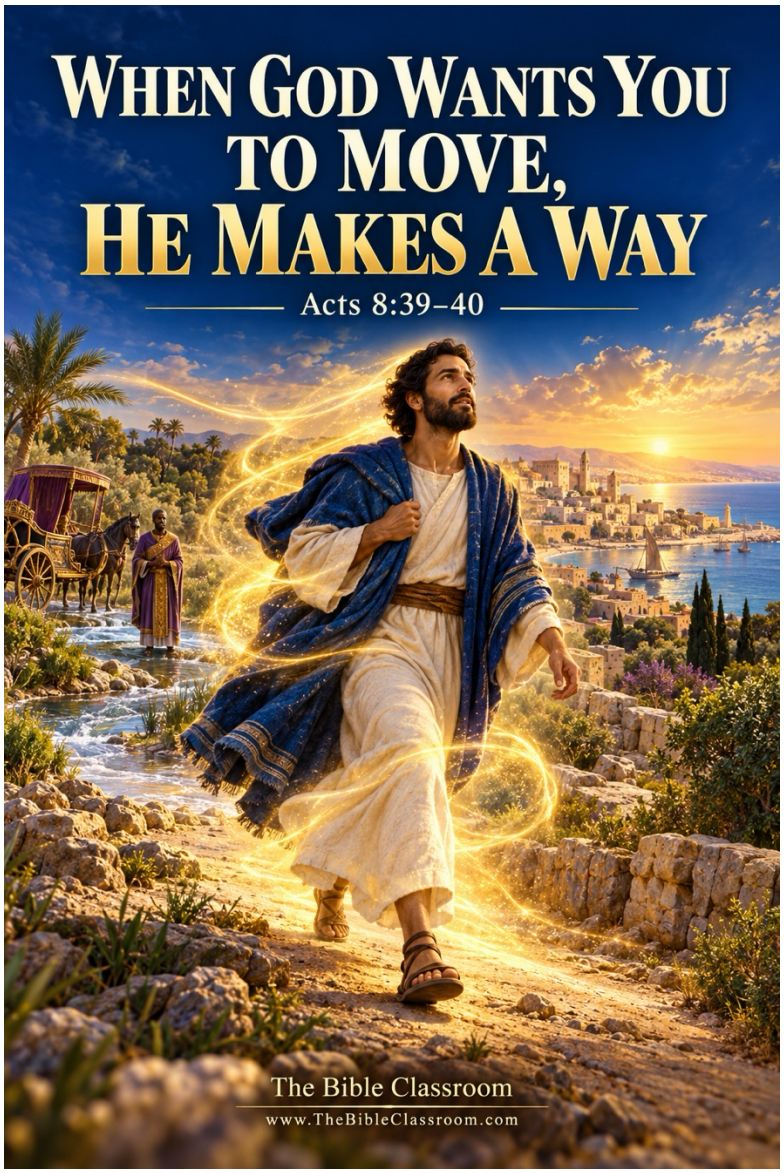
Bible Besties, Acts 8:39 tells us that "the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away" (NASB). Philip had shared Jesus with the Ethiopian official and baptized him. Then God supernaturally moved Philip, and verse 40 shows him continuing to preach the gospel in other places.



The same God who directed Philip's steps was able to move him forward.

We may not experience a miraculous relocation like Philip, but we can trust God to guide us as we obey Him. Whether we are facing a physical move, a new ministry assignment, or a change in

responsibilities, our calling is to seek His will and faithfully take the steps He gives us.

God's way may include waiting, preparation, practical help, and doors opening in His timing. Difficulty does not mean He has forgotten us, and an open door still needs to be examined through Scripture, prayer, and wise counsel.

When God wants you to move, He makes a way—but let Him determine the direction, the timing, and the steps.

Wisdom nugget: Be faithful where God has you today, and keep your heart ready to follow where He leads tomorrow.

Philip in the book of Acts was a faithful servant of Jesus, known as Philip the evangelist. He was one of the **seven men** chosen to help care for the needs of the early church (Acts 6:1–6). He later preached about Jesus in Samaria and followed God's direction to explain the gospel to an Ethiopian official, whom he baptized (Acts 8). Acts 21:8–9 identifies him as an evangelist and tells us he had four unmarried daughters who prophesied. His life reminds us to serve faithfully, listen to God's direction, and share the good news of Jesus wherever we go.

Extra Extra! Read all about it: More information below…

Jesus had many followers, but **He chose twelve men to be His apostles** (Luke 6:12–16). They were:

1. **Simon Peter**
2. **Andrew**- Peter's brother
3. **James, son of Zebedee**
4. **John**-James's brother
5. **Philip**
6. **Bartholomew**
7. **Matthew**- the tax collector
8. **Thomas**
9. **James, son of Alphaeus**

10. **Thaddaeus**- also called Judas, son of James
11. **Simon the Zealot**
12. **Judas Iscariot**- who betrayed Jesus

You can find their names in **Matthew 10:2–4, Mark 3:16–19, and Luke 6:13–16**.

The Philip in this list is Philip the apostle. He is different from **Philip the evangelist**, who baptized the Ethiopian official in Acts 8.

After Judas Iscariot's death, **Matthias was chosen to take his place** among the twelve apostles (Acts 1:23–26).



The Twelve Apostles

Hebrew, Aramaic & Greek Name Forms

APOSTLE	NAME FORM	LANGUAGE / NOTE
Simon Peter	Shim‘on / Kefa (shim-OHN / KAY-fah)	Hebrew / Aramaic
Andrew	Andreas (ahn-DREH-ahs)	Greek
James, son of Zebedee	Ya‘akov (yah-ah-KOHV)	Hebrew
John	Yochanan (yoh-khah-NAHN)	Hebrew
Philip	Philippos (FEE-lip-pos)	Greek
Bartholomew	Bar-Talmai (bar-tahl-MAI)	Aramaic: son of Talmai
Matthew	Mattityahu (maht-teet-YAH-hoo)	Hebrew
Thomas	T’oma (toh-MAH)	Aramaic: twin
James, son of Alphaeus	Ya‘akov (yah-ah-KOHV)	Hebrew
Thaddaeus / Judas	Taddai / Yehudah (tah-DAI / yeh-hoo-DAH)	Aramaic / Hebrew
Simon the Zealot	Shim‘on (shim-OHN)	Hebrew
Judas Iscariot	Yehudah (yeh-hoo-DAH)	Hebrew

Matthias, who replaced Judas: Mattityahu — Hebrew, “gift of Yahweh.”
(maht-teet-YAH-hoo)

Pronunciations are approximate; traditions vary. CAPITAL letters show emphasis.
“kh” sounds like “ch” in Bach.

Not every apostle had a recorded Hebrew name. Spellings vary in English.

Matthew 10:2–4 • Luke 6:13–16 • Acts 1:26

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8 Miracles of God from the Bible

The Bible reveals God's power, compassion, and authority through His mighty works. Here are eight miracles that remind us nothing is beyond His power. AMEN!

1. **God parted the Red Sea.** He made a path through the waters so the Israelites could escape the Egyptian army on dry ground. **Exodus 14:21–22**
2. **God provided manna from heaven.** He faithfully fed the Israelites in the wilderness when they needed food. **Exodus 16:14–15**
3. **God shut the lions' mouths.** He sent His angel to protect Daniel in the lions' den. **Daniel 6:21–22**
4. **God delivered three men from the fiery furnace.** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego came out unharmed, without even the smell of fire on their clothing. **Daniel 3:24–27**
5. **Jesus fed five thousand men, with women and children.** With five loaves and two fish, He provided enough for everyone, with twelve baskets left over. **Matthew 14:15–21**
6. **Jesus calmed a storm.** At His command, the wind stopped, and the sea became calm, revealing His authority over creation. **Mark 4:35–41**
7. **Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.** After Lazarus had been in the tomb four days, Jesus called him out alive. **John 11:38–44**
8. **God raised Jesus from the dead.** Jesus' resurrection declares His victory over death and is the foundation of our living hope in Him. **Acts 2:24; 1 Peter 1:3**

These miracles remind us that God is powerful and compassionate. We can bring Him our needs with faith, trusting His wisdom, His timing, and His will.

Like the miracles we just read about, the Spirit of God moving Philip in Acts 8:39-40 reveals God's supernatural power. After Philip baptized the Ethiopian official, the Spirit suddenly took him away, and Philip was found at Azotus, where he continued preaching about Jesus. This was a miracle accomplished by God's power, beyond Philip's own ability.

Bible Besties, Philip did not move himself supernaturally; the Spirit of the Lord moved him! Scripture does not explain how God did it, but it clearly identifies who did it. Just as God parted the Red Sea and shut the lions' mouths, He had the power to move His servant in an extraordinary way.

We may not experience the same miracle Philip did, but we can trust the same God. Our responsibility is to obey Him; the power to accomplish His purposes belongs to Him. Whether He works through ordinary circumstances or an extraordinary miracle, let us follow His direction and give Him the glory!

When God is ready to perform a miracle in your life, nothing can stop His purpose. No obstacle is greater than His power, and no circumstance is beyond His reach. Bible Besties, we cannot dictate how or when God will act, but we can trust His wisdom, His timing, and His love. Keep praying, remain faithful, and leave the outcome in His hands. **Our confidence rests in who God is even while we wait.** As Job 42:2 reminds us, God can do all things, and no purpose of His can be ***thwarted.***

Thwarted *means stopped, prevented, or kept from succeeding.*

In Job 42:2, when Job says that no purpose of God can be thwarted, he means no one can stop God from accomplishing what He has determined to do.

Bible Besties, our plans may face obstacles or change, but God's purposes cannot be defeated!