

God's Church

Sermons on the book of Ephesians



Week 2

Sunday 18 October 2026

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Spotlight
- Prayer for children
- Bible Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10 (p.1174)
- Sermon
- Prayers
- NCLS Survey
- Song
- Closing Prayer

Most St Stephen's collection is received electronically.

BSB: 062 272

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00490436

If you are a visitor please don't feel obliged to contribute financially.

Welcome to St Stephen's! Today we continue our series in Ephesians, exploring what it means to be God's church.



Connect Card

We live in a world where so much depends on what we achieve. Whether at school, work or home, we can feel the pressure to prove ourselves, do better and make something of our lives. Sometimes we can even think that our relationship with God works the same way.

But Ephesians 2 gives us a very different picture. Paul tells us that we were spiritually dead, unable to save ourselves. Yet because of his great love and mercy, God has made us alive with Christ. Salvation is entirely his gift, received by grace through faith.

And this grace transforms how we live. We don't serve God to earn his love, but because we have already received it. We are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works.

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 25 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 November 22 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

Prayer is a privilege we have because of Christ's death and resurrection. Through him, we can confidently approach God for forgiveness (Hebrews 10:22). If you trust in Christ, please pray with us. If you are still exploring who Jesus is, feel free to listen in.

A Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father,
you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have gone our own way,
and rejected your will for our lives.
We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us, and change us.
By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you,
and to please you in every way;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God

Ephesians 2:8

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.

Closing Prayer

Merciful Father, when we were dead in sin
you made us alive with Christ: renew us by your grace,
that we may gladly walk in the good works you have prepared for us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sermon Notes

Made Alive | Ephesians 2:1-10

Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

The Terrible Reality of the World and Me

The Marvelous Work of God

The Shape of a Transformed Life

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Opening Reflection

If a non Christian friend asked you, “What is the biggest difference Christianity made to your life?”—how would you respond?

Going deep in God’s Word

Read Ephesians 2:1-10

1. Try to draw/diagram how the Bible describes:
 - (a) Your past (v. 1-3)
 - (b) Your present reality in/with Christ (v. 4-6)
 - (c) What God intends to do for you in the present-future (v. 7)

2. Rewrite verses 8 to 9 in your own words. How do you see God’s gift of grace to you from Q1? Describe the opposite of being saved by grace through faith?

3. Reflect on verse 10. What is God’s purpose for you? How does that fit in with God’s grace to you in Christ Jesus?

4. Which of the following errors is most dangerous for you and why?
 - (a) Trying to earn God’s favour by your own works and boasting in yourself
 - (c) Ignoring God’s desire for you to do good works because you are saved by grace.

🙏 Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In light of God's glorious grace we've seen in His Word, spend some time praying for the gospel to shape our everyday lives. Use the following questions to guide your prayers together.

1. **Everyday with God:** How can starting each day being reminded of God's grace to you fuel you to do the good works He's prepared for you to do?
2. **Sharing His grace to others:** Think of a friend that is 'spiritually dead' and pray for God to use you to share the gospel of grace with them and graciously make them alive with Christ. (This can be the same friend you pray would come to Carols on the Grass - see the back notice page.)

Read the Bible with us!

After reading each passage, use ACTS framework to help you listen carefully to God's Word and respond to Him in prayer:

1. Adoration: What does this passage show you about God? Praise him for it.
2. Confession: Where does it challenge your thoughts or actions? Bring that honestly to God.
3. Thanksgiving: What comfort, promise or gift can you thank God for that He has shown you in this passage?
4. Supplication: What help do you need to live out what you've read today? Ask God for it

Monday - [Ephesians 2:1-22](#)
Tuesday - [Ephesians 3:1-6](#)
Wednesday - [Ephesians 3:7-13](#)
Thursday - [Ephesians 3:14-19](#)
Friday - [Ephesians 3:20-21](#)

Notices

Who Will You Invite to Carols?

This year, Carols on the Grass has a fresh feel with food trucks, more markets, a petting zoo and free entry! We hope these additions attract our community and make inviting friends easier. Who could you bring along this year? Let's start praying everyday for one friend to come along to Carols and that it would open up more opportunities to share the gospel with them.



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday 5 December

4:30pm until 8pm

A wonderful afternoon and evening for the whole community



TWILIGHT
MARKETS



CHRISTMAS
CAROLS



KIDS
ACTIVITIES



FOOD
TRUCKS



PETTING
ZOO



AND
MORE!

Serving at St Stephen's

Thank you to everyone who was part of our Ministry Fair last week! Because of God's grace to us in Jesus, we want to be a church where we contribute, not just consume — using our gifts to love others and share the gospel.

If you want to serve next year, please fill out an [Expression of Interest form](#), even if you're already serving and want to continue! If you want to find out more about what serving is all about and the opportunities available visit the info desk in the Chapel Hall.



Notices

Look who's coming to Lunch - 1 November

On Sunday 1 November we're running Look who's coming to Lunch. Its a great chance to meet others from our morning congregation, share some food and encouraging conversation. You can either offer to host or attend someone's place. Sign up now using the QR Code below!



YOU ARE INVITED TO

LOOK WHO'S COMING TO LUNCH

WHEN: 1 NOVEMBER, 2026
LOCATION: TBA

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

Signup today!



Kids & Youth Are Back for Term 4

As parents, you play the biggest role in nurturing your child's faith, and we love partnering with you! Our programs thrive when families come regularly, get involved and invite friends along. Check out what we're learning this term



TERM 4

Kids and Youth

SUNDAY	FRIDAY
Gumnuts	Friday kids
God is Great!	Living for the future
Gumleaves	Half Past Six
Ephesians + Christmas	Joy + Cost of following Jesus
Gumtrees	
Junior High	
Ephesians	
Senior High	
Ephesians	

WHO COULD YOU BRING ALONG?

What's Coming Up

19 October	Come and See
20 October	Playtime
25 October	Newish Morning Tea
1 November	Look Who's Coming to Lunch
15 November	Parish Gift Day

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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