

Crossing the line of faith – Growth Group Study.

(John Malcolm 8/9/19)

Given the human quest for meaning/purpose in life – what song best expressed the longing of your generation? (Joni Mitchell - *we got to get ourselves back to the garden*; Bono's – *I still haven't found what I'm looking for*; Stacy Orrico's - *there's got to be more to life*.) How do people deal with the sense there is something more to life that they are missing?

Read Acts 8.26-40 & Acts 16.22-34

What do you note as key differences between the Ethiopian official and the Philippian jailer?

Why do you think they both experienced joy in their salvation?

Can you think of other bible conversions to faith which stands out for you?

How are these experiences similar/dissimilar to your experience of coming to faith?

Philip helped the official, Paul helped the jailer – who helped you come to faith in Jesus?

It is suggested crossing the line of faith requires a person to pass over certain thresholds: to trust, be curious, open to change actively seek and then cross the line to follow Jesus. (*Breaking the Huddle* - Everts, Schaupp & Gordon)

Where would you place the official or the jailer at the start of the reading and how did they move towards putting their faith in Jesus?

Do you identify with any of these in your experience of coming to faith?



If you are not yet a Christian, where would you put yourself on this pathway and what would help you move forward?

Think of a person you would like to help come to faith in Jesus, where would you see them on this pathway?

What could our church do to help more people cross the line and begin to follow Jesus?