

Reaching the Lost

(Acts 8:1-40)

- Introduction:
1. The book of Acts provides us with an excellent account of what the first century church did and how they did it.
 2. As we know, the church grew exponentially in the first century.
 3. What gave them such tremendous success?
 4. Let's see if we can glean a few pointers from a man named Philip.

I. Who Preached to the Lost?

- A. (Acts 8:1-4).
- B. Notice who it was who scattered, preaching as they went.
- C. The early church did not leave evangelism up to a select group of Christians.
- D. You may not have all the answers, but if you are a Christian you know what one must do be saved, because you've done it.
- E. (1 Peter 3:15).

II. What Was Preached to the Lost?

- A. Christ was preached (Acts 8:5).
- B. Jesus was preached (Acts 8:35).
- C. But note the content of this preaching.
 1. It wasn't just the person of Jesus, but the work of Jesus as well.
 2. The kingdom of God (Acts 8:12).
 3. The name of Jesus Christ (Acts 8:12).
 4. The response of baptism (Acts 8:12).

III. How Was the Gospel Preached to the Lost?

- A. Philip ran and overtook the chariot (Acts 8:29-30).
- B. He took the initiative (Acts 8:30).
- C. He began where the eunuch was (Acts 8:35).
- D. He gave him the correct information (Acts 8:36).

- Conclusion:
1. The growth of the New Testament Church isn't due to some secret formula.
 2. Rather, it's quite open and easy to replicate.
 3. It doesn't require great buildings, high paid staff, or professional pulpiteers.
 4. It simply requires that the church take to heart the command to go preach the gospel to the lost.