The Way

Introduction Preparing for The Way (Part 2) *We are indebted to Ethnos360 for providing the basis of these lessons*

BIG Idea

Last week we began our introduction to our one-year series, The Way.

Today we will be showing you *Five Action Steps* for making the most of it.



Information (What We Need to Know) *Five Actions Steps to The Way...*

- STEP #1: Sunday Sermons
 Acts 2:42 (ESV) And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching...
 - ✓ Attend 41 Sunday Teachings (there is a path forward)



- ✓ **Take Notes on Teachings** (helps with engagement)
- ✓ Kids/Students Alignment (helps the church to be united in our efforts)

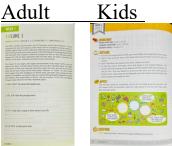
STEP #2: Spiritual Habits

✓ Daily Online Guidance for Readings



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- Read One Bible Chapter a Day (online/print copies at thesummit.life/theway)
 Psalm 1:1 (ESV) Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; 2 but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.
 - Delight (changing appetite; consistency; ideal vs. reality)
 - Meditate
 "Exercising serious and affectionate thoughtfulness about it; and by this delighting in it. What we love, we love to think of." Bensen Commentary
- Journal in Foundations Book (HEAR Method)



- **HIGHLIGHT** What verse(s) stood out to you in your reading?
- EXPLAIN What is the author's intended meaning in context of the verses?
- **APPLY** What is the principle to live by today?
- **RESPOND** How will I respond to the application in my relationships and/or situations this week?



- ✓ **Read and/or Listen to Book Commentary** (brief explanation of chapter for day)
- ✓ Memorize Verse (Bible Memory App or notecards)
- ✓ Further Study Resources (Enduring Word/David Guzik; Tom's Journals)
- \checkmark Family Discipleship (work in your home to learn and apply together)

STEP #3: Small Groups

Acts 2:46 (ESV) And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people.

✓ Join an Established Group

Check out our <u>app</u> for available groups and connect with others (messaging walkthrough)

• Women's groups

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- Men's groups
- Sermon series groups
- Reading Plan groups
- o Book study groups
- Community Groups
- o Classrooms
- D-Groups



- ✓ Form Your Own Group
 - ✓ We may not have what you are looking for, that's ok! You can always start your own group
 - ✓ We don't need to facilitate every bible study or discussion group that meets. Some of the groups that have been running well around here were started organically.
- STEP #4: Serving Others (Volunteer in a Ministry Area at Least Once a Month)
 Acts 2:42 (ESV) And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship [participation, sharing, partnership]...
 - ✓ Fellowship means that we are in this together. (Participation, Sharing, Partnership)
 - ✓ It isn't always *convenient*, but it is always *impactful*.
 - VOM I am reminded how very <u>small</u> I am and how very *insignificant* my inconveniences are.
 - You cannot read a story of a man who smuggles Bibles into a foreign country at night knowing full well that He <u>will</u> be killed if he is caught, and then complain about getting to church 30 minutes early to serve on a team.
 - It is nothing less than a sheer <u>joy</u> and <u>privilege</u> to serve my God and King, Inconveniences, and all!
 - ✓ Every area matters
 - Pantry, Parking, Greeters, Coffee, Safety, Worship, Sound, Lighting, Cameras, Kidcheck, Nursery, Toddlers, Preschool, K-2nd Grade, 3rd-4th Grade, 5th-6th Grade, Climb Youth
 - "Parking cars, or shaking hands, or holding babies doesn't make an impact like delivering Bibles" - YES IT DOES

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1 Corinthians 12:14 (ESV) For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

- Everybody has something they can contribute, and nobody's contribution is more significant than another's.
- Most of you are serving that is truly something to be proud of
- **There are legitimate reasons not to serve please do not feel attacked if you are one of those people.**
- Food for thought: What if I told you You could serve in multiple departments on the same Sunday and still attend a service
 - Pantry team, Parking lot, coffee team, greeters, and kidcheck all take place before/after service begins/ends and do not conflict with attending service. We can and have worked it out.
 - 3rd-4th, 5th-6th, and Climb Youth all take place after the worship songs are over.
- **STEP #5: Send** (Every member a minister of the Gospel) This step will grow with us throughout the year, but for now, PRAY...
 - That God will *open your eyes* to see people around you as He does
 - That God will *open your mouth* to speak the truth, and begin having conversations with your neighbors and coworkers about Him
 - That God will *open their ears* to receive His message when you speak faithfully