

LEARNER TAKE-HOME SHEET: THE BAPTISM OF THE ETHIOPIAN

Acts 8:26-39



KEY WORDS

Keep a family white board someplace near the dinner table, and write these words on it. Try writing a family definition for each one during the week.

MISSIONARY

INCLUDE

BAPTISM

Take this sheet home and keep it someplace near the dinner table like on the fridge. At least three times next week at dinner, use Prayer Time and one other family activity to make your confirmation learning come alive!

PRAYER TIME

Make it a global prayer. Remember people you have met from other places, the stories in the news, and the places you've never been. God is there.

God of all times and all places, we pray with and for the people of (name a place). Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

TALK TIME

- Does your family know someone raising money for a mission trip? Can you help him or her raise awareness about the trip or collect donations? Does anyone in the family feel called to cross borders and boundaries in Christ's mission?
- The Ethiopian man took the initiative to ask Philip about the Bible, and then he suggested baptism. Often it's not that easy! Who do we know that we would like to invite to church? How do we get over our reluctance and offer a nonthreatening invitation? Inviting friends and family to church to hear a family member sing in a choir or perform in a play can be a great way to start. Look for other activities where you might invite friends to join you at church.
- Who is welcome at our church? Does our church feel like a closed society or is it truly a church for more than its members? Do we stare at visitors or try to make them feel welcome? Is the population of our church reflective of the cultural diversity of our area? Does our church reflect the inclusiveness of Jesus' ministry?



WEB TIME

Use an Internet search engine to search for the key words listed on this page. Explore five sites that address the term *baptism* and discuss the various opinions and perspectives that you find. Learn about missionaries in your national church organization by going to its Web site (www.elca.org).

RITUAL TIME

Inspired by the story from Acts 8, write your godparents a letter and tell them about your life, your spiritual life, and what you're learning in confirmation. If they live close by, invite them for a baptism anniversary celebration dinner. Dig up the old photos from your baptism, light your baptismal candle (if you have one), and enjoy the memories.