

Dare to Dance Again

Who's Leading Whom?

There are all kinds of dances out there. The kind you see at the clubs where everyone is pretty much doing their own thing. There's line dancing, like the Jerusalema Dance Challenge, where everyone is pretty much doing the same thing (at least that's the way it's "supposed" to be!). And then there's ballroom dancing where partners dance together, not in unison, and yet step by step, they flow with the music with one person "leading" and the other "following." Together they create something beautiful to behold. Of course, there's a problem when there's a question about who's going to lead. It works that way in life too ... who's leading?

Acts 8:26–35

1. The Holy Spirit wants to arrange _____
for us.
2. We're expected to _____ and to _____ to God's
lead.
3. Amazing things happen when we're _____ to the Spirit.

My Count Me In! Commitment

- I'll be "here" next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I'll pay attention to the Spirit's urgings
- I won't blow it off ... I'll take a leap of faith
- I'll let Dr. Bill know what happens ...

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper

Week of May 02, 2021

Dare to Dance Again: Who's Leading?

Scripture: Acts 8:26–35

Introduction: The biblical book *The Acts of the Apostles* would be more accurately titled *The Acts of the Holy Spirit*. Throughout the book, and nearly every turn, the Holy Spirit steps in to lead, guide, and encourage men and women of the church to step up, step out, and move forward. Somehow, though, we've seemed to have lost connections with the Spirit, as if God hung up the phone and won't answer – or more accurately, isn't making any outbound calls anymore. But perhaps the problem isn't that God isn't calling, but that we're not listening. Just how DO you hear from the Holy Spirit these days?

1. Read Acts 8:26-35. How many times does God reach out to communicate with Philip in this passage?
2. How do you think the Holy Spirit communicated with Philip that he should approach the chariot? (Out loud? Sky writing? Through his thoughts? Some other way?)
3. Do you think Philip second-guessed himself as he heard the Spirit's urging? Why or why not?
4. Dr. Bill said that when the Spirit urges you to action that it will "stretch you," that is, it will test your faith in some way. How may Philip have been stretched? How has the Spirit tried to stretch you?
5. When the Spirit urges us to do something, it is always a loving thing (a good thing for all concerned). How were Philip's actions loving for everyone concerned? When you're urged to do something, how can you tell if it's a "God thing"?
6. When the Spirit urges us to do something, it is always in keeping with the teachings and the framework of the scriptures. How were Philip's actions in line with the values found in the Bible? When you're urged to do something and you believe it might be from God, how can you be certain it's from God? (Or more importantly, how can you tell if something is NOT of God?)
7. If you've been praying for God to open doors of opportunity for you, that is, for divine rendezvous', how have you been sensing the Spirit's leading?