

Jesus above all

The letter to the Colossians



Wk 4

Sunday 30 October 2022

Our 9:45am service is live streamed to our YouTube and Facebook Channels. Please occupy the pews towards the back if you don't wish to feature on our stream.

TODAY'S 9:45AM SERVICE:

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading:
[Colossians 2:6-15](#)
(Bible p.1183)
- Sermon
- Prayer
- Song
- Conclusion

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

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

Welcome to St Stephen's. It is great to have you with us today. We would love to hear from you. You can use the QR Code to access an electronic connect card, or you can use the hard copy version. We would love to pray for you, answer your questions or hear your feedback. Do let us know what is on your heart today.



At St Stephen's, we want to build our time together on the teachings of the Bible. We want this for several reasons: (1) We believe the Bible is God's word given to help his people. (2) It helps us to know who Jesus is. (3) We want to grow to be a beautiful church – a group of people who live and love like Jesus, and the Bible helps us to do that! Apart from the Bible, we think our church should be a place where we get a chance to serve each other, show love to one another and encourage one another with what God has done, is doing and will do for his people.

We are glad you are here to share the joy of Sundays at church.

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.

A Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father,
you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have gone our own way,
and rejected your will for our lives.
We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us, and change us.
By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you,
and to please you in every way;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

If anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1b-2

The 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.
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 for ever.
Amen.

Sermon Notes

As you received Christ, continue in Him | Passage: Col 2:6-15

“A Christian phase of my life...”

1. Continue! (v. 6-7)

2. Watch out! (v. 8-15)

The key to this key passage: Christ

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Questions

1. Did you ever go through a 'phase' or pursue a hobby/interest? Did you continue with it? If not, why not?

Read Colossians 2:6-15

Getting your head around the passage:

Use as many questions as you need to ensure you understand the passage's contents.

1. Can you break up the passage into small sections or arguments?
 2. What aspects of "continuing to live your lives in Christ" does Paul talk about in verses 6-7?
 3. Summarise the warning in verse 8. How is this warning an extension of Paul's encouragement in verses 6-7?
 4. What reasons does Paul give in verses 9-15 for not needing to be taken captive by other philosophies?
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2. How is Christian progress (continuing to live with Christ as Lord unique) from other life pursuits?
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3. How did you receive Christ as Lord? How were you captivated by His Cross? Discuss.

4. How can we (as a group) continue to live rooted in Christ and built ourselves up in the faith?
5. What are some deceptive philosophies that might take us away from trusting in Christ and His Cross?



GaP Group Reflection

Watch the video provided to your group leader.

1. Looking back at the year, how do you think your GaP Group has helped you in your walk with Jesus?
2. How can we continue to help each other to be deeply rooted in God's word?

Prayer

1. Give thanks for how Jesus first saved you and what you have in Him.
2. Pray and share with each other how you are going in your personal walk with Him.

Read the Bible with us!

1. Read the suggested verses for the day seven times. What strikes you after the 1st time and the 7th time?
2. How should this shape your prayers?
3. Who can you pray for?

Monday - [Col 2:6-7](#)

Tuesday - [Col 2:8-10](#)

Wednesday - [Col 2:11-12](#)

Thursday - [Col 2:13-14](#)

Friday - [Col 2:15](#)

Notices

Prayer Morning - 5th November

On Saturday, the 5th of November, we will have a whole church prayer morning. It will be an opportunity to meet with others from our different services and pray for God's work in the life of his church and our link missionaries. In November, we hold this meeting on a Saturday to make it easier for the families to attend. If you have children, we want you to come. We will have a program that helps the younger people in our church to pray. Bringing young people to these events shows them the depth and breadth of church life. It shows them that the Christian faith extends beyond Sundays. It models to them the importance of prayer life. It opens their eyes to other generations who also love Jesus. We would love to see you!



Gift Day - 13th November

On 13th November, we will hold our annual Gift Day. It's an opportunity for us to give a one-off gift toward the ministry of our church. Generous giving in the life of a Christian is always a response to God's generosity to us. Mission Gift Day (held in August) received a great response. We raised \$6k, more than our target of \$20k. Joyfully all this money is being sent to our link Missionaries. Gift Day in November is a chance to similarly bless the ministry of our church and allow us to extend our church life beyond the boundaries of our property. To celebrate Gift Day, we will head to Bales Park for a picnic lunch (after the 9:45am Service) and have dinner together after the 5:30pm Service. Bring a plate to share if you are attending the picnic.

Serving on Sunday

Serving together in teams is one of the joys of our church life. We have a Lord who first served us, and we belong in a church body where we can use our God-given gifts to build each other up. We are still looking for people to serve on our Sunday teams, particularly in music. Please tick the appropriate box in the Connect Card for more information (use QR Code on the front page or the hard copy).

What is a Parish Council?

Every Anglican Church has a Parish Council that works with the ministry staff to lead a church. The Parish Council consists of members of the church. Working with the wardens, they are responsible for the property and finances of the church. While the power of ministry lies in the word of God, the various gifts of God's people are brought together to ensure that the gospel is preached clearly and faithfully. The Parish Council ensures we have a great property and leads the parish in ensuring we have finances to support the life of our church. Interested in being part of the Parish Council next year? Chat with Prash.



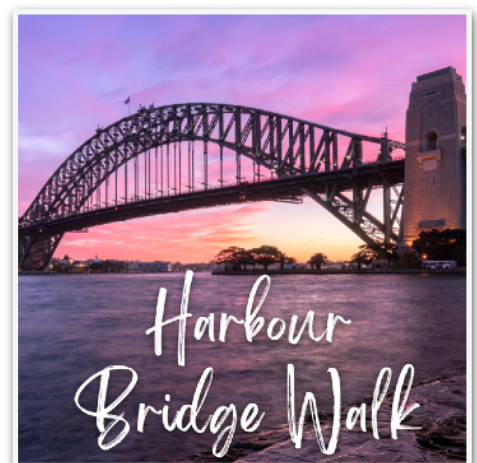
The Life Course

More than 50 people attended the Taste of Life event on Wednesday night. Fifteen of the attendees were guests. We enjoyed fantastic wine and food and explored the big questions of life. We also heard what Jesus himself said about life. Many thanks to all who came along. Particularly those who invited someone, those who brought someone, and those who helped out! This night was a taster of the LIFE course,

which starts on **Wednesday, 2nd November, 7-9pm** and runs for three weeks. The Life course is an opportunity for people to further explore what Jesus says about life and what it looks like to live a life following Christ. It is free, and there will be wine and cheese. Book your spot at st-stephens.com.au/spring

Kids and Youth

HPS youth group is doing the Harbour bridge walk on 11th of November. We will walk over the bridge and then head to Circular Quay for ice cream. It is an opportunity for our youth to bring friends along to hear about Jesus. Who can you bring? **Friday, 11th November.** Time: **6:30pm - 8:30pm.** For whom? **Years 4-9.** Register @ st-stephens.com.au/spring



What's Coming Up

Sunday 30th	Newish Morning Tea - after 9:45am service Kids program: Bring Sunday
Monday 31st	Weekly Prayer Meeting - Zoom Link Meeting ID: 837 9111 9200 Passcode: qKga12 – November–
Tuesday 1st	Playtime - 9:30am to 11:30am
Wednesday 2nd	Life Course, 7-9pm. Register
Friday 4th	Half Past Six Youth Group
Saturday 5th	Prayer Morning, 9:30am to 11am in Chapel Hall
Friday 11th	HPS Harbour Bridge Walk - 6:30-8:30pm - Register
Sunday 13th	Gift Day and Picnic at Bales Park

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