

MEETING WITH GOD

### Wk 9

### TODAY'S 9:45AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading: Exodus 33:12-23 & 34:29-35 (p. 90)
- Sermon
- Vision Spot
- Prayers
- Song
- Conclusion

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don't feel obliged to contribute financially.

# Sunday 18 August 2024

*Our 9:45am service is live streamed to our YouTube and Facebook Channels.* 

Welcome to St Stephen's. We are glad you could join us. We hope you find a warm welcome from our regulars, life changing insights from the Bible and hope for the week ahead. We would love to hear from you - reach out to the staff or use the Connect Card (or QR code) to let us know how you found church this morning.



To encounter the glory of God is not something we expect. God is up in heaven. We are down here. He is glorious and powerful. We are ordinary. Yet in the good news of the Bible we hear that encountering God's glory is not only possible but available to all God's people. When we look at Jesus we see God himself. We do not meet someone who then tells us about God, we meet God. We want you to meet him, see his glory and be transformed.

#### Next Steps

Are you new? We would love to meet you. Hear a brief intro on the life of our church at our next Newish Morning Tea on 25 August. It runs for ½ an hour straight after the service. Been regularly coming? If you are a regular member of our church, we encourage you to attend our next Belonging Course which runs on 8 September from 12-3pm. Belonging is the gateway to our GaP Groups, serving and deeper connection with the community.

Or if you'd like to learn more sooner, you may also like to arrange a coffee with Prash or Jill. Simply reach out – they'd love to chat.

# **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.

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

1 Peter 1:18-19

# 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 forever Amen.

# Sermon Notes

Struck by your presence | Exodus 33:12-23 & 34:29-35

### Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

Overwhelmed?

We need your presence

 Moses's Request: Show me your glory

b. Our Request: Show us our glory

2. What your presence does? a. Transforms

b. Destroys

3. How are we safe in your presence? a. Shielded and Veiled

b. In Christ

# Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

1. What can overwhelm you at times as you seek to live for God? Who do you turn to in 1st instance?

#### Read Exodus 33:12-23

#### Getting your head around the passage:

Choose as many of these questions as you need to get your head around the passage.

- A. What has happened in the lead up to these moments?
- B. What does Moses ask for?
- C. What is God's response?
- D. How does God say he will show his glory?
- E. Why does he show his glory in this way?

2. What danger results when we take God's glory lightly? When might you be tempted to do that?

"It is the Spirit of God working in the people of God that uses the word of God to announce & reveal the glory of the Son of God."- Erik Raymond 3. God responds to Moses's request to 'show me your glory" by causing all his goodness to pass in front of him" and to "proclaim his name" - to show God's actions and character.

- a. What is the best expression of God's goodness and name (actions and character)?
- b. By what means does God show himself to you?

4. Consider God's holiness, sovereignty, mercy, forgiveness, justice and sovereign power revealed to us in Jesus.

- a. How does this give us hope & safety with God?
- b. How does it transform the things which overwhelm us?

5. (Optional: Listen to this song - <u>Goodness Of God (Lyrics) ~ Bethel Music</u> while completing the next question solo then sharing with the group). Reflect on how God has been good to you in Christ. How does this make you more bold (2 Corinthians 3:12) to live for Christ?

#### Scan for song



### **Prayer Time**

1. Share with the group areas of your life as a Christian where you can feel overwhelmed. Ask God to show you his goodness and remind you of his character.

### Read the Bible with us!

- 1. What aspect of God's goodness does this verse remind you of?
- 2. What part of the Christian life are you encouraged to be bold in as a result of God's goodness to us?

3. Ask God to graciously let his goodness pass before you again this day as you look to Jesus.

Monday – <u>Titus 2:11-14</u> Tuesday – <u>James 1:17</u> Wednesday – <u>2 Corinthians 9:8</u> Thursday – <u>Romans 8:28</u> Friday – <u>Psalm 145:5-7</u>

# Notices

### Baptism | 18 August

Tonight we get to celebrate the baptism of Morgan Au. Baptism is a celebration that points powerfully and visually to God's kindness in saving Morgan, washing away his sins, and giving him a new life in Jesus.

Morgan's will be the first Night Church baptism! This is why we launched Night



Church last year—to see people saved and baptised into the Kingdom of God. We long and pray for more Night Church baptisms!

# Alpha Course

Alpha is for anyone with questions about life, faith and Jesus.

We meet every Monday night from 7pm to 9pm at church (tomorrow night will be in the church building). Dinner is provided. We watch a short video and there's opportunities to share your opinions, ask questions or listen to others. Fill out a connect card to find out more.



# Notices

## Training | 18 August

Don't we love seeing our church family get better in their ministry to us! It's such an encouragement to see people working hard at serving God and his people.

This Sunday our music, welcoming and kids ministry teams have training after the 9:45am Service.

Interested?

Chat with Pippie for more details.



## Mission Gift Day | 25 August

What is the greatest gift you can give someone? Surely it is an introduction to the one, true and living God! He is kind, gracious, sovereign and majestic. Supporting missionaries is a way to make this gift to the nations. Will you support our Link Missionaries this year by giving a one off gift to support them this August? You can visit our give page for details st-stephens.com.au/give



## SRE

20 out of 1200 students at Willoughby Girls and 200 out of 1000 at Willoughby Public School regularly hear the gospel through SRE. There is much to do in this ministry. You can pray for the ministry and consider joining the team. Chat with Pippie for details on how to consider serving.

# What's Coming Up

19 Aug - 9 Sept	Alpha Course (Mondays)
23 August	Friday Kids with BBQ
25 August	Mission Sunday
25 August	Newish Morning Tea
27-29 August	House Conference

For more on what's happening this winter at St Stephen's, visit <u>st-stephens.com.au/winter</u>

# **Our Staff - Contact Us!**



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