
**BEAR
HUG 24**

Philip Tells the Good News

Make It Stick: Romans 10:15: ... *“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel ...”*

The Big Buzz: Philip shared the good news of Jesus with an Ethiopian officer. We can share the good news too! God is happy when we share the good news with others.

HONEY FROM THE COMB

Read: Acts 8:26-40; 1 Peter 3:15; 2 Timothy 4:2

Memorize: Romans 10:15

One of the strongest pleas for teachers is found in Acts 8:31. Philip had just asked the Ethiopian eunuch if he understood the Scripture he had been reading. The eunuch replied, ... *“How can I, unless someone guides me?”*

This call for understanding still echoes in the hearts of people today — even in the hearts of your Cubbies. Are you willing to step up and be that guide? If so, take a few pointers from Philip.

He was ready when the Spirit led him to the eunuch. You never know when God is going to use you to tell others the gospel. Your job is to always be prepared (1 Peter 3:15; 2 Timothy 4:2).

Be in the Word. There are people all around you who are just like the eunuch. They have questions about the Bible. Do you know the Bible well enough to answer them? How much time do you devote to personal prayer and study of God’s Word? Are there classes or other resources that would enhance your Bible knowledge?

Understand your audience. Not only did Philip understand the text, he understood the eunuch’s questions and level of understanding. Philip began teaching with the passage of Scripture that the eunuch was reading and used that to explain the good news about Jesus.

You have been sharing the gospel clearly and consistently throughout this whole year in Cubbies. This lesson is a chance to solidify and further their understanding. This is a great time to ask them questions. Make sure they understand the truth clearly!

As you follow Philip’s example and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you, you too will be a faithful teacher of God’s Word.

TASTE AND SEE!

Cubbies need to *taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8)*! Pray that the Holy Spirit would work through this lesson so Cubbies:

1. Grasp the concept of “good news.”
Jesus died for our sins and then came alive again.
2. Know that we obey Jesus when we share the good news.
3. Understand that God helped Philip tell the good news. He will help Cubbies share the good news too!
4. Learn one way that they can tell others the good news.
5. _____
6. _____

(Add the goals the Holy Spirit brings to your mind and heart as you pray for Cubbies.)



COMING IN

(10-15 minutes before club officially starts)

IDEA 1: Philip and Ethiopian Puppet Scene

What You Need

- Standard envelopes (no more than 5 or 6 inches [13 or 15 cm] wide)
- Precut wheel patterns (resource CD)
- Precut Philip and Ethiopian faces (resource CD)
- Construction paper
- Glue sticks
- Pairs of child-sized scissors
- Jumbo craft sticks
- Markers and crayons
- *Optional* — white copy paper cut into small rectangles

Seal envelopes beforehand, and give each Cubbie a sealed envelope. Cubbies cut a large round corner from the top of the envelope to make a chariot. (See finished craft photo on the resource CD.) Cubbies glue the chariot onto construction paper and glue one wheel on it. Next, Cubbies each glue a Philip face to one craft stick and an Ethiopian face to another craft stick (Cubbies can cut out the faces from the pattern page, or faces can be precut.) Cubbies insert the two craft sticks into the chariot as puppets. If desired, Cubbies can draw a desert scene and some water on their paper. Encourage Cubbies to act out the Bible story using the craft. Philip can run up to chariot, and climb inside. Then Philip can baptize the Ethiopian.

IDEA 2: Gospel Picture Wheel

What You Need

- Copy of the Gospel Wheel 1 and the Gospel Wheel 2 page for each Cubbie (resource CD; print on card stock)
- Crayons
- Brad paper fasteners
- Pairs of child-sized scissors

As Cubbies color the Gospel Wheel 1 page, read the text for each picture to help Cubbies understand and remember the

gospel message. Then direct Cubbies to cut out the wheel and the pie-shaped window from the Gospel Wheel 2 page. (Younger Cubbies may need leaders to precut the wheel.) Help Cubbies attach the wheel over the pictures with a brad. Cubbies can move the wheel and practice telling the gospel with the pictures. This craft can be used for a Lesson Time activity.

IDEA 3: Fun With Feet and Shoes

What You Need

For Activity 1:

- Light brown construction paper
- Crayons
- Romans 10:15 verse labels (resource CD)
- *Optional* — sand, slightly thinned white glue, paint brush

For Activity 2:

- Several pairs of shoes (Cubbies' and leaders' shoes can be used.)

Do one or both activities. For Activity 1, leaders will trace each Cubbie's feet on a sheet of construction paper. Leaders can trace bare feet or shoes, but they should trace one foot in front of the other so it looks like the feet are walking. Cubbies can stick a verse label on the sheet and color the feet. If desired, let them brush a little glue on the paper around the feet and sprinkle on sand. Shake off excess.

For Activity 2, set piles of mixed-up shoe pairs around the room. Assign three or four Cubbies to a pile. On your signal, Cubbies will race to match each shoe in the pile with its pair and line up the pairs on the floor.

After either activity, ask Cubbies how they could use their feet to go and tell others the good news about Jesus.

STARTING TIME (3-5 minutes)

Continue your starting routine. Include the "Cubbies Song," Cubbies key verse and motto, unit Core Truth and the A and C verses, along with your favorite visuals, songs and motions.

PUPPET SHOW

(3-5 minutes)

What You Need

- Cubbie Bear puppet
- *Optional* — Cubbie vest

LEADER: Hello, Cubbies! Are you ready to talk with our friend, Cubbie Bear? Help me call him on the count of three, OK? Ready? One — two — three. CUBBIE!

(Bring Cubbie bear puppet come into view, hopping around.)

LEADER: Hi, Cubbie. *(Cubbie continues hopping around.)* You seem excited, as usual.

CUBBIE: I am, I am! I met two new friends today!

LEADER: That's wonderful!

CUBBIE: Timothy and I were playing on the playground on Apple Acres Farm. We swung on the swings, slid down the slides and climbed on the big cruise ship.

LEADER: That sounds like fun!

CUBBIE: It was! While we were sliding on the slide, two girls came to play.

LEADER: What were their names?

CUBBIE: Hannah and Charlotte. They both liked our blue vests.

LEADER: Well, they do look very nice!

(If you are using the Cubbie vest as a prop, hold it up now. Ask all the Cubbies who are wearing their vests to raise their hands.)

CUBBIE: Hannah asked why there was an A on our vests, so Timothy told them.

LEADER (looking at Cubbies): Boys and girls, do you remember what the A on your Cubbie vest stands for? *(Pause for replies.)* The A stands for All. *(Review Romans 3:23 with Cubbies.)*

CUBBIE: Charlotte noticed the big C on our vests, next to the A. Timothy remembered what he learned in Cubbies and told them all about the C.

LEADER (looking at Cubbies again): The C on the vest stands for Christ. Do you remember Romans 5:8? *(Review Romans 5:8 with Cubbies.)*

CUBBIE: Hannah and Charlotte really wanted blue vests like ours, so Timothy invited them to come to Cubbies with us!

LEADER (excitedly): That's wonderful, Cubbie! Did the girls' parents say they could come to Cubbies with you and Timothy?

CUBBIE: OOOPS! I forgot to find out! I'm going to go right now and ask Timothy if Hannah and Charlotte can come to Cubbies with us. Goodbye, boys and girls!

(Children wave goodbye as the Cubbie puppet is put away.)

LEADER (excitedly): Cubbies, Timothy used his vest to share the good news with Hannah and Charlotte! We're going to learn more today about what it means to share the good news and how you can do it too.

SNACKS (5-10 minutes)

Snacks are optional and can be done at any time during club.

IDEA 1: Scroll Snacks**What You Need**

- Stick pretzels
- Fruit Roll-Ups®

If necessary, cut Fruit Roll-Ups into smaller portions so they are proportionate to the pretzels. Let Cubbies make miniature scrolls by setting a pretzel at each short end of a Fruit Roll-Up portion, and rolling the ends together to make a scroll. Ask Cubbies who was reading the scroll in the Bible lesson. What did Philip help the Ethiopian man to understand from the scroll? (The good news about Jesus).

IDEA 2: Bible Snacks**What You Need**

- Fig Newtons® or chocolate-covered graham crackers (like Keebler® Deluxe Graham's)
- White decorator frosting
- Sharp knife for leader's use

For each Fig Newton, trim off the edge of one long side with a sharp knife, so the filling shows on three sides. This makes the cookie look like a Bible with pages showing on three sides and binding on the fourth side. With the frosting, draw a cross on the "cover" of each Bible. If you are using chocolate-covered cookies, cut the chocolate edge off of three sides, so the cracker shows through. Talk with Cubbies about how important it is to know what the Bible says so that we can tell others the good news about Jesus.

IDEA 3: Desert Sand**What You Need**

- Vanilla pudding in cups
- Graham crackers

Serve each Cubbie a cup of pudding topped with crushed graham crackers to resemble sand. Talk about how Philip met the Ethiopian on a desert road. (Be sure Cubbies understand what a desert is.) Philip used his feet to run to the chariot and tell the Ethiopian about Jesus. Recite Romans 10:15 together.

SONGS (3-5 minutes)

Songs can be done before or after Lesson Time.

What You Need

- Bible for "Go and Tell the Good News" song and game

SING:

- **"Go and Tell the Good News"** to the tune of "Did You Ever See a Lassie?" (from Bear Hug 23). Play the game that accompanies the song.
- **"Romans 10:15"** from the *HoneyComb Handbook Music CD*
- **"I'll Tell the Whole World"** to the tune of "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." For new verses, replace "the brothers and the sisters" with other people, such as "the grandpas and the grandmas" or "my next door neighbor."

First verse: I'll tell the whole world the good news. (*Sing four times.*)

Second verse: I'll tell the brothers and the sisters the good news. (*Sing four times.*)

PRAYER (1-2 minutes)

(Use this time to intentionally model and teach Cubbies the basics of prayer.)

Cubbies, it's time to talk to God. We can pray for others who need to hear the good news that Jesus died on the cross for their sin and came alive again. If they trust in Him, they will be saved from the punishment for their sin, and one day they can go to heaven and live with Jesus forever! Do you know someone who needs to hear the good news? (*Encourage Cubbies to respond. Remind them that relatives, friends and neighbors all need to hear the good news.*) Would you like to pray for someone who needs to hear the good news? (*Lead in prayer, mentioning one person who needs to hear the good news. If you have a large class, tell the Cubbies that they can call out the name of someone. Say, "God, please help (say a person's name) to hear the good news." Remind Cubbies that God will hear each of them, even when they say the name at the same time.*)

LESSON TIME (15-20 minutes)

What You Need

- Teaching Cards (TC) 89-92
- Bible with bookmarks placed at Acts 8:26-39 and Romans 10:15
- Two feet cut from construction paper
- *Optional* — roll of freezer paper or parchment paper, two small dowel rods, gospel tracts or gospel picture wheels from Coming In

(Before class, cut two large feet from construction paper. You may also prepare these two optional items. First, make a simple scroll. Tear off 12 inches of parchment or freezer paper. Tape one dowel rod to one end of the paper, and then tape the other dowel rod on the other end of the paper. Roll the dowel rods together so that they meet in the middle. Second, choose a gospel tract that explains the message of salvation simply and with plenty of illustrations that would be appealing to a child. Gather enough tracts so you can give one to each of your Cubbies. Instead of tracts, Cubbies may use the gospel picture wheels made during Coming In.)

(Adapt and personalize the words of this lesson so it fits you and your Cubbies. Open with prayer.)

I'm glad that Cubbie's friend, Timothy, was able to share the good news about Jesus with Hannah and Charlotte. Do you have any friends who play with you? **(Pause for replies.)** Did you know that YOU can share the good news with your friends and family? In today's lesson we are going to learn a true story from the Bible about a man named Philip who chose to tell the good news. Remember, all the stories in the Bible are true.

(Open your Bible to Acts 8:26-40 and display TC90.)

One day an angel came to Philip and said, "Go down to the road that goes from Jerusalem to Gaza."

Right away, Philip obeyed. Soon Philip arrived at the road. He looked one way, then the other. **(Place hand over eye and "scan" the room.)**

(Keep displaying TC89 and point to the chariot.)

Suddenly, he saw a chariot moving along the road. The Holy Spirit told Philip to go and catch

up with the chariot. So what do you think Philip did? **(Pause for replies.)** Philip ran after the chariot **(Have Cubbies stand and run in place.)**

(Display TC90.) When Philip reached the chariot, he peeked inside. He saw an important Ethiopian officer who worked for a queen! He was sitting inside the chariot and reading a scroll. **(Display the scroll. Pass it around the room for Cubbies to examine.)**

Cubbies, do you know what was written on the scroll? **(Pause for replies.)** On the scroll were words from the Bible.

Philip heard the man reading and asked him, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

The Ethiopian man shook his head **(shake head)**. "No, how can I!" he said. "I need someone to teach me and help me understand."

(Display TC91. This card will be used again.) The man asked Philip to sit with him in the chariot. As they rode along, Philip explained that the words the man was reading were about God's Son, Jesus Christ. Philip told him the good news that Christ died on the cross for our sin, and on the third day He rose again. Those who believe in Jesus are be saved from the punishment for sin.

The officer was so excited to hear the good news! He believed in Jesus and trusted Him as His Savior. After the man trusted in Jesus, he wanted to be baptized. Philip and the Ethiopian stopped the chariot and walked down into the water. **(Display TC92.)** There Philip baptized the man. They were both so happy! Philip was glad that he obeyed Jesus and shared the good news. The man was happy because he trusted in Jesus.

Optional: *If your Cubbies are not familiar with baptism, explain that baptism is when a person is laid down in the water and lifted back up again. People are baptized to show others that they trust in Jesus as Savior. Ask them if they have ever seen anyone get baptized at your church. Be aware of any age requirements your church has for baptism in case Cubbies who trust Christ want to be baptized.*

(Open your Bible to Romans 10:15.) Philip obeyed Jesus by telling others the good news. Our Bible

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verse says ... "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel ... " (Romans 10:15). (**Lift up your construction paper feet.**) Now that verse doesn't mean that our feet are pretty to look at. This verse means that God is happy when we use our feet to go and preach the gospel to others. The gospel is the good news that Jesus died for our sin and came alive again. (**Display TC91 again.**) You are obeying Jesus when you go and tell the good news. (**Repeat the Core Truth two times.**)

Cubbies, people need to hear the good news about Jesus. They can't hear about Him if we don't go and tell them. Philip used his feet to run to the chariot and tell the officer about Jesus. We can use our feet to go and tell people about Jesus too.

Option: Ask Cubbies different ways they use their feet. Answers may include running, walking, jumping, hopping. Have Cubbies stand in place and act out two or three of these activities. While Cubbies complete the motions with their feet, repeat the Bible verse and the Core Truth. Cubbies could also act out ways people could use their feet or travel in other ways to share the gospel. For example, a person could use their feet to walk to a friend's house to share the good news. A person could ride on a train to go and share the good news. A person could fly in a plane or ride in a boat to share the good news.

Cubbies, did you know you can be like Philip? You might be scared to talk to someone about Jesus. But God is ALWAYS with us. He helped Philip share the good news, and God will help YOU too! There are many different ways you can tell others the good news. Let's practice right now so that we are ready, just like Philip.

Choose one of the activities below to help children learn to tell the good news of Jesus.

Option one: Have children use the letters on their Cubbie vest to tell the good news. Review what the A and C stand for and recite Romans 3:23 and Romans 5:8 together. Also review

the truth that three days later, Jesus came alive again. Now Jesus lives in heaven with God.

Option two: Pass out a tract to each Cubbie. Explain to Cubbies that the words in the tract tell the good news of Jesus. Ask leaders to stand in front of the Cubbies. Then encourage each Cubbie to practice sharing the good news by handing a leader the tract and saying "Jesus loves you!" Cubbies could also practice sharing the good news with their gospel picture wheel craft. Leaders could help them with this during Handbook Time.

HANDBOOK TIME

(15-30 minutes)

Give each handbook group leader a copy of the Bear Hug 24 Handbook Leader Sheet from the resource CD.

Bear Hug 24 Activity Sheet

What You Need

- Copy of Bear Hug 24 Activity Sheet for each Cubbie (print on card stock for the optional chariot craft)
- Crayons
- *Optional* — jumbo craft sticks, glue sticks, pairs of child-sized scissors, chariot patterns cut from card stock (resource CD)

As Cubbies color the picture of Philip, talk about how he used his feet to run and tell the good news about Jesus to the man in the chariot. Recite Romans 10:15 together. Emphasize that the verse is not talking about pretty feet! Rather, it means that God is happy when we use our feet to go tell others the good news. Review the good news: Jesus died for our sins and came alive again. All people who trust Him as Savior will be saved from sin and will be alive with Jesus forever in heaven someday. Help Cubbies complete the optional chariot craft.

NOTE: Additional Handbook Time idea is on the Bear Hug 24 Handbook Leader Sheet.

PLAY TIME (15-20 minutes)**IDEA 1: Pass the Picture****What You Need**

- For each group:
- Copy of the Gospel Wheel 1 page (resource CD; print on card stock)
- Set of four picture shapes cut from Gospel Wheel 1 (print and cut from card stock)
- *Optional* — Laminate all game items for durability and reuse

Divide Cubbies into groups of four children. Give each group a Gospel Wheel 1 page. Set the four picture shapes for each group face down at the other end of the room. At your signal, the first person in each group should run to get a shape, bring it back to her group and place it on the matching portion of the wheel. Then the second Cubbie in each group should go to retrieve a picture shape. Continue in this pattern until each group member has retrieved a shape and all shapes are in the correct spot on the wheel. Then the group members sit down. When all groups have finished, review the Gospel Wheel and make sure they understand the gospel message.

IDEA 2: Use Your Gospel Feet**What You Need**

- *Optional* — Bibles; music player; obstacles you have on hand, such as chairs, blankets, crawling tunnel, play slide, stuffed animals, etc.

Say that Philip used his feet to run to the Ethiopian's chariot to tell him the good news about Jesus. Then review Romans 10:15 and ask the group to think of different ways we could use our feet to help tell others about Jesus. The group acts out the various scenarios. For example, we could walk next door to our friend's house, climb a mountain, jog through the rain forest and jump over puddles, tiptoe past a sleeping tiger, go up the steps to another floor or get in an elevator, walk backwards, balance walking over a bridge (a narrow board placed on the floor), etc. Or the game leader could turn this into a fun game of

Follow the Leader. While music plays, the group will walk around the room and pretend to travel around the world. If desired, Cubbies could carry their Bibles. Cubbies can mimic various transportation forms, such as flying in an airplane, paddling a canoe, swimming through a river, riding on a motorcycle or on a train. Anytime the music stops, everyone will stop and say "Jesus says to tell the good news" before resuming the game. Obstacles can be added for more fun.

IDEA 3: Going to Share Jesus**What You Need**

- Leader's script (resource CD)

Lead Cubbies through the adventure of the game "Going to Share Jesus" which is a variation on the game "Going on a Bear Hunt."

IDEA 4: Chariot Tag**What You Need**

- Nothing

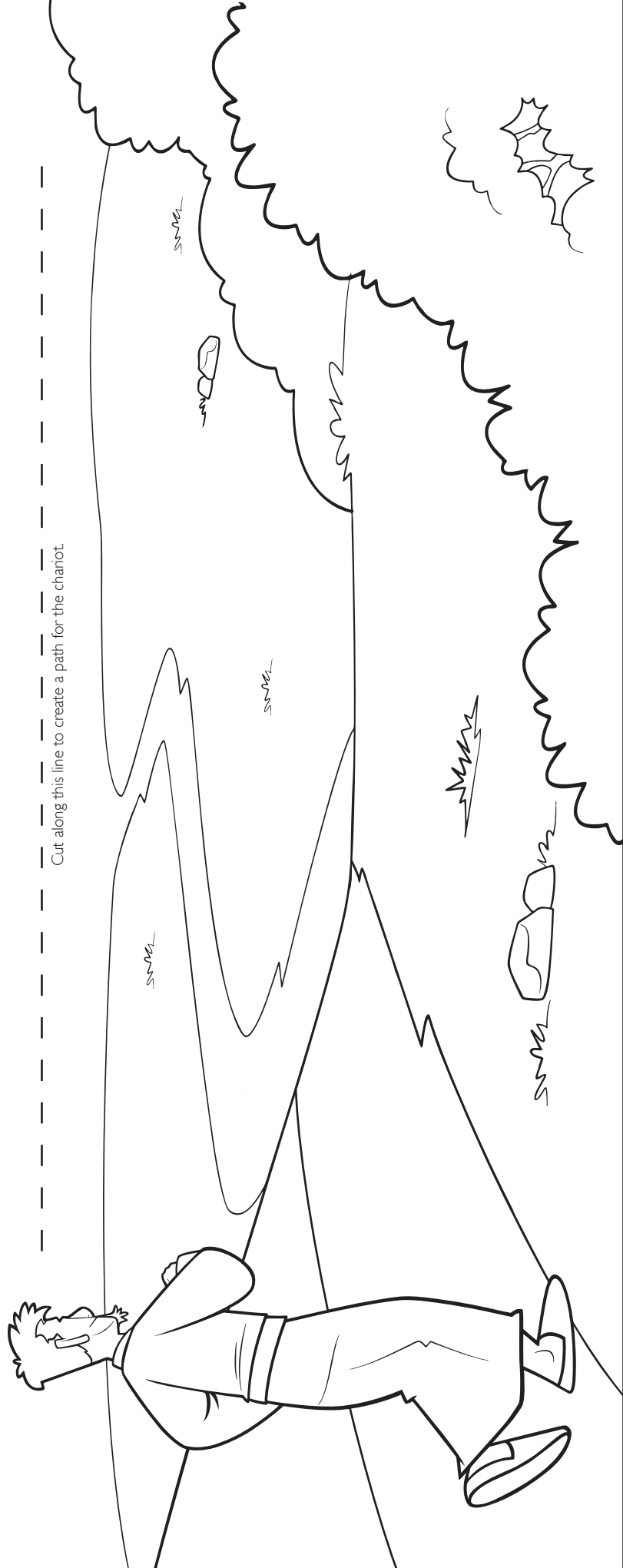
Choose one Cubbie to be Philip. He will be the tagger. All other Cubbies pair up as chariots; one Cubbie will hold the waist of the other. All pairs run and Philip attempts to tag them. When Philip tags each pair, he says "Help me tell the good news about Jesus." At that point, the chariot divides and the two Cubbies help Philip tag other chariots in the same way he tagged them. Game continues until all chariots have been tagged. Begin the game again with a new Philip.

GOING HOME (5-10 minutes)

As the club year is coming to a close, be sure to find out what Awana leader training activities are being offered in your area. Take advantage of these summer opportunities to build relationships and network with other area leaders, enhance your ministry skills to children and families, and recharge your vision and passion for ministry. Communicate these training events early and often for the best involvement of your Cubbies leadership team. May God continue to bless your service!

... "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel ..." (Romans 10:15)

NAME: _____



Cut along this line to create a path for the chariot.

Basic Instructions: Color the picture of Philip in the desert. Philip used his feet to run and tell the good news about Jesus to a man in a chariot. Recite your verse, Romans 10:15. This is the good news: Jesus died for our sins and came alive again. Everyone who trusts Him as Savior will be saved from sin and will be alive with Jesus forever in heaven someday.

Even More Fun: Color the chariot from your leader. Glue the chariot to the road on your picture or onto the top of a craft stick.

Ultimate Fun: Cut along the dashed line on your sheet where indicated. Insert the craft stick with the chariot on it into the slit. Hold the stick from behind and move the stick from one side to another so it appears to move down the road.