



A New King

The life of Jesus
according to Matthew's Gospel

 St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

Wk 15

Sunday 16 February 2025

Our 9:30am service is live streamed to our YouTube and Facebook Channels.

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Spotlight
- Song
- Prayers
- Bible Reading:
Matthew 12:15-37
(p. 977)
- Sermon
- Vision Spot
- 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.

We're so glad you're here today. Whether you've been coming for years or are visiting for the first time, our hope is that you'll see something of the beauty of Jesus and the goodness of His gospel. Our vision as a church is to be **beautiful, diverse, and large**—a community transformed by Christ, reaching many with His gracious invitation.



In recent weeks, we've been encouraged to be devoted to prayer, asking God to grow our hearts for Him and His work in our church. Let's keep bringing everything to Him in prayer, knowing He is faithful and powerful.

If you're new or visiting, we'd love to meet you! Stay for Newish after the service to connect with others and hear more about church life. You can also fill in a **Connect Card** via the QR code—let us know how we can support you and help you feel at home.

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 today! 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 23 February 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

Heavenly Father,
we praise you for adopting us as your children
and making us heirs of eternal life.
In your mercy you have washed us from our sins
and made us clean in your sight.
Yet we still fail to love you as we should
and serve you as we ought.
Forgive us our sins and renew us by your grace,
that we may continue to grow as members of Christ,
in whom alone is our salvation. Amen.

10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.
11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;
12 as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalms 103:10-12

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

Power over Evil | Matthew 12:15-37

Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

1. The Power of Jesus

2. The Demand of Jesus

3. The Gift of Jesus

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

The “Upside-Down” challenge 😊

Everyone must write their name upside down with their non-dominant hand.
Share results and vote for the best!

📖 Going deep in God’s Word

Read Matthew 12:1-50

Have a go at filling out the table below, looking at how the different groups of people respond to Jesus (sometimes there may be more than one group of people in each section). You may want to split this up amongst the group.

Verses	Who?	Response to Jesus (😡😞😐😄😁👑)
1-8		
9-14		
15-21		
22-36		
38-45		
46-50		

What do you find surprising about the different responses to Jesus here?
How does it show that the Kingdom Jesus is bringing in is an “upside down” kingdom?

What comfort does it bring you to know that you belong in the Kingdom by God’s grace (v. 49-50)?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In light of God's Word, spend some time praying together, using the following prompts:

1. What do you adore about Christ?
2. What hardness of heart do you need to confess to God?
3. What truths and comforts from the gospel can you thank God for?
4. What do you want to ask God to help you in?

Finish by singing Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me together, you can scan this QR Code to listen to a recording.



Notices

Newish Morning Tea - Today!

Newish morning tea is today! We would love to meet you if you are new or newish and keen to hear more about our church family.

Newish is a morning tea that runs in our reception area for 30mins after the service. Come along to meet staff, some of our regulars and other new people. The food is great, the company is better!



Register for Lunar New Year Banquet - 17 February

Don't miss out on tomorrow night's Lunar New Year Banquet — register today! Thank you to all who helped with the letterbox drop. We had a number of people sign up to tomorrow's banquet because they received the flier in their mailbox!

It's not too late to register and bring a friend along: 3-course banquet and a chance to explore life, meaning and faith with Alpha. Who can you bring along?



invites you to our

Lunar New Year Banquet

**MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY
7-9:30PM**

3 COURSE BANQUET | DRINKS INCL. | \$25 PP

WITH

A TASTE OF THE ALPHA COURSE
A chance to #tryalpha and explore life, faith & meaning, through the 1st instalment of the world-renowned Alpha Course.



 211 Mowbray Rd,
Willoughby

 st-stephens.com.au



Scan to
book
your
spot.

Notices

All-in Training - 2 March



All In
TRAINING

All-In Training is designed to encourage and equip you with the conviction and skills to serve faithfully. Come be refreshed, sharpen your gifts, and grow in confidence as we learn to serve God and His church together!

 Who
ALL VOLUNTEERS

 Date
SUNDAY, 2ND MARCH

 Time
11:30-2PM

 Lunch and kid's program
INCLUDED

 Register here

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms

1 Peter 4:10



Big Day Out - 22 March

This year we are running a Big Day Out event on 22 March for Morning Church. We believe a vibrant church community comes when we spend time together, around God's word. Sundays are great for this - but it helps to add a little bit more every now and then to deepen friendships. Big Day Out is a chance to spend time together, hear the word and eat together. We can arrange transport, we can help with finances. We just need you to register! Speak to Prash if you have questions. A great Kids Program will also be running during sessions.



Morning Church
Big Day Out

Join us on
Saturday 22nd March
10am-7pm
St Faith's Narrabeen

Guest speaker:
Simon Manchester

Spend the day with your church family around good food, great teaching from the Bible, prayer & plenty of relaxation time.

Cost: \$50 per adult, Kids are free
Includes Morning Tea, Lunch, Afternoon Tea, Dinner
Registration is essential
st-stephens.com.au/big-day-out

Any questions contact Prash
(Financial assistance available)



What's Coming Up

17 February	Lunar New Year Banquet
23 February	Belonging Course
24 Feb - 24 Mar	Alpha
2 March	All In Training
21 March	Friday Kids & HPS Big Week

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

Our Staff - Contact Us!



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