

Being Brave

You can do this session with your children any time you like. The story is taken from Acts 8:26-40. If you want to read it online just go to this link: <https://www.biblegateway.com> and type the passage in the search engine.

Start

Think of a time when you had to be brave. Why did you have to be brave?

Our story today is about a man called Philip who was a follower of Jesus. We'll see in this story, Philip had to be brave.

Bible story

Philip was a friend of Jesus and had been spending time in a place called Samaria telling people all about who Jesus is. People were listening and deciding to follow Jesus as well. But then one day an angel sent by Jesus told Philip to do something very strange. The angel told Philip to leave Samaria and go somewhere else, but they didn't tell him exactly where, they just told him where to get started. Philip knew he had to be brave, but that he could also trust Jesus, so he did what the angel said. As he was walking alone, he saw a chariot. In the chariot was a man from Ethiopia who was in charge of all the money of the Queen of Ethiopia. He had come to Jerusalem and was now going back to Ethiopia. He was reading something, but he couldn't understand it. Jesus told Philip, "Go near to that chariot and stay close to it." So Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading. Philip knew he needed to speak to the man and so he asked him, "Do you understand what you're reading?" The man said, "No, I'm a bit confused and need some help. Come and sit in the chariot with me and help me." So Philip sat in the chariot and listened to what the man was reading. It was all about Jesus, but the man didn't know that. So Philip told him what it all meant and who Jesus is. Then the man understood. Eventually, they found some water. The man knew that followers of Jesus would be baptised (which is a way of showing everyone that they follow Jesus. They would go right down into the water and come up again as a way of saying they were Jesus' friends). The man asked Philip to baptise him. So they got out of the chariot and Philip baptised the man. Just then, Jesus took Philip somewhere else. Meanwhile, the Ethiopian went back home and was able to tell people in Ethiopia about who Jesus is and all because Philip had been brave enough to do what Jesus' angel had said at the start.

How do you think Philip felt when the angel told him to leave Samaria, but didn't tell him why or where he was going?

How did Philip have to be brave in this story?

How do you think the Ethiopian man felt when Philip told him about Jesus?

What to do next

Below are some suggestions:

- You could chat about your favourite part of the story.
- You could re-create the story with lego/plasticine.
- You could act out the story.



Philip told about Jesus. Acts 8:35

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