



Unsung Heroes: Week 2 — “Compassion of Philip”

CONNECT: The spiritual life is like a roller coaster. Do you like roller coasters and other thrill rides? What is your favorite amusement park?

GROW:

1. How messy is “too messy”? Are you an orderly person? How do you deal with the mess of life?
2. **Read Acts 8:26-39.** The Ethiopian eunuch would have been an outsider. His position in a foreign government, his race, and the fact that he was a eunuch would have immediately isolated him from those around him in Jerusalem.
 - a. We often expect people in church to automatically have their lives together. But as the Ethiopian said to Philip regarding his understanding of Scripture, *“How can I, unless someone explains it to me?”*
 - How do we participate in feeding the stereotype that Christians have life figured out? How does this prevent people both inside and outside the Church from dealing with the mess in their lives?
 - b. How can we be more like Philip in the way he ran toward outsiders? How can we grow in our grace towards others?
3. **Read Isaiah 53:4-6.** Every single one of us has, at one point or another, walked toward the world and away from God. Jesus came and sacrificed Himself to clean up our mess.
 - a. What are the messes that Jesus has saved you from? What are the messes that you still need to allow Him to clean up?
 - b. Who are the messy people in your life that you need to learn how to love? How does the simple fact that Jesus loves *you* in *your* mess help you do this?

PRAY: Thank God for his Son, Jesus, who came to clean up our mess. Ask Him to help us have the same grace for the messy people in our lives.

NEXT: Take time this week to reach out to the people in your life who are “messy.” Try to get coffee or lunch with them, and intentionally pour into them.