

Understanding the Good News
How the first Christians shared the good news of Jesus
with people from different backgrounds and worldviews

Work Sheet and Notes

1. Acts 8.26-39: A Confused Seeker

*Questions for discussion:

- 1) What's the Eunuch's background? How much does he know about God?
- 2) What does he not know about God?
- 3) How does Philip help him to understand the good news of Jesus?

* Notes: Three key points when sharing with a confused seeker:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

2. Group Work: two more examples

Acts 14.8-18: superstitious pagans (non-believer)

Acts 17.16-32: sophisticated city dwellers

Advantage (What had they already known about God? What concepts/ideas that they had were familiar/similar?)	Disadvantage What were they ignorant of? What barriers/traps did they have in their thinking?	Building Bridges (how to communicate the Good News of Jesus)

* Notes: Three key points when sharing with a superstitious pagan (non-believer)

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

* Notes: Three key points when sharing with a sophisticated city dweller:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

3. Sharing the Good News with those from your culture/background

*Questions for discussion:

- How will you communicate the Good News of Jesus with
 - confused seekers,
 - superstitious believers, or
 - sophisticated city dwellers from your culture/background?
- Anything you will do differently, or not sure of?

*Notes:

Sharing the Gospel:	In your culture/From your background, which of these concepts/ideas are easy to communicate? Which are not? What are some of the possible misconceptions, or barriers?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Existence of God (theism)– The only God (monotheism)– God in human form (incarnation)– Purpose of incarnation: redemption– Man's response: repentance	

Homework:

Read John 4/1-29, use what you have learned to analyze how Jesus built bridges to reach out to the Samaritan woman, how does it teach you to share the Gospel with those from a mixed cultural/social background?