

Finding True Joy

A GRACE-FILLED LIFE FROM THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS



Week 9

Sunday 5 October 2025

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

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Song
- Welcome
- Prayers
- Bible Reading:
Philippians 4:10-13
(p. 1181)
- Spotlight
- Song
- Sermon
- Song
- Lord's Supper
- 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 a regular, a visitor, or here for the first time, we're so glad you've joined us. Life on the North Shore often runs on the pursuit of "just a little more" – more success, more comfort, more security for our families. And yet, the satisfaction we seek always seems just out of reach.



In Philippians 4:10-13, Paul gives us a surprising answer: true contentment isn't found in circumstances, but in Christ. He says, "I can do all this through him who gives me strength." The gospel frees us from endless striving, and shapes us into a community that is secure in God's grace.

That's at the heart of our vision – to be made beautiful, diverse, and large by the [gracious](#) work of Christ. If you're new, we'd love to welcome you more personally. Please scan the QR code to fill in a Connect Card and say hello!

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 26 October. 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 those not sharing in Lord's Supper

Participation in the Lord's Supper is for those who have professed faith in Jesus - it's a powerful and important symbol of the Christian message. As such we want to encourage those who are still exploring the Christian faith to feel free to remain in their seats when others move to the front to receive the Lord's Supper. During that time you may want to reflect on the sermon or Bible reading. You may also want to pray one of these prayers below.

Prayer for those searching for truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me who you are. Give me an understanding of you that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Saviour and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayers adapted from Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York.

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

The Secret to True Contentment | Philippians 4:10-13

Preacher: Damien Clark

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Share and pray together

Share and pray for each other. What's something you'd like to thank God for? What's something you'd like to ask Him for?

Going deep in God's Word

Read the Bible passage from Philippians in Sunday's sermon

1. What questions do you have of the passage? What stands out from the passage to you?

2. How would you break up the passage into smaller sections? Try to summarise the main point of the passage and of each smaller section.

3. How does this passage speak about our relationship with God? How does that impact how we relate to each other?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In a big group, reflect on the following questions in light of God's Word and spend some time in open prayer for the following.

1. How have you been challenged or convicted by the Holy Spirit in this Word?

2. How have you been comforted by the Holy Spirit in this Word?

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 18](#)

Tuesday - [Revelation 19](#)

Wednesday - [Revelation 20](#)

Thursday - [Revelation 21](#)

Friday - [Revelation 22](#)

Notices

Ministry Fair

Serving is a joyful part of the Christian Life! ☀

Join us for the Ministry Fair on Sunday 19 October after church.

Discover new teams, ask questions, and explore how God might use your gifts in 2026.

Come be inspired and find your place to serve!



Come and See

Note that Come and See will be back after tomorrow's public holiday on the following Monday 13 October.

COME & SEE

how Jesus offers *life to the full*

MONDAY NIGHTS
7PM TO 8:30PM

Free food and drink.
No experience or knowledge required.

 St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

COME & SEE

is for anyone who wants to know how to live
the life they were made to live.

Jesus made one of the biggest claims ever when he said:
"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the
full." (John's Gospel, Chapter 10, Verse 10)

Whether you're asking life's big questions, looking for a
fresh start, or new to the Christian faith, Come & See is a
chance to get together with others and see what the Bible
says about Jesus and the life he offers. No prior
knowledge or experience is required. Come and see!

MONDAY NIGHTS 7PM-8:30PM
Free food and drink.

 Scan to let us know you're coming.
211 Mowbray Rd, Willoughby

 St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

Notices

Crafternoon

Join us for Crafternoon on Tuesday, 14th October and help prepare fun crafts for our kids' programs. 🎨✨

It's a simple but wonderful way to bless the children and families in our church.

No skills are needed—just a willing heart and a smile!

Come anytime, enjoy good company, and make a difference for our young people.

When: Tuesday 14th October

Time: 1-3pm

Where: Hainsworth Hall



Look Who's Coming to Lunch

Community doesn't just happen - it must be built, nurtured and encouraged. God has done the foundation work and invites us to enjoy and build his church community. Take the plunge and come along to our Look who's coming to Lunch event - Sunday 26 October.

Register via the QR code.

Sign up by 19 Oct



LOOK WHO'S
COMING TO
LUNCH



What's Coming Up

13 October	Come and See
14 October	Crafternoon
19 October	Vision Sunday
19 October	Ministry Fair
20-24 October	Week of Prayer

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

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