

# WEEK 4

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE

# ONE STEP SMALL

### **BIG IDEA**

Don't skip this step – tell others about Jesus.

### **BIBLE**

Acts 8:26–40; Isaiah 6:1–8

### **WELCOME!**

Hey guys! This is the last week of One Small Step!! I don't know if you're more excited about getting into this lesson OR that school's out and it's summer time!

Let's do our memory verse and we'll get started with the meat of our lesson.

#### **"Star Cards"**

- Attendance
- Bring Someone?
- Bring Your Bibles
- New Bible Verse! – Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

#### **MEMORY VERSE** | Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

- "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

Great Job!

Let's review the steps that we've taken in our mission for Jesus. **Let's all stand up and take one step forward for each Big Idea.**

- Take the first step – believe in Jesus.
- Take another step – pray for others.
- Take a big step – the Holy Spirit makes us brave.

Awesome job!!

Well, today, we're going to **hear one more important step in our mission!**

AND IT'S OUR BIG IDEA THIS WEEK...

**BIG IDEA** | Don't skip this step – tell others about Jesus.

- Say it with me...
- Don't skip this step — tell others about Jesus.

Great Job!!

Now I have a question for you...

**QUESTION** | "How many stars are in the galaxy? "

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids try to guess how many stars are in the Milky Way galaxy. Have them call out numbers and indicate how close they are by pointing up to tell them to go higher or pointing down to go lower.*
- How many stars do you think are in the Milky Way, which is the galaxy we live in?
- Okay, even the smartest space scientists doesn't know for sure. But that's because stars die and new stars are born all the time and they are light years away. We can't see all of them, even with all the cool space tech. Most people agree there are probably about 100 to 400 billion stars in our galaxy alone.
- So we can't see or count the stars, but we can start with the one that we can see . . . the sun!
- When Jesus told his followers to go to the ends of the Earth and tell people about him, it must have felt like a huge, impossible task, like counting the stars in the galaxy. But they obeyed and went around sharing the good news . . . with one person at a time.

And this is EXACTLY what we are going to see with Philip today.

Ok...let's get started!

**SCRIPTURE** | Acts 8:26–40 (Philip in Ethiopia)

[Please read or summarize Acts 8:26-40]

<sup>26</sup> An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip: "Get up and go south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is the desert road.) <sup>27</sup> So he got up and went. There was an Ethiopian man, a eunuch and high official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to worship in Jerusalem <sup>28</sup> and was sitting in his chariot on his way home, reading the prophet Isaiah aloud.

<sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, "Go and join that chariot."

<sup>30</sup> When Philip ran up to it, he heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you're reading?"

<sup>31</sup> "How can I," he said, "unless someone guides me?"

Philip was a follower of Jesus who had taken all the right steps – he believed in Jesus, he prayed for others, and he was filled with the Holy Spirit. That's why when an angel of God told him where to go, he not only got the message, he obeyed. Turns out, there was someone God wanted him to meet.

The Ethiopian man he met was an important guy who was probably well-educated. But he was struggling to understand the words he was reading from the book of Isaiah in the Bible. How fortunate for him that Philip "happened" to be walking that way!

So he asked Philip to guide him in understanding the Scripture...

*Are there times that we need help understanding Scripture?*

- *Who do we ask for help?*

*Let's keep reading...*

So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup> Now the Scripture passage he was reading was this:

He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,  
and as a lamb is silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who will describe his generation?  
For his life is taken from the earth.

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch said to Philip, "I ask you, who is the prophet saying this about—himself or someone else?" <sup>35</sup> Philip proceeded to tell him the good news about Jesus, beginning with that Scripture.

Philip knew that this was why God sent him here. So he took the time to explain to the man that the passage he was reading was actually talking about Jesus.

Even though Isaiah had lived long before Jesus came to Earth, Isaiah was a prophet who received messages from God about what would happen for God's people.

Isaiah had talked about someone who would die, even though he had done no wrong. Philip explained to the man that the person Isaiah was describing was Jesus.

*Who told you about Jesus?*

Let's finish up...

<sup>36</sup> As they were traveling down the road, they came to some water. The eunuch said, "Look, there's water. What would keep me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup> So he ordered the chariot to stop, and both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him any longer but went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup> Philip appeared in Azotus, and he was traveling and preaching the gospel in all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

To make a public profession of his new faith – and to be obedient to the Scriptures teaching – the Ethiopian requested to be baptized.

Philip didn't shy away from explaining what he knew about Jesus to this man because he knew that part of being a follower of Jesus was to invite others to follow him, too. He took *one small step* to obey God and helped the Ethiopian man take his first step toward God.

## DISCUSSION

- SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS
  - Who told Philip to go down to the desert road? *An angel of God.*
  - What was the Ethiopian eunuch doing when Philip found him? *Reading from the book of Isaiah.*
  - What did the Ethiopian eunuch do immediately after Philip told him about Jesus? *He asked to be baptized.*
  - Read Isaiah 6:8. What was Isaiah's answer to the voice of God asking who will be God's messenger? *"Here am I. Send me!"*
- APPLICATION QUESTIONS
  - How do you think you'll know that God is leading you to share Jesus with someone?
  - Once you have an opportunity to tell someone about Jesus, what would you say?
  - Are there ways you can share Jesus with others besides with words? How?

## OPTIONAL VIDEO | *One Small Step*, Episode 4

- INSTRUCTIONS: *Play this week's episode of [Press Play](#).*

## PRAYER

- Ask someone to dismiss in prayer
- Or pray for the class
  - God, thank you for giving us the good news of Jesus we can share with others. Lead us to the places and people who need to hear this good news. Give us the right words to say and be with us as we go and tell the world about you. Amen.