



GLORIOUS  
COMPLEX  
DIVINE  
1 Corinthians

Wk 3

Sunday 15 September 2024

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

## TODAY'S 9:45AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading:  
1 Cor 2:6-16  
(p. 1143)
- Sermon
- Song
- Prayers
- Announcements
- Song
- Conclusion

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

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

Welcome to St Stephen's. We're glad you could join us today. There is no better place to be on a Sunday than church. We would love to hear how you found your time, we would love to welcome you into the life of our church, we would love to make you feel at home. Would you take a moment to fill in the Connect Card (using the QR code) to give us your thoughts?



Each Sunday we build our service around the Bible. The Bible is no ordinary book. It's the Holy Spirit's powerful work. He has authored it, preserved it and now he's working to help us understand it. This makes every moment we hear the Bible, read, explained or taught a very special moment. We are hearing the deepest things of God.

How can we help you read, understand and grow from reading the Bible. Reach out to us and ask - we have many different ways to help you.

### 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 22 September. 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 10 November 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 at another time, you can 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

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.

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities;  
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,  
and by his wounds we are healed.

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way;  
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:5-6

## 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

A Church Built on the Word | 1 Corinthians 2:6-16

Preacher: Gordon Luk

The Great Knowledge/Wisdom Divide

1. The gospel declares God's wisdom (v. 6-11)
  - a. you can't get it by human intelligence (v. 6-9)
  
  - b. it's a hidden mystery only revealed by God's Spirit (v. 10-11)
  
2. The Spirit brings true spirituality through God's Word (v. 12-16)
  - a. He teaches us the deep things of God by God's Word (v. 12-13)
  
  - b. The truly spiritual person (v. 14-16)

The Great Gospel Divide — “we have the mind of Christ” (v. 16)

# Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

1. How prevalent was the pursuit of knowledge/education/wisdom at different stages of your life? Share with each other.

## Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-16

### Getting your head around the passage:

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

- A. Find all the occurrences of the word “wisdom” in the passage and discuss.
- B. Find all the occurrences of the word “Spirit” in the passage and discuss.
- C. How does this passage seek to do what Paul says in verse 5?
- D. Try to split up the passage into 3-4 smaller sections.

2. How do you feel about God’s wisdom being unattainable and inconceivable by you? How counter-cultural is this to our world which idolises human intelligence?

3. How might this passage (particularly verses 10-13) speak against the following attitudes? Which one are you more likely to have.

“I treat my knowledge/study of God as academic rather than personal.”

“I treat my spirituality/spiritual relationship with God as something separate to my study of God’s Word.”



4. Why might the attitudes above be dangerous to a church and cause division? How does this passage help us guard against that?

5. What amazes you about this passage and what God has freely and graciously given to us?

6. How might this make you “boast in the Lord” this week?

## Prayer Time

1. Share with each other your struggles/joys of being in the Word this week. How have you been challenged by this passage to let God’s Spirit teach you by God’s Word?
2. Pray for each other and for our church to marvel at God’s grace to us and to fight against worldly temptations to divide/judge each other based on wisdom and knowledge.

## Read the Bible with us!

1. What difference does God’s Spirit in us make?
2. What in this passage makes you want to say “Thank you, Lord!”
3. Spend time praising and thanking God for His Spirit in you.

Monday - [Ezekiel 36:27-32](#)

Tuesday - [Isaiah 59:20-21](#)

Wednesday - [John 3:1-15](#)

Thursday - [John 14:15-27](#)

Friday - [Romans 8:1-17](#)

## Notices

### Come and See on Monday nights

Following up the Alpha course, we are running Come and See—where anyone from the Alpha course or who wasn't able to make it—can come along to see what the Bible says about Jesus and the life he offers.



This is happening on Monday nights 7pm to 8:30pm with food and drink provided.

## Finances



Thank you for generously supporting our link missionaries. We have made our Mission Gift Day Target of \$30k. Mission Gift Day gifts directly impact the ability of our link missionaries to enjoy some of the comforts of home, fund holiday time and pay for their recurring bills.

If you would like to support you still can - visit [st-stephens.com.au/give](http://st-stephens.com.au/give)



# Notices

## Half Past Six Update

We are almost at the end of term 3 of HPS. It has been a great term looking at the Gospel of Mark and Jesus' upside-down kingdom. The youth have been inviting friends and we have seen the group grow to 10 regulars, Praise God! On Friday a youth brought their friend, and it was her first time ever reading the bible. Seeing our youth introducing their friends to Jesus is a great joy and privilege.

Please be praying for HPS and the youth that come. Pray that many might come along and hear God's word and know the good news of Jesus.



## Working Bee | 21 September

It's clean-up and clean-out season for our building and grounds!

Leading into spring and summer, join us on Saturday the 21st September to help keep our church clean, neat and tidy.

Come along 9am-12pm.

If you are able to help out, please register via the QR code.

Bring your gardening hats and gloves!



# What's Coming Up

- 16 Sept - 21 Oct Come and See (Mondays)
- 19 September Encounter for Seniors
- 21 September Working Bee
- 29 September MTS Info Session
- 8-11 October HPS Youth Camp

For more on what's happening this spring at St Stephen's, visit [st-stephens.com.au/spring](http://st-stephens.com.au/spring)

## Our Staff - Contact Us!



**Prashanth Colombage**  
Senior Minister  
M: 0432 314 466  
E: [prash@st-stephens.com.au](mailto:prash@st-stephens.com.au)



**Gordon Luk**  
Outreach & Sunday Services  
E: [gordon@st-stephens.com.au](mailto:gordon@st-stephens.com.au)



**Pippie Krebs**  
Kids & Youth Minister  
E: [pippie@st-stephens.com.au](mailto:pippie@st-stephens.com.au)



**Jill Chilton**  
Membership Minister  
E: [jill@st-stephens.com.au](mailto:jill@st-stephens.com.au)



**Bec Simmons**  
Off-site Administrator  
E: [office@st-stephens.com.au](mailto:office@st-stephens.com.au)