DIGDEEPER

July 17, 2016 We Will Go by Dr. Richard Rogers Acts 8:26-38 (<u>Listen Online</u>)

THE BIG IDEA

If we want to be a church of people who live outward focused lives, we must actually go out into the community and live intentionally. As Christians, we have a story that needs to be told and a world that needs to hear. We must practice the discipline of going into the world on purpose to make Jesus known in our everyday lives and conversations. God will provide clear opportunities to share the gospel if we will only pay attention, ask questions, trust God, and talk about Jesus.

START A CONVERSATION (Use this to begin a Conversation that Matters with your kids, coworkers, spouse, or someone in line at the grocery store. Then, <u>tell us about it</u>.)

• What is the one topic (not work related) you talk about most on an average day?

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- As Christians, we confess that men are in need of salvation and that Jesus Christ is the only one who can save. In what ways do your actions reflect these beliefs?
- In Acts 8:30, we see Philip begin a life-changing conversation with a simple question. What are some good questions we might ask of others in hopes of beginning a conversation that matters?
- Richard said, "The rarity of our conversations about Jesus reflects the distance of our relationship from Jesus." What's your reaction to that statement? And why?
- What are some of the common reasons or excuses in your own life when an opportunity to talk openly and confidently about Jesus passes you by? How does the Bible address these excuses?
- Do you know someone, like the eunuch, who is seeking God but doesn't know Jesus?

GO DEEPER

- Here's <u>a beautiful and simple picture</u> of what it means to be an outwardly focused church.
- In a brief story about sharing our faith, Jeremy reminds us that <u>we must love people</u> <u>deeply</u> if we ever hope to reach them with the gospel. Who in your own life do you love and need to share the gospel with this week?
- As Jeff Vanderstelt reminds us, <u>following Jesus in everyday life</u> is central to what it means to be a Christian, and it is the primary way many will hear of Christ.
- Sometimes, the best thing we can do is be honest with others about our own need. Here are <u>four reasons to be open with non-believers</u> about your own struggles or doubts.

LIVE IN LOVE THIS WEEK

Be mindful of those around you in the places you visit most often. Prayerfully look for an opportunity to talk about the need we all have for forgiveness because of our sin against a holy God. Confidently share what Jesus came to do and how he has transformed your own life. Then, invite the person you speak with to join you for worship next week.

