**Divine Appointments**

“Making the most of every opportunity.”

**Text**: **Acts 8:26-38**, “Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. **27**And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship **28**and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. **29**And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” **30**So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” **31**And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. **32**Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. **33**In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” **34**And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” **35**Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. **36**And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” **English Standard Version**

*Making the most of every opportunity requires you to*…

**Point #1**: **Obey** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! **vv.26-28**

*Making the most of every opportunity requires you to*…

**Point #2**: **Be** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! **vv.29-35**

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**Point #3**: **Encourage** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! **vv.36-38**

**Corollary Verses**: Isaiah 53:7-8; Psalm 19:7; Exodus 20:3-17; Romans 6:23; Genesis 3:3; Romans 5:8; Mark 1:15; 1 Peter 3:15; Acts 2:38; Matthew 28:18-20.
**Application Questions**
These questions are provided for your further study and application of today’s sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to the questions listed below will assist you in gaining a better understanding of the point of this passage. Please be prepared to discuss your answers with your Home Fellowship Groups.

1. Read **1 Samuel 15:22-24**; **John 14:15**; and **Luke 6:46** then answer the following questions. What role does obedience play in the life of a believer? How do we show God that we love Him? How is it hypocritical to call Jesus your Lord and Savior and live a life that lacks obedience to His word? What’s the difference between loving obedience and legalism?
2. Read **1 Peter 3:15**; **Colossians 4:6**; and **2 Timothy 2:15** then answer the following questions. Why is it important to be prepared to answer other people who have questions about your faith? What role does your demeanor and words play helping people understand biblical truth? Why is studying absolutely necessary for every believer to be prepared? Give an example.
3. Read **Genesis 2:3**, **15**; **Proverbs 12:1** and **Colossians 3:17** then answer the following questions. Is work a result of the curse of God upon the world from Adam and Eve’s sin? Why or why not? How should you approach your work of ministry and being prepared for it?
4. Read **Acts 2:38**; **Matthew 28:18-20; Luke 23:40-43** and **Acts 22:16** then answer the following questions. Why is it important to be baptized? Does baptism save you? explain your answer! What do people need in order to submit themselves to baptism? How can you encourage other people to be baptized?
5. **Bonus question on evangelism**: Jesus said He will build His church (Matthew 16:18). Note the following statistics and think about ways that you can reach out with your Home Fellowship Group and individually. People surveyed regarding “How did you end up at church?” – they had a special need – 1-2%; Walk in 2-3%; Pastor/staff invited 5-6%; Visitation/telemarketing 1-2%; Sunday School/Small group (HFG) 4-5%; Evangelistic crusade .5%; Church programs 2-3%; and Friend/relative 75-90%