



Ashland Church of Christ 2006

Pressing Toward the Upward Call of God



“I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14).

Without Him I Am Nothing — Humility

“How Can I Unless Someone Guides Me?”

Text: Acts 8:26-40

Key Text: Acts 8:31, “And he said, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’
And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him.”

I. The Context.

- A. The man is dedicated to what he believes to be right.
- B. The man is willing to allow someone to teach him.
- C. The man ends up being obedient to the will of God.

II. The Criterion.

- A. Notice, he has an open Bible (Isaiah 53:7-8).
- B. Some things about the Bible are very difficult to understand.
- C. It is the plan of God that one has both a Bible and a teacher.
 - 1. 2Timothy 2:2.
 - 2. Acts 1:8.
 - 3. Deuteronomy 6:4-9.

III. The Character.

- A. The man is a man of prestige and power.

- B. The man is a man who wanted to do only the will of God.
- C. It is the plan of God that Christianity be taught by someone.
 - 1. Matthew 28:18-20.
 - 2. Mark 16:15-16.
 - 3. Paul’s journey’s in the book of Acts.

IV. The Compliance.

- A. No resistance, simply obedience.
- B. All it took for him to do what was right was water.
 - 1. This shows water to be essential to salvation.
 - 2. Any other way will not work.
- C. Notice, all the steps to salvation are at the least implied in this account of conversion.
 - 1. He heard the word — Phillip told it to him (35).
 - 2. He believed the word — he stated the belief (37).
 - 3. He repented of his sin — he began to do what Philip taught (36).
 - 4. He confessed Jesus — it is directly stated (37).
 - 5. He was baptized — again, it is directly stated (38).
 - 6. He lived faithful — it changed him (39).

V. The Consequence.

- A. Salvation, beyond the shadow of a doubt.
 - 1. Mark 16:16.
 - 2. 1Peter 3:21.
- B. A changed life and a changed journey.
- C. Happiness — true happiness.

There are good consequences to humility as seen in this passage:

Opportunity ... Honesty ... Openness ... Obedience ... Happiness