

CHRISTIANITY

A JOYFUL SPIRITUALITY?

THE BOOK OF
GALATIANS
10 OCT - 28 NOV

Wk 1

TODAY'S SERVICE:

- Welcome
- Song
- Confession
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading:
Galatians 1:1-9
- Sermon
- Song
- Prayer
- Song
- Conclusion

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

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

Sunday 10 October 2021

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

Welcome to St Stephen's. Great to have you join us for our online services this week. If you are new or someone has recommended you join us we would love to hear from you. You can contact us through the [electronic connect card](#).

This Sunday we start a new series reflecting on the message found in the New Testament letter of Galatians. At the heart of this ancient letter is the challenge to hold on to the core message of Jesus. Do you know what that message is and why it is valuable? Come take the journey with us in this series.

Over the coming weeks we will be looking at returning to in-person church services. This is both exciting and daunting. We are committed to returning because God wants his people to physically gather. To help us do this we are inviting comments and reflections from the church membership. If you would like to comment please use [this survey](#) to submit your responses. Would you also take time to pray for us as a church - might we live for the glory of Christ!



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.

We are the people of God, but Scripture reminds us that we still sin. We need to confess our failures, knowing that the Lord Jesus intercedes for us with the Father, who freely forgives us, through his infinite goodness and mercy. So let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence, and pray together.

Confession Prayer

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed:
We have not loved you with our whole heart,
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves:
We repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Connect Group Study

List a few things in your life you would never trade off. What do you do to guard them?

Read Galatians 1:1-9

What is Paul concerned with in this passage?

How should we define the 'gospel'? What 3 major components of the gospel does Paul refer to in vv.3-5 (fill in the boxes).



What parts of God's message are we tempted to leave out or change? Why?

What is lost when we change the gospel?

Identify a way you can guard the true message. What do you need to do / recommit to?

Listen to [this song](#) as a group

Spend time giving thanks for what is ours if we hold on to the true message of the Bible?

Prayer Points

Read the Bible with us!

How do these passages give us confidence when sharing the Christian faith?

How can you pray for God to give you opportunities and courage to share your faith?

Monday - [Acts 1:1-8](#)
Tuesday - [Acts 1:12-26](#)
Wednesday - [Acts 2:1-12](#)
Thursday - [Acts 2:15-21](#)
Friday - [Acts 2:22-33](#)

Notices

Missionary Prayers

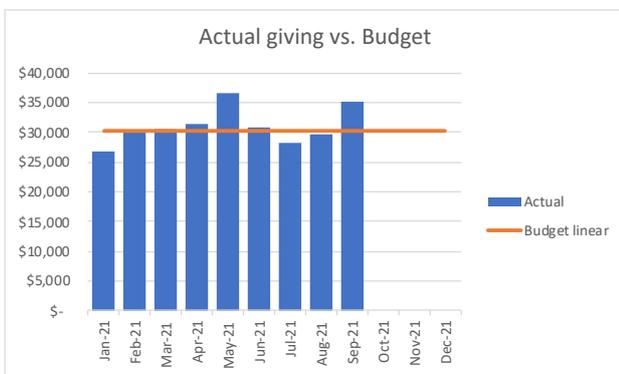
[Download](#) mission prayer points for October. Every month the Mission Support Committee compiles praise and prayer points sent by our mission partners. We would love for you to include our Missionary Link Partners in your prayer time throughout the month. We support six mission partners in prayer and financially.

Lockdown Update - Angela Taradilis (5:30pm service)

Lockdown life has been a bit of whirlwind! I've started a new job in a different industry but have yet to meet any colleagues in real life, I'm not able to see my best friend and her dogs (pictured) and have seemingly exhausted all walks in my 5km radius. Despite this, I'm thankful for weekly walks with a friend and being able to join the production team at the 5:30 service (with guaranteed human interaction!!). Throughout these last few weeks of lockdown, I've been praying for energy and continued reliance on God, as well as opportunities for gospel conversations at the new workplace.



Finances update for September



Gift Day is coming up! **Sunday 7 November** is set aside a time to consider how our finances can honour God and support his work in our area. In line with our budgeting we hope to raise \$75,000 over gift day. Along with our 555 initiative, this year's amount is part of an overall plan

to rely less on gift day for operational costs (paying staff and utilities) and to move to project specific gifts that allow for greater impact. Would you consider how you might be part of this year's gift day?

Midweek Devotion Series
The devotion series is back!
This time we will be taking a deep dive into the book of Acts.

Starting this coming Monday we will launch our weekly devotions series. What a great way to work through the book of Acts together. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday a new episode will drop on our website. Our weekly Bible readings will supplement these episodes. Check your inbox or our Facebook page for more links starting this week.



John Dickson Talk

St Stephen's Willoughby will also be playing host to renowned historian and academic. We will be gathering via zoom on Tuesday 19th October @ 7pm. Who can you bring alone to hear him? [Book their seat!](#)



Youth Alpha

H.P.S. (our youth group) is doing Youth Alpha in term 4. The course is designed specifically to help teenagers explore the big questions of life. The basic program is we play a game, eat food, watch a video and then discuss. Food is a big part of Alpha and (even online) so we would love to drop off a food pack to every attendee. In order for us to do this [please fill out this registration form.](#)



[Click here to watch the trailer](#)

Note: Your child is still welcome to attend without filling out this form but we will be unable to deliver food to them.

Kids and Youth starting back

Sunday Kids and Youth programs start back this week (10th October) online. HPS starts back on Friday the 15th of October.



What's Coming Up

Sunday 10th	Kidszone Online at 9:15 to 9:30. For Zoom Details: Email - children@st-stephens.com.au Switch at 9:45am. For Zoom Details: Email - children@st-stephens.com.au
Monday 11th	Online Prayer Meeting 8:30-8:55am - Zoom Link Meeting ID: 878 2345 9321 Passcode: 836532
Friday 15th	Half Past Six (Register here for online Alpha food)
Tuesday 19th	Simply Christianity starts with visit from John Dickson. Sign up https://st-stephens.com.au/bring

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