which he received an affirmative response (Acts 8:37). Then we are told this in Acts 8:38: *"He ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him."*

The man from Ethiopia believed and he was immersed; he was thus saved and became a New Testament Christian. We are further told that when he came up out of the water he went on his way rejoicing, in Acts 8:39. This account provides the simple process of New Testament conversion. The Ethiopian heard the gospel message, the good news about Jesus, and he believed it. He made up his mind that he wanted to serve Christ. After confessing his faith he was immersed. All of us today have that same opportunity since the gospel message hasn't changed; it remains simple and to the point. Have you responded in obedient faith?

For additions or corrections to the directory please contact Mike Mendez

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For corrections, suggestions, or to have something included in the bulletins, please contact Ryan or Jennifer Stiltz at 924-0435 or email at stiltz_family@sbcglobal.net

WELCOME

to the
Church of Christ
meeting at Mack Road

This morning's sermon:
Qualifications of Elders
1 Timothy 3



Congregational Meeting Times:

Sunday

Morning Bible Study 9:30 am

Worship Service 10:30 am

Evening Service 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Morning Bible Study 10:00 am

Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm

Visitors

The members here would like to offer a special welcome to our visitors today. Please allow us to shake your hand and talk with you, as we take great joy in getting to know you. Visitor cards are available at the pews for you to provide us with a record of your attendance. We appreciate you taking the time to fill these out.

Important dates to remember:

April:

Sun. 19th - Business Meeting at the building, 4:15 PM.

Sun. 26th - Last Sunday of the month song service during pm service

Fellowship Opportunities:

Sun. 5th - Mt Mikes Pizza following morning services

Sun. 5th - **Group 1** meets following evening services

Mon. 6 - Sat. 11th local missionary work planned, see Mike for details

Fri. 24th - Family Night Potluck at the Uptegrove's, 6:30 pm



Ladies House to House Fellowship

We are starting a new book, it is from the Life Principles Study Series
Lesson Book: *"Developing Inner Strength, Living in the Joy of God's Love"*

Next class: April 19th at Jennifer Stiltz's home.

Please prepare lesson 2. Lunch will be provided.

If you'd like to host a class, please let Jennifer know.

Classes

Growing Kids God's Way: Tuesdays at 6:45pm at the Stiltz home.

New Converts Class: 2nd and 4th Sundays at 5:00 at the building.

Young Adults Class: Fridays at Caleb's (Steve Sarff's) home. See Caleb for details.

MEMBER'S CORNER

Recently Baptized:

Alan Williams Jr., Sakari Williams and Ricky were all baptized on March 29th

Conversion Of The Ethiopian

By: Dennis Stackhouse

A New Testament evangelist named Philip was instructed by an angel of the Lord to go down to the road which led from Jerusalem to Gaza, Acts 8:26 informs us. Having followed those instructions, he found a man reading the scriptures. The treasurer of Ethiopia, a eunuch serving under Candace the queen, was riding in a chariot and reading from the book of Isaiah. The account of Philip's contact with this particular man, and of how the Ethiopian was converted to Christ, is a stirring demonstration of the power of the gospel (Romans 1:16). It also provides us with a clear example of how people were converted in apostolic times.

Acts 8:27 tells us that the Ethiopian was in charge of all the queen's treasure, so he was obviously a man of great authority; however, his desire to read from the scriptures also indicates that he was undeniably a man concerned about spiritual things. Verse 27 also reveals that he had been to Jerusalem to worship and was engaged in reading the scriptures on his way home. There can be no doubt in our minds that he was a sincere, religious man. But he was not a Christian. He still needed to be converted. He was religious, but he was still lacking in his understanding. This should remind each of us about the ever-present possibility and very real danger of our being sincere in what we believe, and still needing further instruction.

(continued on back)

Birthdays this week:

Stephanie Thompson	April 5
Louis Richardson	April 10