

# “How Do You Talk To An Angel?”

## *Listening For Divine Appointments*

Acts 8:26-40

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Aug 28, 2016

---

### I. **The canon of Scripture is closed, but God’s mouth is not. The Holy Spirit is alive and well, and still at work today in our daily lives! (Acts 8:26,29)**

A. It is of utmost importance that we maintain a **high view of Scripture**.

**2 Tim. 3:16,17**

<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> **that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.**

**2 Pet. 1:3**

<sup>3</sup> His divine power has granted to us **all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him** who called us to his own glory and excellence...

B. Nothing will make you more sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s leading than regular, consistent times in the Word.

1. When we think like God thinks, we’ll do what God does.

**Prov. 3:5**

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

2. When we speak to God in prayer, He promises to work behind the scenes to direct our paths.

**Prov. 3:6**

<sup>6</sup> In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

**What about you?** Do you spend time in God’s Word on a consistent basis? What passage of Scripture has God recently drawn to your attention? Do you have a working knowledge of the Bible and biblical principles in order to share “good news about Jesus” as Philip did?

### II. **Don’t let your high view of Scripture allow you to hit the “mute” button on the Holy Spirit.**

All too often, well-meaning Christians allow their Bible knowledge to place a gag order on God. Doing so cuts us off from one of our primary sources of evangelistic power and ministry support—the “in-the-moment” wisdom and grace that can only come from God Himself!

**Acts 8:26,29**

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem

to Gaza...”<sup>29</sup> And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.”

### III. **God accomplishes more things, more often through acts of obedience than even our most extravagant plans.**

**Acts 8:27,30**

<sup>27</sup> And he rose and went... <sup>30</sup> So Philip ran to him...

Remember—God didn’t place the weight of evangelizing the world on our shoulders. But...He calls people like us to follow and obey Him.

**What about you?** If you don’t obey what God wrote, you won’t obey when God speaks. Is there a command in Scripture you’re having difficulty obeying right now? Have you taken that to God in prayer?

### IV. **Don’t miss out on “now” because you’re waiting for “wow.” Even in the seemingly mundane, God is always at work!**

Stop waiting around for the proverbial “God-thing.” Every aspect of your life; every circumstance, everything about you, every relationship you have is a “God thing!” When you have that perspective, you quit waiting for “wow” and stand ready to be used by God in the “now.”

**Acts 8:30,31**

<sup>30</sup> So Philip ran to him and **heard him reading Isaiah the prophet** and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup> And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

**What about you?** Do you live life with the knowledge that your entire life is full of “God things”? Are you waiting for God to show up in the “wow,” or do you acknowledge God “now” in your circumstances (where you work, who you live with, where you shop, who your neighbors are, etc.)?

### V. **Remember—find yourself in the story!**

**What about you?** With whom do you identify in the story? Are you like the Ethiopian whom the Holy Spirit was preparing to hear the Word of God and be saved? Are you like Philip, the one whom the Holy Spirit would use to reach others with the hope of the Gospel and the Word of God?