

SUPERNATURALLY NATURAL

Acts 8.25-40 // October 23, 2022

THE "NATURAL" WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Philip was one of the seven men appointed to serve the Grecian widows in Acts 6. On his way to Gaza, the Holy Spirit leads him to approach a chariot.

**It is easy for us to miss the work of the Spirit in our lives.
But as we pray to have His will become our will,
we ought to be expectant that this actually happens.**

As Philip obeys, he just...acts natural. He asks questions. He accepts an invitation to climb into the chariot and just talk.

THE HEART IS THE TARGET

Once Philip is invited into the chariot, he knows that his task now is to try to find a way to share the Gospel of Jesus with the Ethiopian.

**Just as all roads lead to Rome,
all emotions lead to the heart.**

One thing that evangelism, counseling, parenting, discipleship, or dealing with sin has in common is that the heart is always the target. To find our way into the heart, we look for "access points" that reveal what is in the heart. One of the best ways to find those access points is by listening for emotive words, such as "feel," "sad," "scared," "anxious," or even positive words like "excited," "overjoyed," or "satisfied."

2 Peter 3.9

**This is slow, slow work, this soul work.
And we get impatient and want to take shortcuts.**

-Eugene Peterson

SPREAD LIKE SEED

Our bodies are 60% water, but we never think of that. We think of what we touch, feel, see, and experience. But take away what actually *makes* us human, and we are just dust. What makes us as believers isn't just what we *do* for God in the big, exciting moments, but we live out our life with Christ in the mundane, every day, small things of life. The slow work of a seed being spread, leading to more trees, more fruit, and more seeds, then more fruit, and more trees, and on and on.

Ephesians 2.10

**We must not despise the small things.
That is MOST of our time for MOST of our life,
But insignificant days of faithfulness add up to a significant life.**

-Kevin DeYoung

NOTES:

This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

Revelation 7:9-10

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

Contact Us

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CONNECT WITH LMC



Point your smart
phone camera at
the QR Code to
access a virtual
Connection Card

MAILING ADDRESS:

Life Mission Church
420 Twin Oaks Valley Rd., #908
San Marcos, CA 92079

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before group starts, who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **Acts 8.25-40**. What stands out in this passage and from the sermon on Sunday?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

It is easy to feel inadequate or underqualified to share the Gospel. But how does Philip's interaction with the Ethiopian encourage you in your own life mission that God has called you to?

Your Life Mission

What are some ways that you have seen God use you in a "naturally supernatural" way? What are ways that you have recognized that He has aligned your will with His, and maybe you didn't realize it until recently? What are some "Gaza Road" situations that you find yourself in that you think you can be more intentional and expectant for the work of God to lead you into a conversation or finding an "in road" to others' hearts?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Pray for these people you have mentioned and for your heart and plan as you pursue them in love.

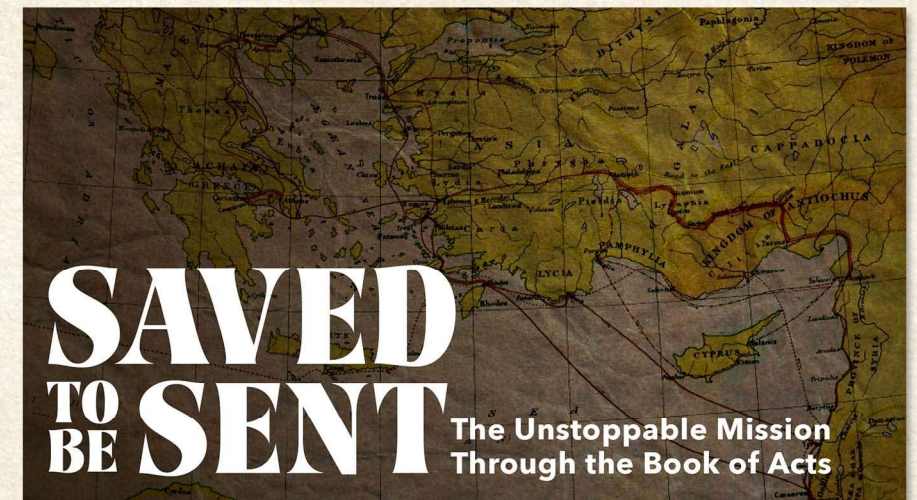
- **Preaching the Gospel to Yourself** (Matthew 6.9, 10)
 - Always begin your time of prayer focusing on God's goodness, who He is, and what He has done for us. Pray truths from this week's text.
- **Repent and Confess** (Matthew 6.12)
 - Real repentance begins where blame-shifting stops. Your circumstances don't need to change, your heart needs to change. Confess any particular sin that prevents you from walking out what God calls us to in the text, or any other particular sin you are wanting to fight. Ask Him to help you have strength to repent and run towards Him.
- **Ask for Provision** (Matthew 6.11-13)
 - Ask God for new perspective and for the things that you need. Once our hearts are fixed on Him, we can ask Him to help us with our needs. When your heart is begin filled with the Gospel first, your asking will be far more in line with God's desires and will. Ask Him to work in the relationships in your life that you are hoping to share God's love with.
- **Yield with Thanksgiving** (Matthew 6.10)
 - End your prayer by giving God thanks for His faithfulness and ask Him to help you trust and yield to His work and ways.



LIFE MISSION

CHURCH

**MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.**



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SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

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