

Finding True Joy

A GRACE-FILLED LIFE FROM THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS



Week 7

Sunday 21 September 2025

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

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Song
- Welcome
- Confession & Assurance
- Spotlight
- Songs
- Prayers
- Bible Reading: Philippians 3:15-21 (p. 1180)
- 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.

Welcome! Whether you're new, visiting, or a regular, it's great to have you here. In Chatswood, Willoughby and Artarmon, it's easy to measure life by comfort, success, or achievement. But the Bible reminds us that if our lives are only about earthly things, we end up restless and unsatisfied (maybe that's you?). True life, Paul says, is found in knowing that our citizenship is in heaven—that our security, meaning, and hope are anchored in Jesus.



That's why our church longs to be **made beautiful, diverse, and large by the gracious work of Christ**. We believe Jesus offers what our culture can't: forgiveness, a home that lasts, and a community where people of every background can belong.

This morning, we want you to have that hope. Please take a moment to fill in the Connect Card via the QR code. Together, let's lift our eyes to Christ and rejoice in him.

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 28 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 9 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 Jill. Simply reach out – she'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.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:1

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

What's Your Calling? | Philippians 3:15-21

Preacher: Gordon Luk

1. The encouragement to be mature (v. 15-16)
2. The command to follow examples/models of the gospel life (v. 17-19)
3. The glory of our heavenly citizenship and future home (v. 20-21)

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Discuss together

From our time in Philippians so far, what do you think “maturity” in the Christian faith looks like?

Going deep in God’s Word

Read Philippians 3:15-21

1. Compare how the word “live” (NIV) is used in this passage and discuss what picture Paul is trying to paint.

a. Verse 16

b. Verse 17

c. Verse 18

2. Compare the picture of the earthly mindset (v. 19) and our heavenly citizenship (v. 20). How does this shake your view of reality?

3. What comfort does the language of ‘waiting’ bring to our experience of the Christian life living away from our heavenly home (v. 20-21)?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

Reflect on the following questions in light of God's Word and spend some time in open prayer for the following.

1. Who are more mature Christians whom you have imitated and how can you thank God for their impact on you?

2. How can you actively seek to imitate others to help you mature, and how can you actively model to others to help them mature as believers?

Read the Bible with us!

Using some of the questions to guide you.

1. What comfort is the Spirit giving me through this passage?
2. How is He challenging me through this passage?

Monday - [Revelation 8](#)

Tuesday - [Revelation 9](#)

Wednesday - [Revelation 10](#)

Thursday - [Revelation 11](#)

Friday - [Revelation 12](#)

Notices

MTS Info Session

We think the good news of Jesus is so good we should get people ready to tell others, here and further afield. We want to train people so opportunities aren't lost, grace is freely heard and lives can be changed. Our MTS program is a great way to train.

Come and hear more this afternoon at our training info afternoon tea - 3-4:30pm in the Chapel Hall.



Look Who's Coming to Lunch

One of the greatest joys of following Jesus is the community of his people. Everywhere you are forced to do life solo - not at church. Life together under the banner of grace is the free offer to all. We want to fuel that. Come participate in "Look who's coming to Lunch."



YOU ARE INVITED TO
**LOOK WHO'S
COMING TO
LUNCH**

WHEN: 26 OCTOBER, 2025
LOCATION: TBA



Join in this fun opportunity to get to know people in your church community!

Signup to be a guest or a host



Notices

Half Past Six Youth Camp

Camp is less than two weeks away!

Please pray that our youth would grow in their knowledge of Jesus, build deeper friendships, have plenty of fun, and enjoy the adventure of it all together.



Ministry Fair

MINISTRY FAIR
SUNDAY 19TH OCTOBER

GET A TASTE OF THE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT CHURCH AND
CONSIDER HOW GOD MIGHT USE YOU TO BUILD HIS KINGDOM IN 2026

AFTER 9:30 & NIGHT CHURCH
WITH FREE FOOD

The poster features a light blue background with a string of colorful triangular bunting (orange, pink, and teal) at the top. Below the title, there are several small, overlapping photographs showing people engaged in various activities: a man working at a table, a group of people sitting and talking, a man and a woman standing together, and a group of people in a kitchen or food preparation area.

What's Coming Up

22 September	Alpha Course
23 September	Playtime with Alpha
28 September	Newish Morning Tea
30 Sept-3 Oct	HPS Youth Camp
13 October	Come and See

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

Our Staff - Contact Us!



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