



Numbers:

through the wilderness...

Week 3

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Spotlight
- Prayer for Children Ministry
- Vision Spot
- Prayers
- Bible Reading:
Numbers 10:33-11:17 (p.144) &
Philippians 2:14-16 (p.1179)
- Sermon
- Song
- Confession
- 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.

Sunday 17 May 2026

Welcome! We're so glad you're with us as we continue our series In the Wilderness in the book of Numbers. Whether you're visiting, exploring faith, or part of our regular church family, you're very welcome here. This week we come to a very honest part of the wilderness story: God's people grumble.



Connect Card

Faced with hardship, uncertainty, and disappointment, they question God's goodness and lose sight of His provision. Yet surprisingly, Numbers also shows us a God who is patient and gracious with grumblers.

Many of us know what it's like to feel weary, frustrated, or dissatisfied with life's circumstances. In a culture that encourages us either to complain endlessly or pretend everything is fine, the Bible offers something deeper: meditation on the miracle of God's provision frees us from discontent.

Our hope this term is that we would see more clearly our need for God in everyday life. We long to be a church made beautiful, diverse and large by the gracious work of Christ.

Next Steps

Are you new? [Catch up](#) with Prash 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

Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Philippians 2:20-21

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

God has his grumbling people | Numbers 10:33-11:17 & Philippians 2:14-16

Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

1. Grumbling

2. Grace

3. Gratitude

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Discuss together

What do you think is the difference between complaining and giving an honest opinion? Discuss whether you think our culture encourages both.

Going deep in God's Word

Read Numbers 10:33-11:20

1. Fill out the table and compare the two pictures of how Israel relate to God in the following two passages.

	Numbers 10:33-36	Numbers 11:1-9
What is the main thing Israel does here?		
What does that show us about how they're treating GOD?		

2. What are we shown about God and His character in this passage? What gives you comfort and what challenges your view of God (ie. Makes you uncomfortable)?

Read John 6:32-59

3. How does Jesus say He fulfils Numbers 11? How is the grumbling of the Jews at God's provision in John 6 even worse than that in Numbers 11?

4. From both passages, what is the opposite posture of grumbling/complaining against God? What dangers are there for you in this area?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

Read Philippians 2:14-16

Use the following questions to guide you in your prayers together. Take time also to pray for the gospel mission work of the Kyngdon family in Newman, Western Australia.

1. Are there patterns of complaining/grumbling (or a failure to lovingly stop those who are grumbling) that you need to humbly confess to God and ask for forgiveness?

2. Are there patterns of thankfulness to God and all He has done for us in Christ that you can ask God to build in your daily/weekly/monthly life?

3. Pray for the Kyngdon family—that you would guard them and their church from grumbling, and that they would overflow in thankfulness in the gospel and shine like stars holding firmly to the word of life in Newman.

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 – Exodus 14

Tuesday – Exodus 16

Wednesday – Exodus 17

Thursday – Exodus 19

Friday – Exodus 20

Notices

Belonging

Belonging Lunch on 14 June is a great chance for newer members to really understand the history, values and mission of our church.

We'd love to treat you to lunch, great community and a chance to join this church well. If you are interested please speak to Prash.

Belonging

An introduction to getting involved in our church



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:



WHEN:
Sunday 14th June



TIME:
12pm - 3pm



WHERE:
Chapel Hall



Lunch will
be provided.

Kids & Youth - Leadership Celebration and Needs

We're so thankful for our wonderful Kids and Youth leaders! Nancy serves on the Gumtrees team and is leading our Dumpling Making Event. She shares, "Though challenging at times, it is deeply rewarding to see faith and friendship growing among the kids." We currently need 4 more courageous gospel servants to join Sunday Kids Ministry.

Could that be you? Please speak to Pippie if interested.



Notices

Mission Gift Day

May is Mission Month - we want to raise the temperature on global mission by praying, hearing from and financially supporting our Link Missionaries. How can you engage? Perhaps you can complete our survey using this QR Code.



Would you also consider financially supporting our Link Missionaries? We are hoping to raise \$35k over the month. All of this will go to our link missionaries. Visit st-stephens.com.au/give for more details.

**MISSION
GIFT DAY**

2026

 **SUPPORTING OUR
LINK MISSIONARIES**

 **GOAL: \$35,000**

 **31 MAY 2026**

 **SCAN THE QR CODE
TO SEE HOW TO GIVE**

What's Coming Up

24 May	Newish Morning Tea
29 - 31 May	Square 1 Camp
31 May	Mission Gift Day
4 June	Trivia Night
14 June	Belonging Course

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

Our Staff - Contact Us!



Prashanth Colombage
Senior Minister & Sunday Services
M: 0432 314 466
E: prash@st-stephens.com.au



Gordon Luk
Outreach & Spiritual Maturity
E: gordon@st-stephens.com.au



Pippie Krebs
Kids & Youth Ministry & Training
E: pippie@st-stephens.com.au



Jill Chilton
Membership Minister
E: jill@st-stephens.com.au



Danielle Smith
Off-site Administrator (Property & Elvanto)
E: office@st-stephens.com.au