bible study

Just Go!

By Shari Miller

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you knew God was working in your life in a very special way? Maybe the time, place, people, and events all seemed to line up beautifully for an opportunity to witness, to serve, to help, to encourage, to comfort, or to rejoice. Share your experience with the group or with a partner.

Opening Prayer: Dear Father, We praise You for creating us



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and giving us life. We especially thank You for sending Your Son Jesus to be our Savior. We glorify You for the new life we have because of Jesus' death and resurrection for us. Be with us as we study Your Word. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

Read **Acts 8:26-40** and **Romans 8:28**. On the road to Gaza, what circumstances worked together for Philip and the Ethiopian's good?

TIME

God chose just the right TIME for Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch to meet on the Gaza road. Discuss God's timing in this event. (See **Acts 8:26-30**.)

What do the following Bible passages remind us about God's timing?

Romans 5:5-7.

2 Corinthians 6:1-2 (Isaiah 49:8)

Galatians 4:3-5

Galatians 6:8-10

1 Timothy 2:5-6

→ [If time] Share with a partner or the group a TIME when you had a Gaza road experience — an opportunity to witness about God's grace in Jesus Christ.

TASK

God prepared just the right TASK for Philip on the Gaza road. What was Philip's task? (See **Acts 8:30-38**.)

Philip's primary task was to share about salvation in Jesus Christ. Read **Isaiah 53:7-8**, the passage Philip shared with the Ethiopian. What was the Suffering Servant's primary task?

How does the Holy Spirit work saving faith in our lives?

Romans 10:14-17

1 Peter 3:21-23

Mark 16:16a

1 Corinthians 10:17 (11:23-26)

What tasks does God prepare for His saved people in the following passages?

Isaiah 52:7

Ephesians 2:8-10; 4:15-16

Matthew 9:37-38

1 Corinthians 3:4-6, 8-10

Matthew 28:16-20

1 Corinthians 15:58

Acts 20:24

Colossians 1:9-14

Galatians 2:7-8

→ [If time] Read the following passages. Identify the task and the task achiever.

Proverbs 31:17

Acts 5:41-42

Matthew 9:35-36; Luke 8:1

Acts 10:34-42

Mark 16:15-16

Acts 14:6-7, 14-15, 21

- → [If time] List specific tasks God might have for you or your group to do (i.e., lend a helping hand in a given situation, provide "a cup of cool water," or transport someone to the hospital).
- → [If time] Can you name at least five Biblical characters that performed a God-given task in God's time?

JOY in the Journey

What happened to Philip after he shared the Good News of salvation with the Ethiopian? (See **Acts 8:39-40**.) Philip continued to be God's man and to share the Good News about Jesus, ready for action at such a time and place as God would lead and guide him.

What does God promise to each of us as we go and do the tasks He has prepared for us?

Deuteronomy 16:15b

Romans 8:28

Matthew 28:20b

Hebrews 13:20

What was the Ethiopian's response to news of salvation in Jesus? (See **Acts 8:38-39**.) Read the following Bible passages and note similar responses.

Psalm 28:7

Isaiah 12:2-4

Psalm 51:12

Luke 15:3-7

Psalm 95:1-3

Romans 15:13

Can you imagine the conversation when the Ethiopian eunuch returned to the queen's palace and his own quarters? What do you think he might have said? Maybe he said something like: "You'll never believe this, but while I was riding in the chariot on the Gaza road, this complete stranger approached me, noticed that I was reading the book of Isaiah, and told me all about the Suffering Servant..."

JUST GO!...That's what our God asks us to do. He promises that he has a **TIME** and a **TASK** for each of us. Read 1 **Peter 2:9-10** and **Acts 1:9**.

Yes, we JUST GO with the blessing of our God! What excitement! What a life! As you look forward to your next Gaza road experience, may you have **JOY** in your journey!

Read together **Ephesians 3:20-21** as the closing prayer:

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Sing: "Go into the World" (All God's People Sing! 101) or "Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling" (TLH 496, LW 318, LSB 826).

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Dear God, You are my Creator and have given me diverse talents and abilities.

For the sake of Your Son, and my Savior, Jesus, forgive me for the times that I have not used the gifts You have given me, but rather kept them hidden away. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to encourage me to step out boldly, trusting in the promise that You are with me. Help me see that new challenges can be opportunities to serve You! This I pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.