

# TALK IT OVER

## LOVE: LOVING THEM

### DIG DEEPER

Now that we have learned how to love ourselves and how God expects us to love Him, we are ready to learn how to love others. The book of Acts teaches us that in order to be true witnesses of God's love, we need to be endowed with the power of the Holy Spirit (**Acts 1:8**).

It was that power that aided 1st century Christians to preach the good news of the Gospel, even in the midst of threats of torture and even death. Stephen was the first Christian martyr and was stoned to death in broad daylight in front of his family and friends (**Acts 8**). When he died, this caused a lot of Christians to scatter throughout Judea and Samaria.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Would you be willing to risk your life for loving someone else's? Risk your comfort?
2. Could you still live joyfully in the midst of death threats, for being a follower of Jesus?
3. Using Philip as an example, would you be willing to obey and serve God even in times of severe persecution?

*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere..."*

- Acts 1:8 (NLT)

### SIMPLICITY

Philip was Steven's best friend, and after seeing him assassinated, he didn't take time off to process everything and pray. He instead, arose in the power of the Holy Spirit and went to Samaria, and continued to preaching Jesus to large crowds, healing the sick and delivering the oppressed. The Bible says that there was great joy in that city!

Afterwards, God sent him to a single person (*the same way He is sending you today*); a eunuch, who was not permitted by ceremonial law to worship in a synagogue. God sends Philip in broad daylight, through a desert, along an uncomfortable path, to share the Gospel to someone overlooked and marginalized by society.

Today God is still looking for the "*Philips*" of this generation. Men, women, and young people willing to share the love of Jesus, even in adverse and high-risk situations. If you follow Jesus with genuine love, and with the revelation of the depth of his love for you, the Spirit will grant you bravery, and no threat can stop you! Pray for boldness! *Class # 5*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

LIFEGROUP LEADERSHIP TRAINING  
BAPTISM  
NEXT STEPS COURSE

February 20 (10am – 1pm)  
March 6 (10am)  
March 7 (9am via Zoom or Live)