

CHRISTIANITY

A JOYFUL SPIRITUALITY?

THE BOOK OF
GALATIANS
10 OCT - 28 NOV

Wk 5

Sunday 7 November 2021

The electronic version of this contains a number of hyperlinks throughout. Feel free to use them.

TODAY'S
9:45AM
SERVICE:

Welcome to St Stephen's! Great to have you join us this Sunday. If you are new or visiting we are so glad you decided to spend time with us. We want you to feel welcome, find your place here and explore the message of Jesus.

- Welcome
- Song
- Interview
- Prayer
- Bible Reading:
Galatians
3:23-4:7
- Sermon
- Song
- Communion
- Song
- Conclusion

We would love it if you could let us know how you found your time by scanning the QR Code and filling in our connect card.

This Sunday we are celebrating 'Gift Day'. It's our chance as a church to financially support the life, service and care of our church. Every part of our church



life is a result of the generosity of God's people here at St Stephen's. We give our gifts because God gave what was most precious to him for us - his son the Lord Jesus! In fact, the whole Christian life is a response to God's generosity to us. Enjoy your morning.

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



St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

Prayers for those not sharing in Lord's Supper

Participation in the Lord's Supper is for those who have professed faith in Jesus - it's a powerful and important symbol of the Christian message. As such we want to encourage those who are still exploring the Christian faith to feel free to remain in their seats when others move to the front to receive the Lord's Supper. During that time you may want to reflect on the sermon or Bible reading. You may also want to pray one of these prayers below.

Prayer for those searching for truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me who you are. Give me an understanding of you that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Saviour and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayers adapted from Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York.

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 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

Sermon Notes

The Life of Faith | [Galatians 3:23-4:7](#)

1. The Need for Faith

i. Part of a story

ii. The Good and the Bad of the Law

2. The Life of Faith

i. Clothed in Christ means...

ii. The distraction of the Law

3. The Joy of Faith

i. Adoption

ii. A new story

Connect Group Study

1. What makes you feel like you belong in a group? What can/should we do to help people belong?

Read Galatians 3:23-4:7

2. What is 'the law'?

3. What was the purpose of the 'the law'? (vv.23-24)

4. What is the alternate to the law? How does this differ from the law? (vv. 25-29)

Notices



Summer Survey

We have one BIG question we are asking our friends and family this spring/summer: 'What would make the world a better place?' The most common responses will determine the four topics for our BIG QUESTIONS SUMMER SERIES in January.

Next time you are catching up with family or friends could you mention the survey and ask them whether they'd respond? You can find a link to the survey www.st-stephens.com/summersurvey. Responses received to the survey guide the four questions of the Jan 2022 series.

Prayer & Gift Day

We want to take time and prepare for the coming year. We hope that 2022 will be a year without lockdowns. Even more so, we hope 2022 will be a year where God enables us to grow in deep spiritual beauty, grow in our cultural and generational diversity and grow in number.



We believe that all church life is founded on God's work. However, this work is something he has called us to partner with him in. For that reason, we met on Saturday to pray and today we give. Praying acknowledges God's authority. Giving recognises the privilege of partnering with him. You can visit st-stephens.com.au/give to invest in our vision and please mention Gift Day in the reference.

Service Roster

Over the coming months we would like to overhaul our Service rosters. We have a sense that a few people are doing much of the work. We would like to share this part of church life more broadly. We hope to get to a point where most volunteers serve once every 3 Sundays in one area of our service life. May be you could pray for guidance in how you can serve?

Letter Box Drop

We plan on having our flyers for our Christmas services and ***Carols on the Grass*** event available by November 14. We'd love for you to schedule in a walk around the neighbourhood that week to help us distribute them. This year, we've chosen the theme of HOPE, which we feel is very fitting for a year where plenty of hopes have been dashed, but one always remains – the hope of eternal life, a better world. The flyers are designed like Christmas cards with space for you to write a personal note too. We're not asking you to do that for the letter box drop, but you can take some spare ones to give to friends and family. Let's share the HOPE of Christ this Christmas.



86 Laurel Street Sale

The property went to auction last Saturday 30 October and unfortunately was passed in. There are, however, a number of potential buyers still showing interest and more contracts have been requested. The property is now on the market. The property listing can be viewed on [realestate.com](https://www.realestate.com). We have commenced the search for the replacement

apartments and expect a number of good opportunities over the summer. Please pray the sale and purchase process furthers our ministry in years to come.

Toys 'n' Tucker

There have been several families with one or more bread earners who would have been out of work in the past year. Let's bring some Christmas Joy by sending food hampers and toys to those in need.

Anglicare helpfully runs Toys 'n' Tucker to do this. Toys 'n' Tucker is online only this year. Visit [Toys 'n' Tucker](https://www.toysntucker.org.au) website to serve the people in need in our community, enrich lives and share the love of Jesus.



What's Coming Up

Sunday 7th	Gift Day at all services
Monday 8th	Online Prayer Meeting 8:30-8:55am - Zoom Link Meeting ID: 878 2345 9321 Passcode: 836532
Tuesday 9th	Simply Christianity - matt@st-stephens.com.au
Friday 10th	Youth Alpha at Half Past Six is onsite Email pippie@st-stephens.com.au for details
Sunday 14th	Letterbox drop for Carols begins
Sunday 21st	Straw Farewell, Registration and Vaccination Required.

Our Staff - Contact us!



Prashanth Colombage
Senior Minister
M: 0432 314 466
E: prash@st-stephens.com.au

Matt Straw
Assistant Minister
E: matt@st-stephens.com.au



Pippie Krebs
Kids & Youth Minister
E: children@st-stephens.com.au

Jill Chilton
Membership Minister
E: jillianchilton@gmail.com



Kushak Sharma
Admin & Communications Director
E: kushak@st-stephens.com.au

st-stephens.com.au | 9415 1727 | office@st-stephens.com.au