

Jesus Loves Seattle Why Follow Jesus? Pastor Ryan Bunbury Acts 8:26-38 September 22, 2019

THREE COGNATIVE REFLECTIONS:

I. DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN THE NARRATIVE OF <u>THE</u> ETHIOPIAN CHURCH?

God's Word is LIVING and ACTIVE -Hebrews 4:12 This man (eunuch) had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot READING THE BOOK OF ISAIAH the prophet -Acts 8:27b-28 NIV "And make sure no physically mutilated person (eunuch) is ever made to think, 'I'm damaged goods. I don't really belong." -God, Isaiah 56:3b MSG

"The mountains may depart and the hills removed, but my steadfast LOVE SHALL NOT DEPART FROM YOU, and my covenant of PEACE SHALL NOT BE REMOVED," says the Lord. -Isaiah 54:10 ESV

"To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose what pleases ME... I will give them an everlasting name that will NOT BE CUT OFF." -God, Isaiah 56:4-5b NIV The Scriptures were written to teach and encourage us by GIVING US HOPE. -Romans 15:4 CEV May THE GOD OF HOPE fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him so that you may OVERFLOW WITH HOPE by the power of the Holy Spirit. -Romans 15:13 NIV

THREE COGNATIVE REFLECTIONS:

II. DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN THE NARRATIVE OF PHILIP?

Philip went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah... And many who had been PARALYZED OR LAME were healed. -Acts 8:5, 7b NLT The Spirit told Philip, "GO to that chariot and STAY NEAR IT." -Acts 8:29-30 MSG

"Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless SOMEONE explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. -Acts 8:30b-31 NIV

"If someone asks about YOUR HOPE as a believer, ALWAYS BE READY TO EXPLAIN IT." -1 Peter 3:15 NLT The eunuch asked Philip, "WHO is the prophet taking about, himself or someone else?" -Acts 8:34 NIV Philip [grabbed his chance] began with that very passage of Scripture and TOLD HIM THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS. -Acts 8:35 NIV

THREE COGNATIVE REFLECTIONS:

III. HOW DO YOU SEE YOURSELF <u>FOLLOWING JESUS</u> IN THE NARRATIVE OF SEATTLE?

"I've got my hand on THIS CITY to SAVE it." -God, Isaiah 37:35 MSG

What is *one thing* you can do today to be Jesus and unleash hope in Seattle?

You have been MY HOPE, Sovereign Lord, MY CONFIDENCE SINCE MY YOUTH. As for me, I WILL ALWAYS HAVE HOPE. -Psalm 71:5, 14a
As they travelled along the road they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Why shouldn't I be BAPTIZED?" Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." The eunuch answered, "I BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST IS the Son of God."... and PHILIP BAPTIZED HIM. -Acts 8:36-38 NIV
He had what he'd come for and went on down the road AS HAPPY AS HE COULD BE. -Acts 8:39 MSG