

Pastor Andrew's Devotion 30th June (Tuesday)

Acts 8:30-34 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked.³¹ "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.³² The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth.³³ In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?"

Philip is sensitive and shows humility and curiosity. As a teacher, he assesses where the Ethiopian eunuch's gap of knowledge is, "Do you understand what you are reading?" Before we share a lesson / gospel message, we must know where our audience is at or what their needs are.

How do I teach or share where my audience is at?

- I must not rush in to teach merely on what I am interested in.
- I must try to gauge what the level and interest and desire of my audience is.
- I can ask what my audience is interested in or what they need to learn.
- I will try to create an interest in my audience.
- I will try to make my subject relevant to the situation of my audience.

Why do you think the Ethiopian eunuch invited Philip up to sit beside him?

Philip's sensitive question must have opened the door. When the door is opened, then only do we have permission to share the message. Before that, we are only creating the situation ripe for our sharing.

How can you create a situation ripe for you to share the gospel or to disciple another Christian or to lead the CG sermon discussion?