

Growing The young in Their devotion to God's word



Week 3

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- ANZAC Day Remembrance
- Song
- Bible Reading: Deuteronomy 6 (p. 182) & 1 Thes 1:4-7 (p. 1186)
- Sermon
- Prayers
- Vision Spot
- Song
- Conclusion

Most St Stephen's collection is received electronically.
BSB: 062 272
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If you are a visitor please don't feel obliged to contribute financially.

Sunday 26 April 2026

Welcome! We're glad you're with us today as we continue our series Growing the Young. Today is also ANZAC weekend, when we remember those who served and sacrificed for others. As we reflect on that, we're reminded of the importance of

shaping lives with purpose and direction. In Deuteronomy 6 and 1 Thessalonians 1, we see that faith grows through ongoing, everyday discipleship—a life lived following Jesus and setting an example for others.

With children in the service today, we're especially aware that the next generation is watching and learning from us. In a culture that often focuses on short-term success, the Bible calls us to something deeper: lives shaped by Christ over time.

We long to be a church made beautiful, diverse and large by the gracious work of Christ—a community where faith is lived out daily and passed on faithfully to the next generation.



Connect Card

Next Steps

Are you new? [Catch up](#) with Gordon or Jill to share your story and hear about St Stephen's church life.

Been regularly coming? If you are a regular member of our church, we encourage you to attend our next [Belonging Course](#) which runs on 14 June 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

Most merciful God,
we humbly admit that we need your help.
We confess that we have wandered from your way:
we have done wrong, and we have failed to do what is right.
You alone can save us.
Have mercy on us:
wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.
Bring forth in us the fruit of the Spirit
that we may live as disciples of Christ.
This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen

Words of Assurance

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:13-14

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 'How' of Growing the Young | Deuteronomy 6, 1 Thessalonians 1:4-7

Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

1. How do we do it?

Talk

Bind

Write

2. Why do we do it?

'Hear O Israel...'

'... the coming wrath.'

3. Will it really work?

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Discuss together

What is something or someone you love so much that it naturally shapes the way you spend your time, your money, or your attention — without you really having to think about it? What does that tell us about the relationship between love and behaviour?

Going deep in God's Word

Read Deuteronomy 6:4-19

1. Try to break the passage into smaller sections. What are the natural movements between each section?
2. Verse 4 declares that the LORD is one, and verse 5 immediately follows with the command to love him with everything. How does God and who He is lead to total, undivided love? What is it about who God is that makes half-hearted devotion not just disobedient, but almost absurd?
3. Reflect on Verse 6-9. Why does God call for this embedding His Word into the rhythms and routines of daily life including family life? What does this tell us about how seriously God takes the danger of forgetting? How does this connect to passing faith on to the next generation (v. 7)?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In light of Jesus' invitation and command to ask our heavenly Father boldly in prayer, spend some time praying for a non-Christian person in our life:

1. That they might come to the Lunar New Year banquet and Alpha

2. That they would come into God's Kingdom by faith in Jesus

Spend time with God each day!

We're going through the Old Testament this term!

Read through the passages and use the following questions to help you.

- What does this show you about God and His character?
- What does this show you about humanity (us)?
- How does this point to what Jesus will do or what He'll be like?

Monday - [Genesis 42](#)

Tuesday - [Genesis 43](#)

Wednesday - [Genesis 44](#)

Thursday - [Genesis 44](#)

Friday - [Genesis 45](#)

Notices

Kids Ministry Needs



Kids ministry at St Stephen's is a beautiful opportunity to help young hearts discover the hope and joy of Jesus. Week by week, we get to share the good news in ways that shape lives for eternity. We're looking for 4 new Sunday Kids leaders—if this could be you, please speak to Michelle Chase or Pippie Krebs.

KYCK

This weekend, 10 of our youth and 3 leaders are at KYCK—a conference exploring the book of Jonah and God's deep mercy. Please pray they'd have a great time digging into God's word, building strong friendships, and growing in their faith—especially for our two friends who don't yet know Jesus.



Mission Month Coming Up



Over the month of May we will pay especially close attention to our Link Missionaries. It will be a chance for you to remind yourself of their ministry, pray for them with intentionality and support them financially. At the end of the month we will launch Mission Gift Day. We hope to raise \$35k through one-off gifts to our missionaries. Will start praying about how you can support them?

Notices

All In Training Reminder (17 May)

Sign up for All-In Training—expected for all volunteers. A great opportunity to grow and be equipped for your role.

ALL IN TRAINING

SUNDAY 17TH MAY

11:45-2:15

**FOR ALL
VOLUNTEERS**

**LUNCH AND KIDS
PROGRAM
INCLUDED**

WHAT'S ON

TEAM TRAINING

**TEAM LEADER: HOW TO
RAISE UP NEW LEADERS**

**TEAM MEMBER: HOW TO
PRAY WITH SUBSTANCE**

HOSPITALITY

**HOW FOOD AND
CONVERSATION CAN MAKE
SOMEONE STICK**

AV

**MAKING THE MOST OF
ONLINE MINISTRY (ECAMM &
SOUND)**

KIDS & YOUTH

**LEADING MIXED-AGE
GROUPS WELL: TAILORING
TEACHING FOR DIFFERENT
AGES**

MUSIC

TBC



REGISTER HERE

What's Coming Up

27 April	Come and See
30 April	Alpha For Retirees
15 May	Dumpling Making Night
17 May	All In Training
24 May	Newish Morning Tea

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

Our Staff - Contact Us!



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