



## #15 "PHILIP ON ROUTE 66"

The Vineyard Church of Conroe

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**Sermon Notes**

### **The Route of the Spirit is not THE QUICKEST OR EASIEST WAY TO TRAVEL**

#### **But is BLESSED - ENVELOPED BY HIS PRESENCE**

*You're blessed when you stay on course, walking steadily on the road revealed by God. You're blessed when you follow his directions, doing your best to find him. That's right—you don't go off on your own; you walk straight along the road he set. Psalm 119:1-3 MSG*

**I. Acts 8:5-8** Spirit leads a person to ministry

**Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there.<sup>6</sup> When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said.<sup>7</sup> With shrieks, evil spirits came out of many, and many paralytics and cripples were healed.<sup>8</sup> So there was great joy in that city.**

### **The Spirit Route PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES TO MINISTER AND SHARE JESUS**

*Jesus sent his twelve harvest hands out with this charge:*

*"Don't begin by traveling to some far-off place to convert unbelievers. And don't try to be dramatic by tackling some public enemy. Go to the lost, confused people right here in the neighborhood. Tell them that the kingdom is here. Bring health to the sick. Raise the dead. Touch the untouchables. Kick out the demons. You have been treated generously, so live generously. Matthew 10:5-8 MSG*

**II. Acts 8:9-24** Spirit reveals true heart/reveals root issues

**<sup>9</sup> Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He boasted that he was someone great...<sup>13</sup> Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.**

**<sup>18</sup> When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money... <sup>21</sup> You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God... <sup>23</sup> For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin."**

## **The Spirit Route REVEALS OUR HEART TO PURIFY IT**

*Create in me a pure heart, God, and make my spirit right again. <sup>11</sup> Do not send me away from you or take your Holy Spirit away from me. <sup>12</sup> Give me back the joy of your salvation. Psalm 51:10-12a NCV*

**III. Acts 8:25** Spirit breaks down barriers between people groups  
**<sup>25</sup> When they had testified and proclaimed the word of the Lord, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many Samaritan villages.**

## **The Spirit Route INTERSECTS DIFFERENT CULTURES TO BREAK DOWN RELATIONAL BARRIERS**

*Christ himself is our peace. He made both Jewish people and those who are not Jews one people. They were separated as if there were a wall between them, but Christ broke down that wall of hate by giving his own body... His purpose was to make the two groups of people become one new people in him and in this way make peace. <sup>16</sup> It was also Christ's purpose to end the hatred between the two groups, to make them into one body, and to bring them back to God... Ephesians 2:14-16 NCV*

**IV. Acts 8:26-40** Spirit creates divine appointments between people  
**<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road — the desert road — that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza."<sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch...**

## **The Spirit Route DETOURS FOR "DIVINE APPOINTMENTS" BETWEEN PEOPLE**

*When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." John 4: 7-10*