

## Emmanuel Prayer List - January

### Celebrate Recovery - Bob Burkinshaw

- Thankful for the significant progress a number of people have reported in dealing with issues.
- God has blessed this group with unity and strong mutual support.
- Praying that God will continue to change lives, as His Spirit helps people apply biblical principles.
- Prayer for leaders protection and encouragement.

---

### Study Continued

8. Read Acts 8:30-31. The Ethiopian eunuch was an important official. He went to Jerusalem to worship God, but eunuch's were not allowed in the temple (Deut 23:1). Whether he went into the temple we aren't told. God first used Philip to minister to widows (Acts 6:1-5). Widows were marginalised people at that time. Then, Philip was preaching in Samaria (a group of people who were not accepted by the Jewish religious leaders). Now, God sends Philip to bring the good news to a eunuch, who was probably also black and a Gentile, breaking down barriers that separate people. (Read Galatians 3:28 and Colossians 3:11).

What does this say about what our attitude should be towards others who are different to us? (Also read 2 Corinthians 5:16).

9. Read Acts 8:32-38. God uses people to bring the good news to others. People need to hear it. Just like this Ethiopian, it isn't necessarily just understood on it's own - He needed Philip to explain it. Did someone explain the Word of God to you, that brought you to faith?

The Holy Spirit was working in the Ethiopian, through the Word of God, and through Philip. In addition, the Holy Spirit uses our circumstances also (Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4). Pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare you to share the good news, and others to hear the good news.

---

### WHAT'S ON?

**Today. Hospitality Sunday.** Invite someone to your home for lunch.

**Tonight: Bible Study** - 6.30pm - The Servant Songs of Isaiah.

#### Wednesday

**Bible study** - 1.30pm Continuing our study in the Gospel of Mark.

**Children** (Awana) - 6.30pm

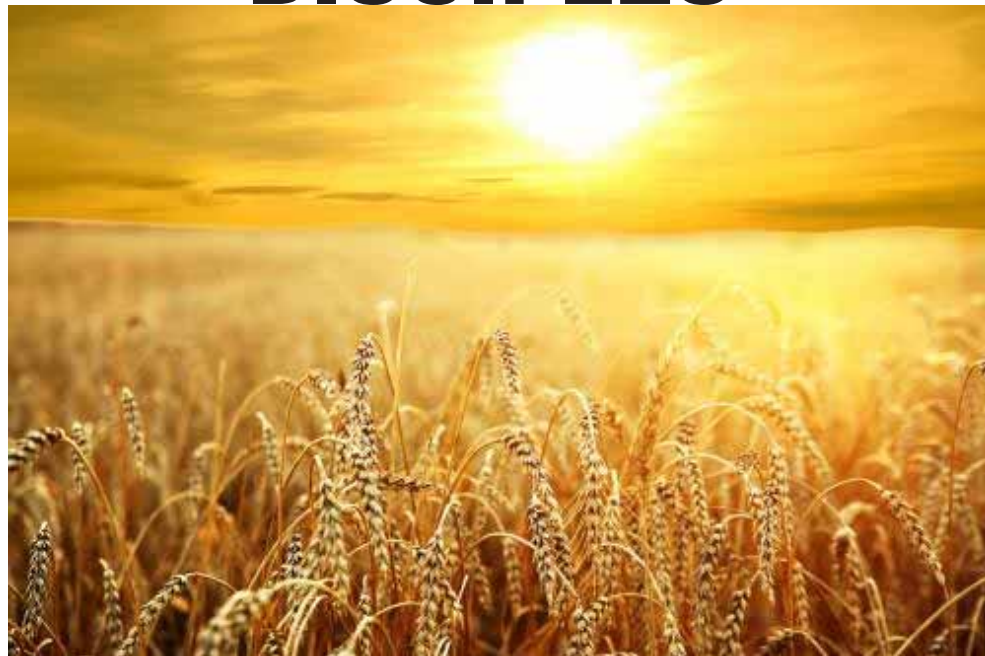
**Jr High** (Fusion) **and Senior High** (Surge) - 6.30pm

**Feb 5th. Newcomers Lunch** - After the service, in the library.

**Feb 13th. Men's & Women's Dinner.** 6.30pm

Go to the website for details. [www.emmanuelife.com](http://www.emmanuelife.com)

# disciples making DISCIPLES



*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

*Matthew 28:19-20*

1. Go in the power of the Spirit - Acts 1-2
2. Give what you have - Acts 3
3. Share what you know - Acts 4
- 4. My circumstances are God's appointments - Acts 8**
5. The harvest is plentiful - Acts 10
6. Don't leave them alone - Acts 11
7. Live your calling - Acts 13
8. Your circumstances are God's megaphone - Acts 28

## MY CIRCUMSTANCES ARE GOD'S APPOINTMENTS - Acts 8

God uses struggles, hardship, persecutions, difficulties to...

The persecution of the church in Jerusalem:

How do we see suffering, hardship and persecution?

God uses suffering and hardship:

### TO DEVELOP OUR FAITH

God loves you \_\_\_\_\_

God loves you too much to leave you \_\_\_\_\_

1 Peter 1:7

Romans 8:28-29

TO REVEAL HIS \_\_\_\_\_

2 Cor 12:7-10

TO FURTHER THE \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 8:26-38)

3 things we learn from the story of the Ethiopian eunuch:

1. God cares for \_\_\_\_\_

2. God breaks down \_\_\_\_\_

3. People needed to hear the \_\_\_\_\_ from us

2 Cor 1:3-4

1. Read Acts 8:1-3. Saul watched, and approved, as Steven was stoned to death for speaking in the name of Jesus. Saul went on to persecute the church, putting some in prison and was responsible for some being killed (Acts 26:10). Eventually, Saul was saved (Acts 9) and became Paul the apostle. Read Luke 21:12 and John 16:33. Jesus warns in advance of this kind of response. Why do you think people become so against Jesus? What did Jesus mean when he said, "take heart for I have overcome the world?"

2. Read Acts 8:4. What was the result of the persecution of the church?

3. If becoming a Christian brought you persecution to the point that you had to leave your home. Yet in having to flee, it made you want to tell others about Jesus, what does that say about the nature of salvation?

4. Peter's message was titled, 'My circumstances are God's appointments.' God uses our circumstances to change our lives and develop our faith. How have you seen this in your own life?

5. Read 1 Peter 1:7 and Romans 8:28-29. What do these verses say about how God uses our circumstances, struggles and hardships?

6. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. What did God tell Paul in response to Him not taking away his thorn in the flesh?

From that point on, how did Paul view weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and difficulties? How can we start to have the same attitude?

7. Read Acts 8:26-29. God took Philip away from the revival taking place in Samaria and sent him up to 100 miles away to minister to a single individual. What does that say about how God views people?

We are not told how the angel spoke to Philip. But what does this teach us about the importance of being led by the Holy Spirit?

How can we stay "in tune" with the Holy Spirit, and be led like Philip was?