



Grace Assembly Of God

## CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Acts 8	Title:	Use Words to Witness for Christ
Author	Sis Cheong Poh Peng		
Summary of Chapter	In Acts 1:8, Jesus had clearly told His disciples that after the Holy Spirit had come on them, they were to be His witnesses throughout Judea, Samaria and the whole world. In Chapter 8, with the death of Stephen, persecution against the church intensified, and God used the persecution to scatter believers and grow the church as they started sharing the gospel beyond Jerusalem. We are given an account of how the Holy Spirit used Philip to preach in Samaria and to share the good news with an Ethiopian eunuch. The gospel brought great joy to those who were saved.		

Key Verse(s) NLT	How does it speak to me?
<i><sup>4</sup> But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went. <sup>5</sup> Philip, for example, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah... <sup>12</sup> .....the people believed Philip's message of Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result, many men and women were baptized.</i>	<p>To be honest, evangelism is an area I struggle with. I found it easier to just focus on "being" the gospel by living a godly life before others. I walked like Christ but neglected to talk for Christ. However, faith only comes by hearing the Word of God.</p> <p>Some years ago, a supermarket cashier remarked how much integrity I had, and I was pleased because I was wearing a Christian tee-shirt, and felt that I had "made a statement for Christ". But the Holy Spirit later convicted me that I should have seized the opportunity to talk about Christ to the cashier, as there were no other customers at the counter at the time.</p> <p>The Holy Spirit reminded me to depend on Him. He would direct me to the right people and give me boldness and wisdom how to start a spiritual conversation. My role is to sow and water the seed, but it is God who will cause the seed to grow in a person's heart. Just because we don't see anything happening doesn't mean nothing is happening. I should not be discouraged when people reject the gospel, but just faithfully and obediently witness for Christ whenever the Holy Spirit prompts me to.</p> <p>Gracians, it is God's heart that none perish, so let us together rekindle our passion for the lost. The Holy Spirit empowers us, so we should just be faithful and obedient. As we celebrate our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and do good works in the community, let us not forget to use words to proclaim Christ. It is the power of the Gospel that saves, not our ability to persuade.</p>

### APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	How often do you share the gospel with others? What are some things that hold you back? Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to rekindle your passion for the lost and to help you share the gospel with one person this week.
Youth:	Do you fear sharing the gospel with your friends? If so, why? Ask the Holy Spirit to give you boldness and help you to share the gospel with one person this week.
Child:	Share about Jesus' love for us to a friend and invite him/her to one of our online children's service. Please do contact a Grace Kids staff or leader before that so that we can connect with him/her.

### PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Heavenly Father, thank you for saving us and thank you that the Holy Spirit empowers us and give us boldness for the work of the gospel. Help us be obedient and faithful ambassadors for Christ.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.