

Sunday 17 August 2025



SERMON TOPIC: Jesus gives authority to His servants for the sake of growing His kingdom, not ours
BIBLE TEXT: Ephesians 3:1 - 13
PREACHER: Chris Pretorius
ELDER ON DUTY: Martin van der Merwe
OFFERINGS:
1st Collection: The work of the Church
2nd Collection: Diaconate

Signs GOD is strengthening you without you even realizing it ~
Westley Baer

Think about the way trees grow. The tallest, strongest trees don't rush the process. Their roots grow deep underground, unseen and unnoticed, long before their branches ever stretch towards the sky. God is doing the same in you.

When you don't break under the same pressure that used to crush you, that is strength.

When you walk away from what isn't meant for you instead of trying to force it, That is strength.

When you stop looking for validation in people and rest in who God says you are, that is strength.

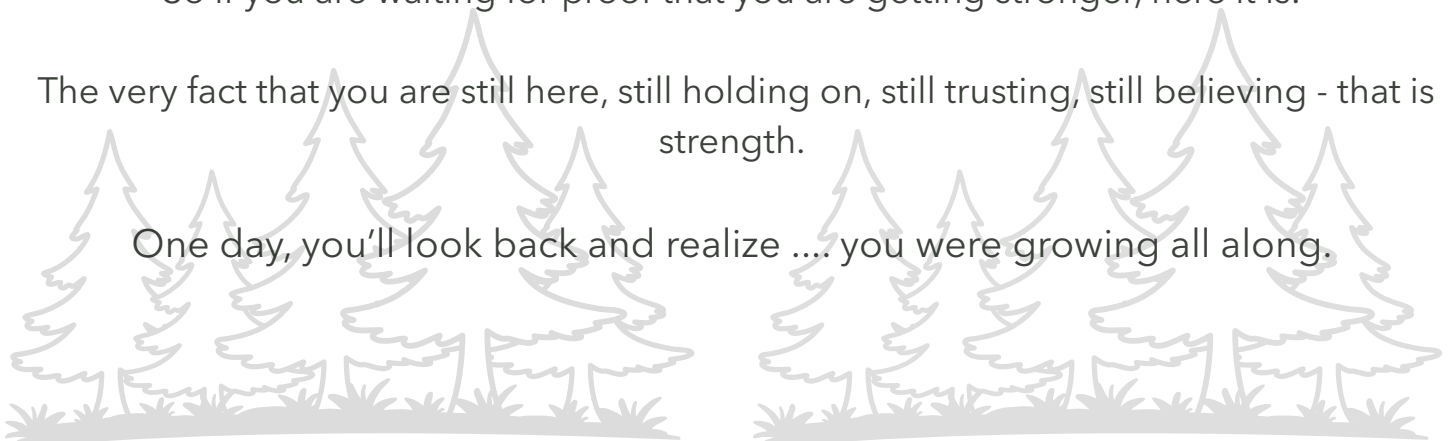
When you let go of what you can't control and finally trust God's timing, that is strength.

Isaiah 41:10 tells us that God is strengthening us, upholding us, and helping us - even when we don't see it happening. And 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 reminds us that it is in our weakest, most uncertain moments that God's strength is working the most.

So if you are waiting for proof that you are getting stronger, here it is:

The very fact that you are still here, still holding on, still trusting, still believing - that is strength.

One day, you'll look back and realize you were growing all along.



Our Giving, an Act of Worship

In our Church we have two offerings every Sunday. The first goes toward the ministry of this congregation. The second offering goes toward various Christian causes. This week our second offering is for the Diaconate .

If you would like to support the work of you can do so by in Church giving - simply add your offering to the bag at the back of Church or by bank transfer -

BSB 063-167. A/C 1015-8356

If using bank transfer please indicate whether it is for the first offering "Sun1" or second offering "Sun 2" in the reference line. Or you can give online via our Church app

<https://wpcrc.org.au/give>

This week's **PRAYER POINTS**

Prayer is a powerful thing; for God has bound and tied himself there unto.
Martin Luther

Personal **PRAYER POINTS**

As we go into the coming week let us daily pray;

With the full assurance that the way is open for us to enter into the very presence of God where we may bring our offerings of praise and worship as well as seek his gracious response to the things that burden us.

This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord. Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.
(Ephesians 3:11-12 NLT)

Give praise and thanks to the Lord our God for loving us so much that he willingly sent his very own son our Lord Jesus, at indescribable cost, to open the way for us to be able to come into his presence.

Congregational **PRAYER POINTS**

Please pray that the Lord will raise up men in our congregation to take up the office of elder, pray that he will soften the hearts of those he chooses that they will be willing to serve.

Please pray for Amanda Strydom as she has been unwell with covid and is now suffering from severe asthma, pray that the Lord will grant her healing.

Please continue to pray for Steve and Maralin Miller, pray that the Lord will lay his healing hand upon both of them.

Local & Global **PRAYER POINTS**

Pray that the church throughout our nation will be courageous and continue to stand for what is right in God's sight regardless of community expectations.

Please pray for our nation that the leadership will learn to humble themselves before the Lord and seek his wisdom.

Please continue to pray for all those suffering in the conflict zones around the world, pray that peace will reign.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in DRC.

At least 34 people were killed when Islamists attacked a church in the province of Ituri, north-eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), in the early hours of Sunday 27 July. Fighters believed to be from Islamic State Central Africa Province (ISCAP) launched an armed assault against the church building in the village of Komanda at 1am where the congregation were meeting for a late-night service. The terrorists set fire to the building along with houses and shops in the village.



The church building in Ituri Province where at least 34 worshippers were killed by Islamists [image credit: D.R Congo Today]

"The bodies of the victims are still at the scene of the tragedy," said a local civic leader. "Volunteers are preparing how to bury them in a mass grave." This massacre is only the latest to be carried out by ISCAP, who have killed at least 389 Christians in north-eastern DRC since Christmas 2024.

Reports by the Terrorism Research and Analysis Consortium (TRAC) show that the terrorist group had already slaughtered at least 45 Christians across Ituri throughout July. According to one of ISCAP's published claims on Islamic State (IS, ISIS, ISIL, Daesh) social media channels, the worst atrocity took place in "the Christian village of Kateria" on 10 July when fighters "captured and slaughtered 17 Christians, praise be to God".

TRAC monitoring also shows that in early June nine Christians were killed in two ISCAP attacks in the Lubero District in neighbouring province of North Kivu. ISCAP (then known as the Allied Democratic Forces) first pledged bay'a (allegiance) to the central Islamic State in 2017. Since then the terrorist group has killed around 6,000 Christians in North Kivu and Ituri.

How you can pray

Ask the Lord to comfort the bereaved following this act of hate-filled violence. Pray that the faith of our brothers and sisters will not fail. Cry out to the Lord to protect His people from Islamic State and the other armed groups that operate in north-eastern DRC.

Our next prayer meeting will be held on Thursday the 21st of August at 7.30pm

TERM 3 **2025**

SUPERDASH

25
JUL

SOCIAL : ESCAPE ROOM

7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC

8
AUG

BIBLE STUDY: MARK

7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC

10
AUG

STATE YOUTH SERVICE

4 PM @ GEELONG CRC

22
AUG

BIBLE STUDY: MARK

7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC

5
SEP

BIBLE STUDY: MARK

7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC

19
SEP

BIBLE STUDY: MARK

7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO YOUR YOUTH LEADERS

Term 3 2025

YOUNG ADULTS

23 July	YA Bible study ^a
6 Aug	YA Bible study ^a
10 Aug	SYS* (Geelong)
17 Aug	YA Social
20 Aug	YA Bible study ^a
3 Sep	YA Bible study ^a
13 Sep	YA Social
17 Sep	YA Bible study ^a

Series: Jesus the game changer

a — Location: 70-72 Ennismore Crescent, Park Orchards
Time: 7:30-9:30pm

* — State Youth Service



Dear church family & friends

You are invited to a morning tea in the church hall on the 31st of Aug 2025 after the morning service to celebrate my significant birthday milestone and recent retirement from my full-time job.

All are welcome! Looking forward to celebrating with you!

Kind regards
Brendina Saul

Ways to serve at the **DINING ROOM MISSION**

The next opportunity to cook for the Dining Room Mission is 26 August.

Contact Joy van Veen for details.

Their food pantry would love donations of pantry staples such as...
Cereal, long life milk or other beverages, tuna and other tinned goods, rice, pasta etc.

Even a little money to support the cooks or pantry is also gratefully accepted.

CALLING FOR ELDER NOMINATIONS

As announced on Sunday, Church council is looking for nominations for new Elders. Please consider these prayerfully and if you would like to nominate someone, please submit your nomination to either Chris or one of the Elders.


You can do this by emailing pastor@wpcrc.org.au or session@wpcrc.org.au, or let them know in person.

SAFE CHURCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Classis is looking for a suitable person from amongst its churches to be its representative on the Safe Church Advisory Committee (SCAC).

If anyone is interested and wants to know more about being a rep, please email David Timmins at: classis.maroonadah.clerk@gmail.com

Upcoming events **OUR CHURCH CALENDER**



Sunday 17 August 10:00 Lord's Supper and Worship service
Sunday 17 August Young Adults Social
Wednesday 20 August 19:30 Young Adults Bible study
Thursday 21 August 19:30 Prayer meeting
Friday 22 August 19:30 Super Dash Youth Group
Wednesday 27 August 20:00 How to read the Bible for all it's worth

NEW RELEASE



NOW AVAILABLE



Spotify



MUSIC



YouTube

DISTROKID

Discussion QUESTIONS

- What's the difference between a leader who owns something and one who stewards it?
- Paul was a prisoner for Christ. How might suffering be part of faithful leadership today?
- How does this passage show that men and women are equal in salvation?
- Why is humility essential for anyone in authority—at home, at church, or at work?
- Think of someone who led you sacrificially. What did they do that reflected Christ?
- Where has God given you influence right now? How can you use it to serve, not to be served?
- How could our church better reflect God's wisdom to the world?

Sermon NOTES

Bible passage:

Date:



Something
that shines
from the
passage



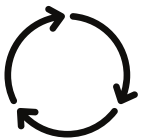
Anything
hard to
understand
or any
questions



Personal
application
for your life



Theme of
passage



How does it
fit with other
passages in
the Bible



Who will you
tell about
what you have
learnt?

Helping HANDS

	17 August	24 August	31 August
Preacher	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius	Peter Williams
Elder on Duty	Martin	Kasha	Jacob
Prayer Leader	Martin	Herman L	Jacob
Music Leader	Nelleke	Inge	Mia
Children's Talk	Inge	Janette	Mia
Bible Reader	Conrad	Adri	Steve
Sound	Nic	Nina	Cassie
Visuals	Ene	Salme	Isaac
Broadcasting	Pieter	Christo	James
Sunday School	Sarah, Izelle, Lize B	Ilze, Lize B, Izelle	Ilze, Lize B, Nici
Coffee	van Staden Family	Danie & Grietjie Uys	Lynette Pretorius & Nelleke Arnold

Upcoming BIRTHDAYS



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

Marizanne van Staden 14 August
Marlene Theron 18 August
Brendina Saul 24 August
Nelleke Arnold 27 August

Who Should I Contact?

Pastor:	Chris Pretorius	0423 889 913	pastor@wpcrc.org.au
Chairman of Session:	Peter Williams	0431 500 006	session@wpcrc.org.au
Community Engagement	Jenna Miller	0403 650 398	
Church Administrator:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	admin@wpcrc.org.au
Deacons:			deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Music Ministry:	Mia Van Wyk	0420 817 800	
Sound & Visuals:	Cassie Van Veen	0499 230 872	
Children's Talk:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	
Sunday School:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	
Youth Group:	Kasha Schubert	0450 012 177	youth@wpcrc.org.au
Young Adults:	Michael van der Merwe	0456 960 424	
Growth Groups:	Chris Pretorius	0423 889 913	
Prayer Chain:	Herman Linde	0411 069 808	
Facilities & Maintenance:	Dale Reed	0412 216 300	deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Newsletter:	Leana Van Gent	0452 334 224	newsletter@wpcrc.org.au

Kids corner WORD SEARCH



Bible Word Search

Apostles / Disciples



O	I	J	E	H	J	F	X	T	U	Q	R	H	T	B
S	W	I	B	M	A	A	V	Q	O	P	O	U	Q	S
T	J	W	E	L	U	A	M	L	B	N	H	B	G	Z
W	U	N	Q	B	J	Y	W	E	I	G	H	B	Z	E
E	D	B	F	H	U	Q	J	C	S	G	D	F	O	E
H	A	B	A	R	T	H	O	L	O	M	E	W	Q	C
T	S	L	T	I	S	B	H	H	S	W	O	W	C	U
T	H	Z	Q	A	Q	N	N	P	P	F	W	Z	G	B
A	G	A	M	G	O	K	U	H	X	J	E	S	P	F
M	B	O	D	M	P	J	J	R	Z	F	R	X	I	J
Y	H	R	I	D	F	H	R	J	N	H	D	F	L	C
T	C	S	S	V	A	E	R	V	A	M	N	P	I	Y
H	P	T	W	X	T	E	V	P	H	U	A	D	H	O
R	K	Z	C	E	K	A	U	J	A	M	E	S	P	R
G	E	F	P	E	W	T	B	S	M	B	Y	C	O	Z

Word list:

PETER
ANDREW
JAMES
JOHN
PHILIP
BARTHOLOMEW

THOMAS
MATTHEW
JAMES
THADDAEUS
SIMON
JUDAS

