

date: \_\_\_\_\_

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, *we want YOU to be the one to introduce* this part of The Big God Story to them.

For additional support in spiritual parenting and to learn more about creating transforming environments in your home, be sure to pick up **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** from your church, or download it at HomeFrontMag.com. You can also access the HomeFront app on your iPhone, iPad, or Android device.



4.2

## God's Spirit Unifies, Part 1

### Part of The Big God Story

Acts 8:1–8, 26–40  
Philip in Samaria

### Just for Fun

One evening, after dinner, bring your family together and read **Acts 8:26–40**. Verse 29 tells us "the Spirit told Philip." Share with your children that the Holy Spirit also speaks to us in the natural moments of our everyday lives. Ask your children if they've ever felt led or nudged by the Holy Spirit. Then share a time in your life when you felt God's Spirit leading you. Explain to your children that they can ask God to lead them through His Spirit, who unifies us as members of God's family.

## Did You Know?

- In Acts we read how God's Spirit unified many different people to become His family. Acts 8 gives us a specific example of this as we see how God brought an Ethiopian eunuch into the faith community.
- This man wasn't just a Gentile from a distant land; he was also a eunuch—a man who, because of his physical condition, was considered by the Jews to live in a constant state of ritual impurity (Leviticus 21:16–23).
- A prophecy in Isaiah held hope: "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose what pleases me ... to them I will give ... a name better than sons and daughters" (Isaiah 56:4–5). This prophecy spoke of the day when Jesus would fulfill the Law and give everyone the opportunity to join His family.

### Remember Verse

*So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*  
Isaiah 41:10

## Blessing

For more information about blessing your child see the **Blessing** section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource**.

### A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **may you know the unity that comes from God's Spirit. May you look to include others in your faith community. May you carry God's message of hope and salvation to the ends of the earth.**

## Younger Kids

Children this age are eager to learn. Provide lots of encouragement and praise as your child learns and achieves new things, as too much criticism can dampen your child's enthusiasm.

## Older Kids

Parental involvement at this age is critical. Whether he says it or not, your child craves time with you; make sure you set aside time on a regular basis to spend together—time away from electronic devices. Ask your child specific questions about his life.

## Teachable Moments

### After reading Acts 8:26–40, discuss the following together:

- What did God's Spirit tell Philip to do, and how did Philip respond?
- How have you seen God's Spirit bring people together in your faith community?
  - What do you enjoy doing with your faith community?