



October 15, 2018

## Don't Hesitate

*“Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. (Acts 8:35)*

In the passage above from the Book of Acts we read about an encounter between Philip and an Ethiopian Official. In this encounter the official asks Philip to explain the scripture he has read from Isaiah. Phillip doesn't waste time and is ready when given the opportunity to present the Good News.

In reading this passage, I am struck by the humbleness of the Ethiopian Official. He makes it very clear that he knows what he doesn't know (v.31 and v.34). I am also convicted by how Philip responds (v.35). He doesn't hesitate and gets right to the point and shares about Christ.

How many times as a coach have you asked a player; “why did you do that?” or “don't know how to...?” I am willing to bet if you haven't asked a player these or similar questions out loud, you certainly have thought it! The truth is that while we spend time at practice on drills and strategy, not all of our players learn at the same time or in the same way. In addition, some players are very capable but are unable to perform a needed task due to lack of confidence or fear.

Until the athletes we coach are able to make the connection between their head and heart they will never reach their full potential. It is the same with us as followers of Christ. Until we allow ourselves to be transformed by Christ, we will never fully recognize the fullness of God's love and purpose in our lives.

As coaches that are Christian's first, we must always be ready to speak life into our players. Peter writes; “... Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...” (1 Peter 3:15). As coaches, we must gain our players trust and always be willing to work with their skill needs. Once we gain that trust and players recognize that we truly care for them, we can and must be ready to share the message of Jesus.

Go and Coach 'em up!

**Question:** Do you know what you don't know? Are you prepared to share the Good News of Jesus with your players?

**Challenge:** Read Acts 8; 1 Peter 3:15. Recall those in your life who were prepared and told you about Jesus.

**Prayer:** Father, thank you for seeking me and for providing me with the opportunity to share your love with my players, family, friends and co-workers. Grant me the strength and courage to tell my story and you found me. Amen.

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