



PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN

READER'S THEATER

ACTS 8:26-40



CHARACTERS



Narrator



Angel



Philip



Ethiopian

PROPS

- Chair or box for the chariot
- Rolled paper scroll
- Blue cloth or paper for water



SCENE 1 – GOD SENDS PHILIP



Narrator: Philip was one of Jesus' followers. He loved God and obeyed Him. One day, God had a special assignment for Philip.



Angel: Philip, go south to the desert road that leads from Jerusalem to Gaza.



Philip: Yes, Lord. I will go where You send me.



Narrator: Philip obeyed immediately and began walking down the desert road.

(Philip begins walking.)

SCENE 2 – THE CHARIOT



Narrator: As Philip traveled, he saw an Ethiopian official riding in a chariot. The man had been worshiping God in Jerusalem and was traveling home. While riding, he was reading from the book of Isaiah.



Ethiopian: *(Reading aloud)*
"He was led like a sheep to the slaughter..."



Narrator: The Holy Spirit spoke to Philip.



Philip: I will do what God says.
(Philip runs toward the chariot.)



Philip: Do you understand what you are reading?



Ethiopian: How can I unless someone explains it to me? Please come and sit with me.
(Philip sits beside the Ethiopian.)

SCENE 3 – PHILIP SHARES JESUS



Narrator: The Ethiopian wanted to understand God's Word, and God had sent Philip to help him.



Ethiopian: Who is this Scripture talking about? Is the prophet talking about himself or someone else?



Philip: This Scripture is talking about Jesus.



Narrator: Philip began explaining God's plan of salvation.



Philip: Jesus is God's Son. He came to save us from our sins. He died on the cross and rose again. Anyone who believes in Him can have eternal life.



Ethiopian: So Jesus is the Savior God promised?



Philip: Yes! Jesus is the Savior, and He loves you.



Narrator: Philip continued sharing the good news about Jesus as they traveled down the road.

SCENE 4 – THE ETHIOPIAN BELIEVES



Narrator: As they traveled, they came to some water.
(Point to the blue cloth.)



Ethiopian: Look! Here is water. What is stopping me from being baptized?



Philip: If you believe in Jesus with all your heart, you may be baptized.



Ethiopian: I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God!



Narrator: The Ethiopian had believed the good news and wanted to follow Jesus.

SCENE 5 – BAPTISM AND JOY



Narrator: The chariot stopped, and both men went down into the water.



Philip: Because you believe in Jesus, I baptize you.
(Pause as if baptizing.)



Narrator: When they came up out of the water, the Ethiopian was filled with joy.



Ethiopian: I am so happy! Jesus has changed my life!
(Ethiopian celebrates.)



Narrator: The Spirit of the Lord took Philip away, but the Ethiopian continued his journey rejoicing.



Philip: I will keep sharing the good news wherever God sends me.
(Philip waves and begins walking.)



CLOSING



Narrator: Philip shared Jesus with the Ethiopian. The Ethiopian learned about Jesus and believed. The good news kept spreading from person to person.

ALL TOGETHER:

Just like runners pass a baton in a relay race, we can pass the message of Jesus to others!



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

Who helped the Ethiopian understand the Bible?



2

What did Philip tell the Ethiopian about?



3

How did the Ethiopian show he believed in Jesus?



4

Who helped you learn about Jesus?



5

Who can you tell about Jesus this week?

