

Jesus:

relevant for the next generation?



One-off
Week

Sunday 18 July 2021

TODAY'S SERVICE:

- Welcome
- Song
- Confession
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading:
Exodus 3:1-15
- Sermon
- Prayers
- Interview
- Song
- Conclusion

If you are a visitor
please don't feel
obliged to contribute
financially.

Most St Stephen's
collection is received
electronically.
BSB: 062 272
Account Number:
00490436

This Bulletin contains a number of hyperlinks throughout. Feel free to use them to link to forms and Bible passages.

What value does the Christian faith hold for a growing secular culture who relies on scientific enquiry and human intellect, a society with little place for God and his word?

If an adult Christian believer feels the seismic cultural shifts taking place - it is far more precarious for the next generation. They do not feel the shift, simply accepting it as the norm. This reality applies to all aspects of our life. Our view of sexuality, gender, money, the afterlife - each is being rethought without any reference to the Bible's worldview.

If we believe the Bible is God's word, the sword of his Spirit, this shift is not only uncomfortable - it is dangerous. We are losing contact with the one who made us, loves us and seeks to redeem us. The preaching of God's message to the next generation is the means by which they will be saved and the hope of God's promises will be available. We want you to come on board with us as we take on this responsibility. If you want to help send Pippie an [email](#) and start a conversation.



St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

Prayers for the Service

These prayers are used during the service. Prayer is a privilege we are given because Christ died for us. His death & resurrection means we can confidently approach God seeking forgiveness (Hebrews 10:22). If you believe that Christ died to deal with your failings then you should be confident to pray with us. If you are still exploring who Christ is then feel free to listen in.

Confession Prayer

¹ Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. ² Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

(Pslam 32:1-2)

Heavenly Father,
we praise you for adopting us as your children
and making us heirs of eternal life.
In your mercy you have washed us from our sins
and made us clean in your sight.
Yet we still fail to love you as we should
and serve you as we ought.
Forgive us our sins and renew us by your grace,
that we may continue to grow as members of Christ,
in whom alone is our salvation. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

This is the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray (Matthew 6:5-14).

Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name

Your kingdom come

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever

Amen

Church (on the phone)

If you would like to listen (via phone) to the Sunday Service at 7:45am on Sunday Mornings:

1. Dial 8015 6011.
2. You will be prompted to enter the meeting ID at that point dial 890 595 1389 #.
3. If the meeting has not already started press # to wait. You will be prompted to enter your unique participant ID but you do not need a participant ID so press # to skip.
4. When asked for the meeting password Dial 088653. You can now listen to the service.

Sermon Notes

Jesus: relevant for the next generation | Passage: Exodus 3:1-15

Connect Group Study

1. Why might the younger generations find following Jesus hard in our current context? What pressures do they encounter?

Read Exodus 3:1-15

2. What is Moses afraid of? What is he uncertain about?
3. What aspects of God's character are emphasised in God's responses to Moses?
4. What parts of God's character do we find difficult to accept? Why?
5. Why might accepting God's character as displayed in this passage help us?

6. How can you help the next generation come to know and trust the God we meet in the Bible?

7. What can you pray for as a group?

Prayer Points

Read the Bible with us!

Enjoy reading these passages to spur on your thinking and love for the next generation:

- (a) How does this passage remind us of God's grace?
- (b) What do we need to encourage the next generation to do?
- (c) How can you pray for our ministry to kids & youth in light of this passage?

Monday - Genesis 12:1-3
Tuesday - Matthew 9:5-7
Wednesday - Matt 16:24-26
Thursday - Psalms 18:16-19
Friday - Matthew 18:1-4

Notices

Mission Gift Day - 25 July

Currently our parish supports 6 Mission Partners. We partner with them because we want our generosity to extend beyond our immediate community and we will believe the good news of Jesus is God's way of saving all who believe (Rom 1:16-17)

On Sunday 25 July we will hold our annual Mission Gift Day across all services.

Our general budget sets aside 5.5% of our congregations' giving to support the partners. In addition to that we run our Mission Gift Day where parishioners are invited to pledge a one-off gift.

You can give to our Mission Gift Day appeal by bank transfer:

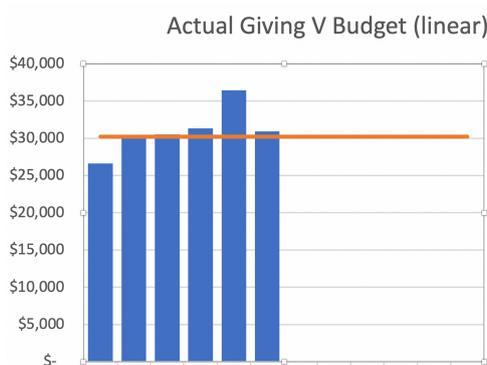
BSB: 062 272
Acc No: 00490436
Ref: Mission

Jill's new role

Last Sunday we announced a change to Jill Chilton's role. Jill will be our new Membership Pastor. The Membership Pastor seeks to welcome new people into our church so they understand the vision & mission of our church, have access to the appropriate ministries and are encouraged to involve themselves in the life of our church as appropriate to their spiritual maturity.

Finances update for July

Thank you to our members who financially support St. Stephen's ministries.



Over recent months we have been asking members to consider including St Stephen's as a bequest in their will. The amount remains confidential and wardens reserve them for special projects. Pam Winchester, who recently passed way has made a bequest to St Stephen's. We are thankful for her generosity and will reserve it for a special project.

Kids and Youth News

A reminder Pippie (our Kids & Youth Minister) is on leave this week. She returns to the office on **Sunday 25 July**. We will continue to provide kids packs for our online services. Once we return to face to face church we will restart the Sunday kids program.

Kidzone is multiplying, so when we return face to face we will have a K-2 group (run in Hainsworth hall) and a 3-6 group (run in the Chapel Hall). We are super excited about this change! Please pray that the transition to two groups is smooth and that this change leads to gospel growth.

Mission Update

Last year, in similar circumstances, we ran a really successful book club (using Sam Chan's book, *Evangelism in a Skeptical World*) for our church members, fostering our personal convictions and courage around evangelism. Those who took part found it immensely helpful and encouraging.

From August 3rd, we are going to run another weekly Zoom group to read and discuss Sam Chan's second book, ***How to Talk About Jesus (Without Being That Guy)***. Come join us. Register [here](#).

One participant said:

"It made me so much more excited about evangelism. I often am lacking in confidence to speak to my friends and this has given me so much to try out".

Praying for our church

How can we support God's work in our area? Our 1st Mission Priority as a parish is to **pray big prayers shaped by the gospel**. Can you commit to pray regularly for our church this coming week? Here are suggestions of prayer points:

1. Parish-wide conviction of our sin and need for the good news of Jesus;
2. Staff and Production team as they adjust to the new requirements of COVID lockdown; and
3. God might bring 3 new families to join us at our 9:45am service in the coming 6months 3 new Young Adults to our 5:30pm Service.



What's Coming Up

- Sunday 18th Switch starts again at 9:45am
For Zoom click [here](#)
(Meeting ID: 890 595 1389 | Passcode: Sunday)
Connect Group Leaders' meeting 1:00-2:00 pm
For Zoom click [here](#)
(Meeting ID: 882 0378 3456 | Passcode: 139768)
- Monday 19th Online Prayer Meeting 8:30-8:55am
For Zoom click [here](#)
(Meeting ID: 885 1851 2491 | Passcode: 216923)
- Sunday 25th **Mission Gift Day** at all Services
— August —
- Tuesday 3rd Outreach Training Book Club scheduled to begin over Zoom

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