STORY

Philip and the Man from Ethiopia - Acts 8:26-39

TEACHER PRAYER

Lord Jesus, today is another opportunity for me to share what You want these children to absorb into their hearts. One of them may not yet know You as Savior, so I want to help as Philip did. Others may be ready to go to a neighbor or acquaintance and present Your Word in a better way because of Philip's example. I follow where You direct and ask You to bless every step of my way. Thank You. Amen.

OUTER AIM

God saved a non-Jewish foreigner by means of a Christian missionary.

INNER AIM

God sends us to preach the gospel to all people.

BACKGROUND

(Rupprecht Bible History References Vol.2, pp. 498-505) v. 26

- Stephen (a Greek name) was the second in the listing of those chosen to supervise the Jerusalem Christian food pantry and see to it that the Greek widows were not overlooked.
- An angel came from heaven with a special assignment for Philip--one that would take him out of town onto the Jerusalem-Gaza federal highway going to the southeastern corner of Judea.
- The passing comment that "this is desert" sets the stage as a place where one person will offer aid to a stranger in need.
- Yet it was not Philip, the man on foot, who needed a helping hand; it was the rich man in the chariot who needed help to find the road that leads from one's own spiritual desert into God's well-watered Paradise.

v. 27

- *Eunuch*, a man usually of the slave class, castrated in order to guarantee that women he served/guarded would be safe from rape, as well as to protect him from false accusations of rape.
- He had risen to a high position in government civil service, for as Secretary of the Treasury, he was a Cabinet member of the government of *Ethiopia*, a gentile nation in Africa (probably Meroe, in S.Nubia, not modern Ethiopia) that had a succession of women as rulers during the first century AD.
- This first angel directive said nothing about mission work or preaching to anyone.
- But Philip obeyed, of course. (If we wonder why the angel could not carry out the mission himself to the Ethiopian man without Philip's help, apparently God wants to use us humans to reach other humans.
- Angels do God's messenger service, but humans are used for intensive instruction or the long-term soul-care that we Christians render to one another.)
- This man was not only a foreigner to Jews, he was also of the Negroid race; thus no Jew would have selected him as mission material unless by direct order from God.
- Yet an unusual case such as this was soon to become usual for mission outreach, as Christians discovered that people of the Jewish race were less receptive than folks of different race and nationality.
- The eunuch was not ignorant of the God of Abraham.
- He evidently was a convert to the Jewish worship of Jehovah and had made a special trip of many hundreds of miles to get to Jerusalem to worship (for the Passover or Pentecost festival) as every devout Jew (or proselyte) wanted to do.

- He had bought a hand-printed copy of the book of the prophet Isaiah, the premier Old Testament book of the Gospel of the Savior.
- As his chauffeur handled the horsepower, he occupied himself in reading this gospel.
- He valued God's Word even though he did not understand everything he read, and at this decisive moment he needed help in understanding a crucial truth which God was about to give him by the hand of Philip

v. 29

• Up to now Philip did not know his assignment on the highway that day, so the angel told him his next move was to get going and catch up to that chariot on the road ahead .

v.30

- So Philip broke out into a jogging trot and soon caught up with the idling chariot and its occupants.
- Evidently the black man was reading the text of Isaiah out loud--and Philip deduced that the man was puzzled about the wording or the meaning of the words.
- (This would be a good time to ask the students if they have ever been puzzled about something in the Bible--perhaps a passage they have heard in church, or been told to memorize, etc., or even Isaiah 53...*and* what they have done to solve the puzzlement.)
- Philip "cut to the chase" with no delay for chit-chat about the heat or the man's fine vehicle. "Do you understand...?" is a fine non-challenging approach because any response is OK.
- We teachers do well to regularly ask this question in our classes of religion, literature, math, science...and then run with the ball. Invite dialogue rather than pursue a monologue. It is not enough to teach the Bible as one would train a parrot. It is not enough to assert, declare, and drill Bible truths. We must discover whether we have brought the student to understand what God wants him to understand.)

v. 31

• What a wonderful, ingenuous, sincere reply! And what a motto for every classroom!

v. 32-34

- The instruction class began at Isaiah 52:7-8, prophesying Jesus' last hours on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.
- (Ask the class if anyone knows the answer to the man's question. Who is the person referred to as the *sheep*, the *lamb* who had received no fair trial, no justice, and whose life was taken from him...and when was all this to take place?)
- The eunuch and Philip were ready for the key question: Is Jesus the embodied fulfillment of the human tragedy here predicted by Isaiah?

v. 35

- Philip's heart was already open, and now his voice opened the mysteries of God's redeeming love in Jesus the Messiah.
- Starting at the puzzling text, he followed Scripture's signposts to lead the eunuch to deduce that Jesus the Nazarene was none other than the long-awaited Messiah.
- (The class may be asked to come up with additional Scriptures that Philip probably used to draw this man to Jesus as his Savior. If we note that no mention is made here of sins, judgment, repentance, or any other Law-word, it becomes clear that at such a time in his life, what the eunuch needed was not a stronger thirst, but a good long drink of the Water of Life.)

v. 36- 38

- During the process of this Bible class, the eunuch's heart became convinced that Jehovah had given Jesus to be the Messiah-Savior, and thus Jesus was his personal Savior. He had also become ready to commit himself, body and soul, into Jesus' hands by Holy Baptism.
- The question, "What hinders me from being baptized?" may indicate a concern that perhaps his Gentile or Negro heritage could be an obstacle to his being accepted into the Christian fellowship. It would not, of course.
- Note: Though v. 37 is not found in the most reliable ancient texts, it is consistent with common practice that such a confession would be asked of and given by the convert about to be baptized. As to the mode of

baptism (either immersion or hand application of the water) the wording of the text tells us only that what was done by the one person was <u>likewise</u> done by the other ("both Philip and the eunuch went down,...they came up out of the water"). Those who hold to the theory that this was an immersion style baptism should admit that this would require the pastor to be immersed along with the convert, which is rather unlikely.

- This entire encounter lasted only a few hours, but it brought this soul to the Savior, who claimed the eunuch for all eternity.
- v. 39
- As Philip was spirited away to do other privileged work, the eunuch steered his vehicle homeward, absolutely thrilled over what he had received from God and ready to share with folks back home.
- Although he did not have the support of a Christian congregation when he arrived home, we expect that--due to his government position and his joy-filled heart--he would be able to gain an audience for the Scriptures.
- We also expect that many souls in that heathen foreign land were led to the Savior by his service to Jesus, and we will someday meet these folks who are now awaiting our arrival at the throne of grace.

STUDENT PRAYER

Teacher: Lord, don't give up on anyone who gets a hold of a Bible; give him/her the urge to read the parts that tell of Your love in Jesus, and send someone like me to help him understand what Jesus is all about. Amen.

Student: Lord, don't give up on me when I don't understand something in Your Word. Get my brain working on it, and get my heart open to accept what You want to tell me. Especially bless my pastor and teacher to get my attention and to hold it when they tell me Your Word. Thanks and Amen.

PRESENTATION

The story should be told in the words of the teacher using appropriate background information from the Background section. The Middle and Upper levels could read the story from the student folder.

APPLICATIONS

- 1. We all have to start somewhere in our Bible studies. Where do YOU want to start?
- 2. When a person searching for relief from a sin-burdened conscience, salvation from a bad life, and freedom from evil influences, finally discovers that God has already taken care of all this for him in Jesus, he can hardly *slouch* his way through life after such a discovery.
- 3. We want to be ready to present Jesus at any time to anyone. Thus we want to prepare in advance for such "chance" encounters by studying the Bible as God's personal Word on everything of value for souls headed into eternity.
- 4. We may meet someone new to us at school, at a sports event, during a vacation, at the place we work, at the dentist's office, or on the Internet. Let's keep an eye and an ear open for an opportunity to share a Bible thought or to ask the other person's opinion on a moral subject. This can lead to searching the Bible for God's viewpoint.
- 5. The way God works to save souls is to send a Christian to individuals who do not yet understand God's Word, especially the parts about our Savior. God does not want us to hold back from these opportunities to serve people of a different race from a foreign country, for He can open hearts when people understand what He has done for their salvation.
- 6. There can be no greater goal in life than to aid a soul in finding the Savior and there is no greater pleasure than being God's spokesperson in using His Word to enlighten and nurture another soul in God's will and ways. And the Christian person <u>can do it</u>. Remember? *Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.*" (*Mt.7:7*)

- 7. Besides, if challenged without advance warning, we have this assurance: "But when they arrest you, and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit." (Mark 13:11) All glory to God, Amen!
- 8. For an adult who has already been brought to faith, Baptism serves as a wonderful means of grace through which God offers and gives spiritual and eternal blessings.
 - a. On Pentecost, the apostle Peter said to his adult listeners, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38)
 - b. Ananias said to Paul who had already come to faith, "Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:16)
 - c. Finally, Jesus gave this wonderful promise, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved." (Mark 16:16a)

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

Acts 8:37 - I believe that Jesus Christ (Messiah) is the Son of God

Acts 4:20 - For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Middle any of the above and...

Acts 4:12 - Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

Acts 2:38-39 - Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.

<u>Upper</u> any of the above and...

Acts 10:42-43 - And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.

Eph.2:11-13 - Therefore remember, that...at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been made near by the blood of Christ. James 5:19-20 - Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

HYMN CHOICES

"Today Thy Mercy Calls Us" (TLH #279) "God's Word is Our Great Heritage" (TLH #283) "We have a Sure Prophetic Word" (TLH #290) "Spread, Oh, Spread, Thou Mighty Word" (TLH #507)

Acts 8:5-8, 26-39

The Story

Parents: Review this lesson with your child.

Philip was a Christian preaching about Jesus in Samaria. God sent an angel to Philip. The angel told Philip to go along a road into the desert. Philip went.

As Philip was walking, he saw a man from Ethiopia riding in a chariot. The man was reading the Bible. God told Philip to talk to the man. Philip heard the man reading in Isaiah about a man who was quiet like a lamb, even when others were taking him to kill him. The man the Ethiopian was reading about was like a sheep being led to be killed. Philip asked the Ethiopian if he understood what the Bible was saying. The man said, "No, I need some help to understand."

That part of the Bible talks about Jesus. Philip told the Ethiopian about Jesus. Knowing about Jesus made the Ethiopian very happy. Philip helped him to see that Jesus died for his sins, and that Jesus is the Son of God.

Philip and the Ethiopian came to some water. The Ethiopian wanted Philip to baptize him. Philip said, "I will baptize you if you believe." The man said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." They went into the water. Philip baptized the Ethiopian.

Then the Holy Spirit took Philip away so that the Ethiopian could see him no more. Even so, he rejoiced because he know knew Jesus as his Savior. The man went home very happy. The Holy Spirit gave the Ethiopian faith to believe Jesus is his Savior.

The Holy Spirit gives us faith to believe in Jesus.

Passage

"I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Acts 8:37

Hymn

Jesus loves the little children All the children of the world Red and yellow, black and white, All are precious in His sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Prayer

Thank You, Jesus, for saving the man from Ethiopia. Thank You, Jesus, for saving me from my sins. Thank You for the people who help me to know about You. Thank You for the Bible and for sending the Holy Spirit into my heart so that I believe. Amen.





Classroom Activity - Help the class do the following...

- 1. Draw a book. Write the word **BIBLE** on it.
- Who was reading the Bible?
- Who helped him understand the Bible?



- Draw a man. Write the name **JESUS** under him.
- About whom did Philip talk?
- Who talks to you about Jesus?
- 3. Draw a river. Write the word **WATER** on it.
- Why did Philip baptize the man?
- When were you baptized?
- What does the pastor do when he baptizes someone?



"I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Acts 8:37

Color the person who said these words.

Who is the other person in the picture? Could he have said the same thing?

Name three people you know who would say these same words.

Acts 8:5-8, 26-39





Philip and the Man from Ethiopian - Level 1

The Story

Philip was preaching about Jesus in Samaria. God sent an angel to Philip. The angel told Philip to go along a road into the desert. Philip went.

As Philip was walking, he saw a man from Ethiopia riding in a chariot. The man was reading the Bible. God told Philip to talk to the man. Philip heard the man reading about a man who was quiet like a lamb, even when others were taking him to kill him. The man the Ethiopian was reading about was like a sheep being led to be killed. Philip asked the Ethiopian if he understood what the Bible was saying. The man said, "No, I need some help to understand." That part of the Bible talks about Jesus. Philip told the Ethiopian about Jesus. Knowing about Jesus made the Ethiopian very happy. Philip helped him to see that Jesus died for his sins, and that Jesus is the Son of God.

Philip and the Ethiopian came to some water. The Ethiopian wanted Philip to baptize him. Philip said, "I will baptize you if you believe." The man said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." They went into the water. Philip baptized the Ethiopian.

Then the Holy Spirit took Philip away so that the Ethiopian could see him no more. Even so, he rejoiced because he know knew Jesus as his Savior. The man went home very happy.

Activity One

- 1. Draw a book. Write the word **BIBLE** on it.
- Who was reading the Bible?
- Who helped him understand the Bible?



- 2. Draw a man. Write the name **JESUS** under him.
- About whom did Philip talk?
- Who talks to you about Jesus?

- Why did Philip baptize the man?
- ► When were you baptized?
- What does the pastor do when he baptizes someone?

Passages

"I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Acts 8:37

Color the person on the front picture who said these words.

Who is the other person in the picture? Could he have said the same thing?

Name three people you know who would say these same words.

Hymn

Jesus loves the little children All the children of the world Red and yellow, black and white, All are precious in His sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Prayer

Thank you, Jesus, for saving the man from Ethiopia. Thank you, Jesus, for saving me from my sins. Thank You for the people who help me to know about You. Thank You for the Bible. Amen.

Acts 8:5-8, 26-39





Philip and the Man from Ethiopia - Level 2

The Story - Acts 8

Philip was in Samaria preaching about Jesus. Many people listened and believed and were very happy. But God knew about another person not in Samaria. He wanted Philip to tell him about Jesus.

God sent an angel to Philip. The angel told him to go to a road that led out of Jerusalem going through a desert. While Philip was on this road he saw a man in a chariot reading. God told him to go to that man. When Philip caught up to him he saw that the man was reading the book of Isaiah from the Bible and heard him read the part about a man being led to slaughter like a sheep and being as quiet as a lamb about it. Philip said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The man said, "No, about whom is this part of the Bible talking ?" Philip knew that it talked about Jesus. and told the man all about Jesus.

The man was very happy when he found out that Jesus saved him from his sins. When they came to a body of water the man asked if he could be baptized. Philip said he could if he believed. The man said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Philip baptized the man and then disappeared. The man went home very happy.

Activity One

Word list: Bible, Jesus, baptized, help, understood, angel

- 1. An_____told Philip to go to a desert road.
- 2. A man in a chariot was reading part of the _____
- Philip asked him if he ______ what he was reading.

4. The man said he needed______.

·____•

- 5. Philip told him how that part of the Bible talked about
- 6. Philip ______ the man at a place there was water.

Activity Two - Draw a picture of a person studying the Bible.



Passages

"I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Acts 8:37

- This is what we believe and Philip believed.
- How do we find out about Jesus?

"For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Acts 4:20

- We do not want to keep Jesus or our faith in Jesus a secret.
- What are some ways we let people know we believe in Jesus?

"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12

- The man in the chariot knew about God but did not know about Jesus before he talked to Philip.
- Why did God want him to know about Jesus?

Hymn/Song

Jesus loves the little children All the children of the world Red and yellow, black and white, All are precious in His sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for making sure that I know about Jesus my Savior. Help me to help others know about Jesus, too. Thank you for sending your son Jesus to save me. Amen.

Acts 8:5-8, 26-39



Where can you find people?

How are they different from each other?

How are they alike?

Prayer

Dear Father in heaven, thank You for giving us faith in Your son Jesus who lived and died for us. We know that You would have all people be saved. Help us to remember that people need to know Jesus to be saved. Help us to

tell other people about Jesus our Savior and not keep it a secret that we are Your children, Give us opportunities and courage to share our faith. In Jesus' name. Amen

Philip and the Man from Ethiopia--Acts 8:26-39

Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert.

{27} So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, {28} was returning. And sitting in his chariot, was reading Isaiah the prophet. {29} Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near, and overtake this chariot." {30} So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" {31} And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him.

{32} The place in the Scripture which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so He opened not His mouth. {33} In his humiliation His justice was taken away. And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from



the earth."

{34} So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?"

{35} Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this
Scripture, preached Jesus to him.
{37} Now as they went down the road they came to some water.
And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" {38} Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

{38} So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

{39} Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

What the Story Tells Us

- 1. Tell five facts about the man in the chariot.
- 2. Tell two things God did to bring Philip and the Ethiopian together.
- 3. Act out the conversation between Philip and the Ethiopian.
- 4. Tell three ways the Ethiopian shows his faith.

Outer Aim God saved the Ethiopian by having Philip tell him about Jesus.

What God Tells Us - Mark each as (T)rue or (F)alse

- ____1. God wants everyone to be saved.
- 2. It doesn't matter if people know about Jesus if they believe in God.
- _____3. It is not important to study God's Word if you believe in Jesus.

- 4. God will give us opportunities to talk about Jesus and help us know what to say.
- 5. If we don't understand something about God's Word we can find someone to help us.
- _____6. We have to understand everything about God's Word before we can tell people about Jesus.
- _____7. Only adults can be missionaries.

Passages

(Acts 4:12) Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

(Acts 2:38-39) Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.

(Acts 4:20) For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Inner Aim	
God sends us to	preach the gospel to all people.

Hymn

According to hymn 507 what are the main teachings of Scripture we want to share with the people around us and far away?

Your Turn

List five questions you could ask an acquaintance that might possibly lead to talking about Jesus. Start each question this way: What do you think about ...

- 1. What do you think about
- 2. What do you think about
- 3. What do you think about
- 4. What do you think about
- 5. What do you think about

Pick one of these questions and tell how you would answer it.

Prayer

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for the people You have put in my life to help me understand Your word. Thank You for Jesus, my Savior! Help me to see the opportunities to share Your word that You put in my life and give me the words to say. Bless my studies of Your word that I may grow in wisdom and understanding. Amen.

Acts 8:5-8, 26-39



What kind of books do you have in your library?

Do you have a Bible at home?

Do you read your Bible at home?

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, bless our study of Your word as You blessed the study of the eunuch of Ethiopia. May Your Spirit work in our hearts that we may grow in knowledge and understanding and in a willingness to share Your word with others. In our Savior Jesus' name. Amen

Philip and the Man from Ethiopia--Acts 8:26-39

Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert.

{27} So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, {28} was returning. And sitting in his chariot, was reading Isaiah the prophet.
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him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said,
"Do you understand what you are reading?"
{31} And he said, "How can I, unless
someone guides me?" And he asked Philip
to come up and sit with him.

{32} The place in the Scripture which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so He opened not His mouth. {33} In his humiliation His justice was taken away. And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth."

{34} So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?"

{35} Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. {37} Now as they went down the road they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?"

{38} Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he



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answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

{38} So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. {39} Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

Recalling Details - Fill in the blank with the words from the WORD LIST

WORD LIST (Some words will be used more than once.)

rejoiced, Philip, eunuch, Ethiopia, baptized, believe, baptizing, Jesus, Christ, Isaiah, Son, sheep, God, slaughtered, believed

1.	Philip was sent to theo f						
2.	The was reading the book of where it talks about the						
	being						
3.	Theinvited into his chariot to explain to him what						
	he was reading.						
4.	told theabout						
5.	Thewanted to be						
6.	was willing to baptize him if he						
7.	The said, "I that is the						
	of"						
8.	After the eunuch, disappeared.						
9.	The eunuch as he rode home.						

Outer Aim God saved a non-Jewish foreigner through Philip, a Christian missionary.

What Can We Do?

List five things you can do to help bring the word of God to people who do not know about Jesus.

1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

5.

What did Philip need to know in order to help the eunuch of Ethiopia?

How do we prepare to help others know about Jesus?

Inner Aim God sends us to preach the gospel to all people.

Passages

(Acts10:42-43) And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.

Who is "He" in this passage?

How do people receive forgiveness of their sins?

(Eph. 2:11-13) Therefore remember, that . . . at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been made near by the blood of Christ.

What is a person's relationship with God like if they do not believe in Jesus?

(Acts4:12) Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

About whom is this passage talking?

What would you say to people who think that it doesn't matter what you believe about God as long as you believe there is a god?

Hymn

Read hymn 283. Which line in particular fits this lesson? Why are the thoughts of the last two lines also very important to our mission work?

Prayer

Write a short prayer based on this lesson., Include a thank you and a request.