



Smith Rock  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

# acts

OF THE APOSTLES

Sermon notes  
and  
study guide

For the week of  
**18th April 2021**  
“The Way”



# The Way

Acts 8:26-9:19 or page 862 in a church bible.

## Main points

### 1. L \_\_\_\_\_ on the way

4        *For thus says the Lord:*  
          *"To the eunuchs who keep my Sab-*

*baths,*  
*who choose the things that please me*  
*and hold fast my covenant,*

5        *I will give in my house and within my*  
*walls*  
*a monument and a name*  
*better than sons and daughters;*  
*I will give them an everlasting name*  
*that shall not be cut off.*

Isaiah 56:4–5 (ESV)

**2. I \_\_\_\_\_ on the way**

3 *A voice cries:*

*“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God*  
Isaiah 40:3 (ESV)

**3. G \_\_\_\_\_ on the way.**

6 *Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and  
the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*  
John 14:6 (ESV)

**4. R \_\_\_\_\_ on the way.**

*If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things  
that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand  
of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not  
on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and  
your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ  
who is your life appears, then you also will appear with  
him in glory.*  
Colossians 3:1–4 (ESV)

# WHAT NEXT?



**What have you heard God say to you this morning and what are you going to do with what you heard?**

**What was the main point of the sermon?**

**What stood out for you in this text.**

**What is one thing you are going to do with what you  
heard this next week**

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. 27 And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." 30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter

and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.

33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

34 And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. 36 And as they were going along the road

*they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptised?"*

*38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptised him. 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.*

*9 But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.*

*3 Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. 4 And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"*

*5 And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." 7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. 8 Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.*

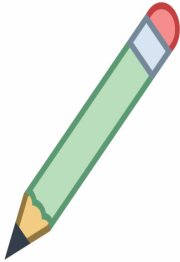
*10 Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And*

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# Sermon notes

## *for kids*

Favourite song today

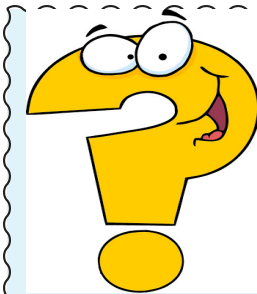
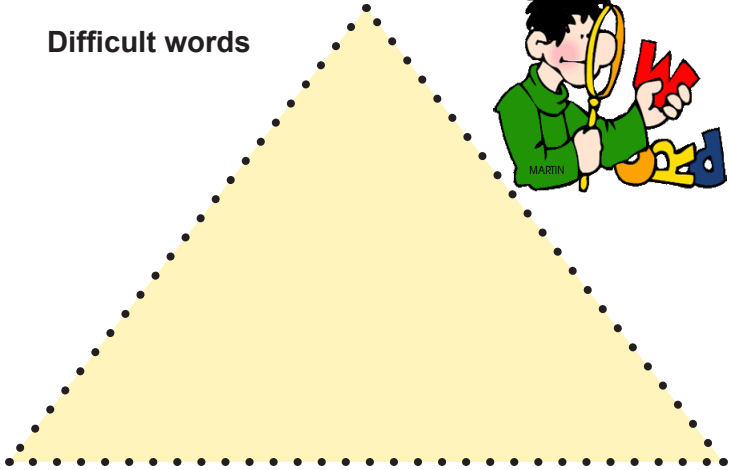


Draw a picture from the sermon

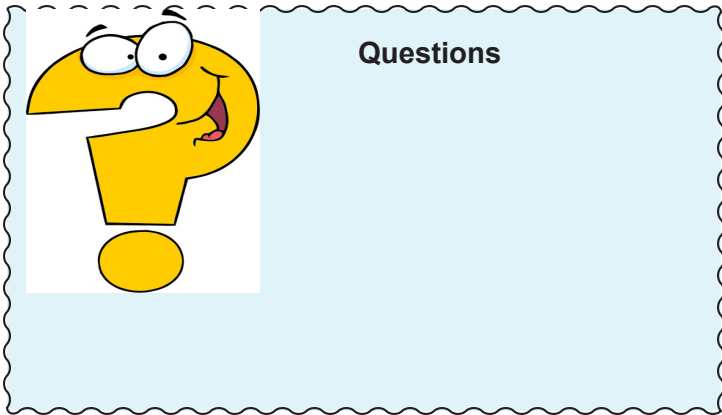


NAME OF THE BOOK

Difficult words



Questions



Today I learned

Handwriting practice lines for the 'Today I learned' section, consisting of six horizontal lines on a light orange background.



## **Further study for** *Groups and individuals*

### **Review**

Look back at last week's sermon notes and take a moment to review what you wrote you were going to take action on.

How did it go? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you learn? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any plans to travel this summer, and if so where do you plan to go? \_\_\_\_\_

What led to you deciding on your destination? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you decide where God wants you to be? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you share a time you heard God speak to you and direct you to go somewhere or to someone?

Read the story of God calling to Samuel;

*4 Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" 5 and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.*

*6 And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.*

*8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. 9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.' " So Samuel went and lay down in his place.*

*10 And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears."*

1 Samuel 3:4–10 (ESV)

What gets in the way of us hearing the call and the direction of the Holy Spirit and how can we recognise His voice better? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read the directions given to Philip and Ananais and compare the similarities and contrasts between the two.

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Describe a time when you were lost on your way in life,  
how did God find you and give you direction? \_\_\_\_\_

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The passage the Ethiopian was reading was;

7     *He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he opened not his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he opened not his mouth.*

8     *By oppression and judgment he was  
taken away;  
and as for his generation, who considered  
that he was cut off out of the land of the liv-  
ing,  
stricken for the transgression of my people?*

Isaiah 53:7–8 (ESV)

If you had to explain this text to someone, what would you  
tell them? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is the key to understanding Scripture? \_\_\_\_\_

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When Paul and Silas are in prison in Philippi it is rocked by an earthquake which gets the jailer's attention;

*30 Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" 31 And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." 32 And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family.*

Acts 16:30–33 (ESV)

Like the Ethiopian, what is to prevent someone from getting baptised if they have confessed Christ as their Lord and Saviour? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

For both Paul and the Ethiopian, what happened to them on their way changed their lives; Paul went on to take the Gospel to the gentile world, and the Ethiopian returned home rejoicing.

How has Jesus meeting you on your way rerouted your life? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

he said, "Here I am, Lord." 11 And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. 14 And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." 17 So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptised; 19 and taking food, he was strengthened.

Acts 8:26–9:19 (ESV)