

The Case for Christ
Part 1: Investigating the Case for Christ
Acts 8:26-39

4 Common Spiritual Sticking Points

Spiritual Sticking Point #1: I Can't Believe

- The Ethiopian was seeking God by going to worship at the Temple in Jerusalem, reading the Bible, and listening to an explanation. When an intellectual objection prevents me from belief, the answer is to **seek** the **truth** about Jesus.

God says in Jeremiah 29:13, “You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

Spiritual Sticking Point #2: I Don't Want to Believe

- Sometimes we have personal reasons for unbelief. We don't want to change a sinful lifestyle. We don't want to explore true intimacy with God and others. We don't want anyone, even God, telling us what to do. Yet, God's goal isn't to boss us around, but to guide us into our greatest **purpose** and **potential** and to protect us from our own self-destructive behavior.

Spiritual Sticking Point #3: I Don't Know What to Believe (Acts 8:34-35)

- The key to understanding the Bible, as with any written communication, is to study it in order to discover what the author **meant** it to say instead of what we **want** it to say.
- When it comes to the critical, central message of the Bible, there is no ambiguity. One verse sums it up: Romans 6:23 says, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Spiritual Sticking Point #4: I Do Believe; Isn't That Enough?

“Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” John 1:12

Believe + Receive = Become