

This is God



The life of Jesus according to John's Gospel

Wk 10

**TODAY'S
9:45AM**

SERVICE:

- Welcome
- Song
- Confession
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading:
[John 13:18-38](#)
(Bible p.1079)
- Sermon
- Song
- 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

Sunday 12 February 2023

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

Welcome to St Stephen's. We're glad that you are with us this morning. Every week we enjoy welcoming new people and visitors to our service. We would love to know more about your church experience at St. Stephen's. You can chat with one of our staff, our regular members, or use the QR Code to respond.



Today, we are continuing a series looking at Jesus's words to his disciples as they shared the Last Supper. It's such a famous scene in history that artists have revelled in depicting it in their various artworks. But what did Jesus say to his disciples during the Last Supper? What instructions, teaching, warnings, and insights did he offer? Was he worried – if so, about what? We would have no information about this moment if we didn't have the Bible. In the Bible, we hear from those who knew him best and were physically in the room. It's what makes the Bible so worth listening to. This morning we are also hosting a Newish Morning Tea. It's a great opportunity to meet the staff, meet others who are new and get a basic understanding of what makes up the life of St Stephen's. If you are newish and haven't been to one we would love to have you.

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

Most merciful God,
we humbly admit that we need your help.
We confess that we have wandered from your way:
we have done wrong, and we have failed to do what is right.
You alone can save us.
Have mercy on us:
wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.
Bring forth in us the fruit of the Spirit
that we may live as disciples of Christ.
This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour.
Amen

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

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 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

How to keep going | John 13:18-38

Rev. Prashanth Colombage

1. You need to keep going

2. The tools to keep going
 1. The Example of Christ

 2. The Command of Christ

3. The Key is to keep going
 1. A warning

 2. An encouragement

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

1. In what situations can you find it hard to keep trusting Jesus or even thinking about Jesus? Does your answer surprise you?

Read John 13:18-38

Getting your head around the passage:

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

1. Why is Jesus troubled (v.21)?
 2. Why does Jesus quote the Old Testament in v.19?
 3. What mistakes/misunderstandings do the disciples make?
 4. What does Jesus say he will do?
 5. What is Peter's mistake?
 6. What does Jesus command the disciples to do?
-
2. What role can the Bible and God's people play in encouraging us to keep going as Christians?
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3. Where have you experienced one or both (the Bible and God's people) bring you encouragement as a Christian?
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4. Why can we be tempted to minimise these two means of grace?

5. How can your GaP Group play a part in keeping you (and others) going this year?
6. What makes Peter and Judas different from each other? (Maybe read John 21:15-19)



GaP Group Reflection

Watch the video provided to your group leader.

1. How have you seen God provide for his church over the years?
2. What opportunities do you think we can take advantage of in the coming years as God's people in Willoughby, Artarmon and Chatswood.

Prayer

1. Thank God for his grace which is new every morning (Lamentation 3).
2. Ask God to give you a desire for his word and his people, so that you may encourage others, and be encouraged by them.

Read the Bible with us!

1. What about God's character is the ground for us continuing to trust Jesus?
2. What are we encouraged to do?
3. How can you hold on to the promises of God this week?

Monday - [John 13:18-38](#)

Tuesday - [Phil 3:12-14](#)

Wednesday - [John 6:37-39](#)

Thursday - [Isaiah 46:3-4](#)

Friday - [James 5:11](#)

Notices

Weekly Prayer Meetings

Every week, we meet on Monday and Saturday mornings to pray. The Saturday morning group meet onsite at 8:30am while the Monday group meets on Zoom at 8:45am. We would love to know if there is a better time for the zoom prayer meeting to happen. Let us know if you can think of a time that would better suits you. Each week we pray for those in our church who might be ill, for the ministries of our church, and for the wider world. Details on the back page. Join us!

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group.

GaP Groups are great opportunities to read the Bible, remind yourself of the gospel promises God has given, and draw close to Christ. They are small groups that meet throughout the week (both during the day and at night). We would like to see every St Stephen's member regularly attending a group. This year Glenn Davies, one of our members of the 9:45am will be looking after morning groups while Prash will be overseeing Night Church groups. Encouragingly, almost every person at Night Church is currently in a GaP Group – morning service members: time to join the party!



Serving on Sunday's



One of the best ways to encourage other people, to grow as a Christian and to reach new people is by serving alongside other members of St Stephen's. If you are not involved in a serving team on Sunday we want to help you join one. Simply indicate your interest using the Connect Card and we will be in touch – there are many different roles to suit experiences, personalities and where you are at in your spiritual journey. Alternatively, you can chat with Prash or Gordon about opportunities that are available.

Alpha Course 2023

Life is busy and we often don't make the time to think about the more meaningful parts of our life and our existence. This is what Alpha is about. Alpha is a chance to take a break from our busy lives to enjoy a meal, connect with others and think about life. It is also free. Dinner will be provided. No prior experience is required and there's no obligation to commit to the whole course.

Come along this Wednesday, 15 February, 7-9pm in the Chapel Hall. We will eat, drink, watch a short video, and discuss. For catering purposes, let us know you are coming by ticking the box on our Connect Card or by registering at st-stephens.com.au/summer.



Playtime @ St. Stephen's

Playtime is for 0-5-year-olds and their carers. We meet on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:15am. The kids enjoy games, stories, crafts, and free play. While adults enjoy a cuppa and time to spend with other parents. It is a wonderful, inclusive group where we love to talk about the big questions of life and help each other navigate the joys and challenges of raising little ones. This Tuesday, we started back with 12 families, including two new ones. We have also started a library with Christian apologetic books for parents to borrow. Please pray that God would open people's hearts as they hear the gospel. Pray for the team, and pray that they make the most of every opportunity to share Jesus.

Picnic @ Bales Park

On Sunday, the 26th April after the 9:45 service our church is going to go to Bales Park for a picnic. Together with Playtime families we will hang out, have food, play games, and have fun. It will be a relaxed environment that will be perfect for the whole family to attend. It is our hope that this will also be an opportunity to connect our Playtime families with the wider church.

When: Sunday 26th February | **Time:** After 9:45 service

Where: Bales Park Willoughby

Bring: Picnic blanket, something to eat, games to play with others

What's Coming Up

Monday 13th	Weekly Prayer Meeting - Zoom Link - from 8:45-9:15am Meeting ID: 837 9111 9200 Passcode: qKga12
Tuesday 14th	Playtime. From 9:30 to 11:30am.
Wednesday 15th	Alpha Week 1 - Joins Us! It's free.
Friday 17th	Friday Kids club. From 3:30pm to 5:00pm
Friday 17th	Half Past Six Youth Group. From 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Saturday 18th	Prayer Meeting - Onsite (Creche Room) 8:30am to 9am
Sunday 19th	Belonging Course. 2:30-5:30pm, Chapel Hall
Monday 20th	Town Hall Meeting for redevelopment plan From 7:30 to 9pm in the Chapel Hall

Our Staff - Contact Us!



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