



How To Be A Person God Uses, Part I

Series: "518 Initiative", Part 1 of 2

Sunday, September 7, 2025

Text: Acts 8:1-8, Acts 8:26-40

Big Idea: When we are truly open to God's leading and agenda, He will make us useful for His Kingdom.

- 1. Prayer evangelism.**
- 2. Invitational evangelism.**
- 3. Service evangelism.**
- 4. Direct verbal evangelism.**

- According to Barna data, only 1% of pastors say their churches are very effective at evangelism.
- Only 3 to 5% of all U.S. churches are growing primarily through conversions.

518 INITIATIVE

Imagine what would happen if every person at Grace Fellowship reached just one person with the love of Jesus?

The 518 INITIATIVE is a 12-month congregation wide, church wide, effort to inspire and equip people to reach their neighbors, family and friends.

The Method:

4, 3, 2, 1

- Pray an average of about **4 times** per week for your neighbor, or whoever your "ONE" person is.
- Make **3 strategic invitations** over the year.
- Give **2 tangible gifts** or acts of service.
- Have **1 clear gospel conversation**.

"72% of Americans describe themselves as spiritually open, with younger generations more open to God since the pandemic." *The Pew Research Center*

I. He Was Open To Divine Appointments.

A. Philip was guided by circumstances.

Acts 8:1b, "On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria."

B. Philip was guided by an angel.

Acts 8:26, Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza."

C. Philip was guided by the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8:29, The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

II. He Believed That Lost People Really Matter To God.