



Discussion Guide for “Out of Bounds”

Don't Go There! Week 5

Churches often have a list – official or not – of people who are “out of bounds”, people who don’t fit into the neat categories we use. In the story of Philip’s encounter with the Ethiopian eunuch, we find a call to move beyond our boundary lines, to follow the Spirit in welcoming everyone. This requires us to trust the Spirit to do what the Spirit promises. The Spirit moves, and we respond.

Scriptures for Further Reading

[Exodus 19:3-6](#)

[Psalm 22:25-31](#)

[Isaiah 53](#)

[John 15:1-8](#)

[Acts 8:26-40](#)

[1 John 4:7-21](#)

Questions for Discussion

1. Do you relate more to referees or spectators? In other words, do you tend to enforce boundaries or feel like you’re out-of-bounds?
2. What is the difference between saying “everyone is in” and “everyone is allowed in”? Is the difference important?
3. Why would the eunuch have made Philip uncomfortable? Who do you relate to in the story more?
4. Why did the eunuch connect with the Isaiah scripture he was studying? How was the Spirit using that Scripture to prepare him for his encounter with Philip?
5. What does it mean to say that Acts is the story of the Holy Spirit, not of Philip, Peter or the other disciples?
6. What does it look like for you to “hang up your whistle” this week? Why is that scary? Why is it exciting?