

Warm greetings from sunny Warsaw

**THE WHOLE CHURCH TAKING THE GOSPEL TO THE WHOLE
WORLD**

We will see how it was done by Philip, “Flying Evangelist”

Please, open Book of Acts 8:26-40 (przeczytać)

We are going to look at this passage as an example of personal evangelization. Who was the stage manager of the situation? The Holy Spirit! What did Spirit do? He found a proper man. He made him interested with a prayer, Scripture and the Temple.

These facts show us the work of preparation made by the Holy Spirit. He can do it without any help from a Christian. So, the Holy Spirit prepares the one, who is going to be evangelize a long time before we meet him.

Philip knew the voice of his master. This voice leads Philip to the desert! We ought to remember, that he was taken up from the middle of revival and sent to a wilderness. Is such an idea coming from the Lord?

The Holy Spirit sent Philip to the wilderness but didn't say “why”?

Philip didn't put unnecessary questions. He learned to listen. He stood up and went. 29th verse says how the Holy Spirit pointed him a proper man. Philip was able to recognize this impulse.

Don't you have such thoughts to suggest you to talk with other about Jesus? God very clearly pointed him to the man, whom he was to speak with. I don't have to be in evangelistic obsession always ready to stop everybody on the street and put him a questions: “Do you know where you will go when you die? When I am under control of the Holy Spirit, he leads me to the right person in the right place and the right time. Jesus so often left whole crowd to see a single person. What was the result of Philip's evangelization? 100% among the listeners were saved!

Would you like to take a part in such evangelization? God pointed him to the chariot and person, but didn't say how to start conversation!

We often expect that God is going to do the work for us.

How did Philip began the conversation? By (baj) asking a question.

You can also start conversation the same way. But start it from the place and situation where your listener is. He did not start the conversation by (baj) talking about miracles, healing the handicapped man or mysterious disappearance of the apostles from the prison. He began from the place and situation where his listener was at the very moment. He put the question: "Do you understand, what you are reading?"

Look again, how humble he was. An evangelist through whom hundreds of people come to the Lord is running after a chariot of Ethiopian man. Before Philip give him any answer he listened to him very carefully. Now he is listening to what Ethiopian said. He didn't say: "It is so simple, didn't you know it?" He didn't break his sentence saying: "No, listen what I want to say!". No! He just listened. Can you really listen to the people? At first Philip asked the question, but now he is waiting for question from him. Philip didn't speak ABOUT the Gospel, but gave him THE GOSPEL. Imagine the following situation: somebody fell down and broke his leg. You see the situation, came closer to this man and give him following advise: - Someone have to wrap your leg carefully and you should go to the doctor! Is this what he really needs? No, he needs your help, not just TALKING about help.

People don't need to be told ABOUT the Gospel. They NEED THE GOSPEL ! Later we are reading that there was a baptism... but keep it in mind that all happened in the desert place. Is it easy to find enough water to baptize somebody in the desert? What does it tell us about the whole situation? Whole event is under the control of the Holy Spirit.

Now Philip is leaving with “heavenly helicopter”. God didn’t lead him into the situation in extraordinary way. Very often we expect something like this. At first he walked, secondly he run, finally he flew away with “heavenly helicopter”. Do not try to change this order!

The last thought: Philip was not afraid that Ethiopian will backslide from God because of his solitude. He was not left alone.

He knew his Savior. He had the Scripture. He knew how to pray. And he had a man to pray for him. Remember! Jesus is the Lord. He controls all situations. It is Him who through (tru) His Spirit leads fish and fisherman to the meeting place. Are you under His guidance and power?

Jesus said: “Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of man” (Mark 1;17) It is a promise! First promise in New Testament.

So many times we have a grudge against God saying: “Where is my health, my money, prosperity...?” But you have forgotten about precious promise he has given his disciples: “Follow me and I will make you fishers of man”. Do you still want to keep a grudge against God: “Where is my health, my money, where is my new house...?” Or may by you want to confess: “Lord, forgive me that I have forgotten about your precious promise. Lord, made me a fisher of man.”

“Follow me and I will make you a fisher of man”. This is His promise and responsibility! Are you His follower or just His fan?