

Hope Presbyterian Church
Sermon-Based Bible Study Group



August 6, 2023 - “Surprises on the Journey”

Guest Speaker - Rev. Scott Christiansen, Omaha Street School

Texts Referenced: Acts 8: 26-40, 1 Peter 3:15-17, Matthew 10:19-20

1. What stood out to you about the message?

2. Think about a time when you’ve been traveling and encountered an unexpected situation.
 - How did you respond?
 - In hindsight, could you have been prepared for what happened?
 - Was there any lesson learned from the experience?

3. **Read Acts 8: 26-35.**
 - How are Philip’s experiences in these verses examples of what Rev. Christiansen described as “Holy Spirit Surprises”?
 - Why would the Ethiopian Eunuch have found the passage from Isaiah difficult to understand?

4. **Read Acts 8: 36-40.**
 - What are examples of more “Holy Spirit Surprises” in these verses?
 - Even though we can’t always be prepared for such surprises, how can we be open to them?

5. **Read 1 Peter 3:15-17 and Matthew 10: 19-20.**
 - How do these verses help us understand more about how the Holy Spirit can help us navigate a “surprising” experience such as Philip’s?
 - What have you found challenging when asked to explain your faith experience to someone?

6. How can we pray for you?