

Acts 8:26-39

Read Acts 8:26-39

1. The way that Luke tells the story it is clear that it is God himself who initiates this encounter that leads to the conversion of the Eunuch – communicating to us that conversation is a work of God’s initiating grace. What impact would it have on our lives if we trusted this truth? What impact would it have on our lives if we lose sight of this truth?
2. Luke gives us a number of details about the Eunuch. What do we learn about him from those details? His heart? His motivations?
3. His visit to the temple to worship would have been fruitless. He would have been barred access (see Deuteronomy 23:1). What would he have been feeling / thinking on his return journey?
4. He was reading from the prophet Isaiah chapter 53. Read not only Luke’s quotation, but the original (Isaiah 53:6-8). There are some notable differences in the quotes. What is Luke communicating about the Eunuch’s interpretation of this passage by the way he quotes it?

5. Commentators point out that within the Eunuch's field of view would have been Isaiah 56:3-5. As you read it, how does this passage inform you about the Eunuch's desire to understand what the scriptures meant?

6. Philip gets into the chariot, and tells the Eunuch about Jesus starting from this passage. How does Jesus not only fulfil Isaiah but meet the Eunuch exactly where he was?

7. In the contemporary church we often focus heavily on one's own personal faith. How does the passage communicate that community is necessary for conversion? What elements of the role of community are important for the Eunuch's conversion experience?

8. In what ways does this conversion story call you more deeply into community?