



Smith Rock
COMMUNITY CHURCH

acts

OF THE APOSTLES

Sermon notes
and
study guide

For the week of
11th April 2021
“Attention”



Attention

Acts 8:1-25 or page 861 in a church bible.

Main points

1. Attention to S _____

34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. 35 Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.

John 4:34–35 (ESV)

2. Attention to S _____

19 And he said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Mark 4:9 (ESV)

3. Attention to S _____

19 So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. 20 For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel.

John 5:19–20 (ESV)

4. Attention to S _____

15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. 16 And the free gift is not like the result of that one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification.

Romans 5:15–16 (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**

And Saul approved of his execution.

And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. 2 Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. 3 But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.

4 Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. 5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. 6 And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. 7 For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralysed or lame were healed. 8 So there was much joy in that city.

9 But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. 10 They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called Great." 11 And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. 12 But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptised, both men and women.

13 Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptised he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.

14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. 18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20 But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! 21 You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. 22 Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. 23 For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity." 24 And Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."

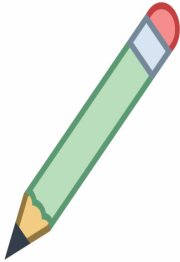
25 Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

Acts 8:1–25 (ESV)

Sermon notes

for kids

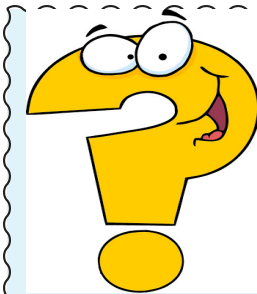
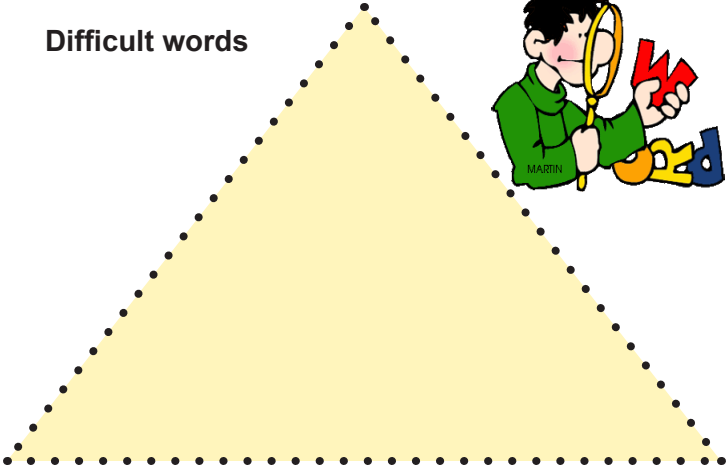
Favourite song today



Draw a picture from the sermon

NAME OF THE BOOK

Difficult words



Questions

Today I learned

Handwriting practice lines consisting of five 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? _____

When is the last time you moved? _____

What prompted your move? _____

What would make you consider moving now, and where would you go? _____

What methods has God used in the Bible to get people's attention? _____

How has God got your attention in the past? _____

In Mark we read Jesus warn;

21 And he said to them, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under a basket, or under a bed, and not on a stand?

22 For nothing is hidden except to be made manifest; nor is anything secret except to come to light. 23 If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear." 24 And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you. 25 For to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away."

Mark 4:21–25 (ESV)

What things get in the way of you paying attention to Jesus? _____

James also warns his readers about what they should pay attention to;

2 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. 2 For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, 3 and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," 4 have you not

then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

James 2:1–4 (ESV)

Why must the church be careful about “whose” attention it is trying to get, and how it is trying to get it? _____

What are some ways we could Biblically go about getting attention for the Good News of Jesus Christ today? _____

In the Book of Acts sometimes the Spirit comes on people before they are baptised (Acts 10:44-48), and sometimes the Spirit falls on people after they have been baptised as in this passage. What do you think this says about our control over how God works? _____

Clearly Simon the magician thought the Apostles were responsible for giving the Holy Spirit to people. Why did he think this and why was he wrong? _____

Peter tells Simon that his “heart is not right before God,” and that he “is in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of

iniquity.” The author of Hebrews also warns;
*15 See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of
God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes
trouble, and by it many become defiled;*

Hebrews 12:15 (ESV)

What do you think Simon’s bitterness was, and why is bitterness so deadly?

In Exodus several times Pharaoh called Moses.

16 Then Pharaoh hastily called Moses and Aaron and said, “I have sinned against the LORD your God, and against you. 17 Now therefore, forgive my sin, please, only this once, and plead with the LORD your God only to remove this death from me.”

Exodus 10:16–17 (ESV)

Do you think Simon’s plea to Peter was similar or different?
