

Sunday 16 November 2025



SERMON TOPIC:	Children obey your parents
BIBLE TEXT:	Ephesians 6:1-9
PREACHER:	Chris Pretorius
ELDER ON DUTY:	Peter Williams
OFFERINGS:	
1st Collection:	The work of the Church
2nd Collection:	Diaconate

Seeking the Kingdom of God

Matthew 6:33 – “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

In a world that constantly urges us to chase after more – more comfort, more security, more control – Jesus calls us to something very different: to seek first the kingdom of God.

This verse sits in the middle of Jesus’ teaching on worry. He reminds us that our heavenly Father already knows what we need – food, clothing, shelter, and daily care. Instead of being consumed by anxiety, Jesus invites us to shift our focus. The key to a peaceful and purposeful life is not found in striving, but in seeking.

To “seek first” means to make God’s kingdom and His righteousness our top priority – the foundation upon which everything else rests. It’s about letting His ways shape our choices, His character guide our actions, and His presence fill our days.

When our hearts are centred on God’s rule and purposes, life takes on a different rhythm. Our worries shrink, our trust grows, and we begin to see how faithfully He provides. Jesus promises that as we put God first, “all these things will be added to you.”

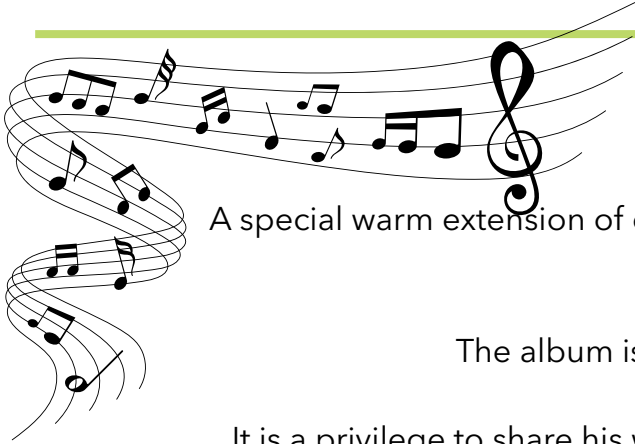
So this week, may we pause and ask ourselves:

- What am I seeking first today?
- Is God’s kingdom the focus of my heart and my decisions?

A Closing Prayer

Lord, help us to seek You first in all things.
Reorder our hearts where we’ve chased after lesser things,
and remind us daily that Your kingdom is our greatest treasure.
Teach us to trust Your provision and to walk in Your righteousness.
May Your will be done in our lives, as it is in heaven.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



A special warm extension of congratulations to Steve Miller on the official publishing of his music.

The album is called Cry Holy and available on Spotify.

It is a privilege to share his work with you via a link that will be posted in the General Church chat on Planning Centre.

Working Bee RSVP **ARE YOU JOINING US?**

Please complete the loose RSVP note in the newsletter or at the Coffee table after the service or RSVP on the Planning Centre app.

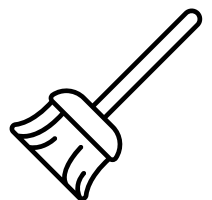
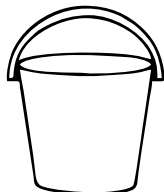
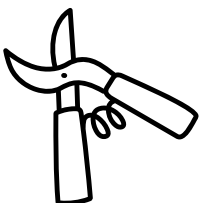
PLEASE REMEMBER THE TOOLS YOU WILL NEED TO ASSIST WITH YOUR CHOSEN CLEAN UP STATION!

Gardening (Please bring own gardening tools)

Kitchen cleaning (Please bring gloves, bucket and sponge)

Clearing of broken/ stored rubbish into skip (Please bring own gloves)

Washing and cleaning Windows (Please bring your own window magic cleaning tools)



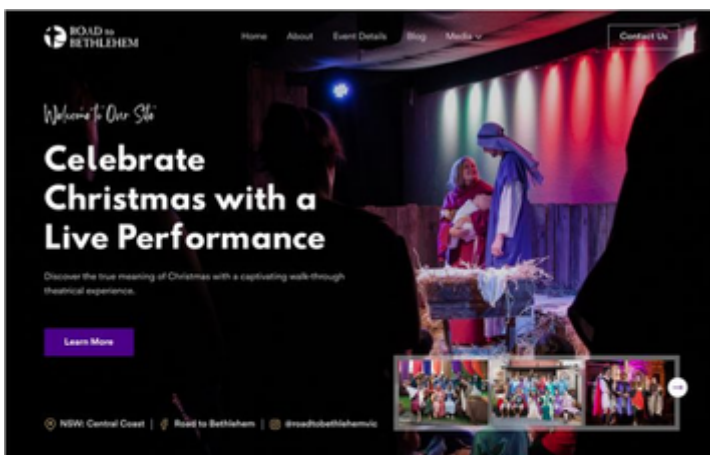
Church Calender

WHAT IS HAPPENING

Sunday 16 November 10:00 The Lord's Supper
Thursday 20 November 19:30 Prayer Meeting
Saturday 22 November 08:30 Working Bee

Road to Bethlehem

8-11 DEC



This is a FREE event.

Click on the picture for the active link to the website to get your tickets or copy and paste the link in your browser.

<https://roadtobethlehem.org/>

Home

We're excited to bring Road to Bethlehem to Melbourne again this year. Our outdoor, walk-through theatrical presentation shares the true story and meaning of Christmas.

Road to Bethlehem /

WPCRC-YA TERM 4

A look at Luke

15
Oct

Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,
Park Orchards

7:30-9:30PM

29
Oct

Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,
Park Orchards

7:30-9:30PM

12
Nov

Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,
Park Orchards

7:30-9:30PM

26
Nov

Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,
Park Orchards

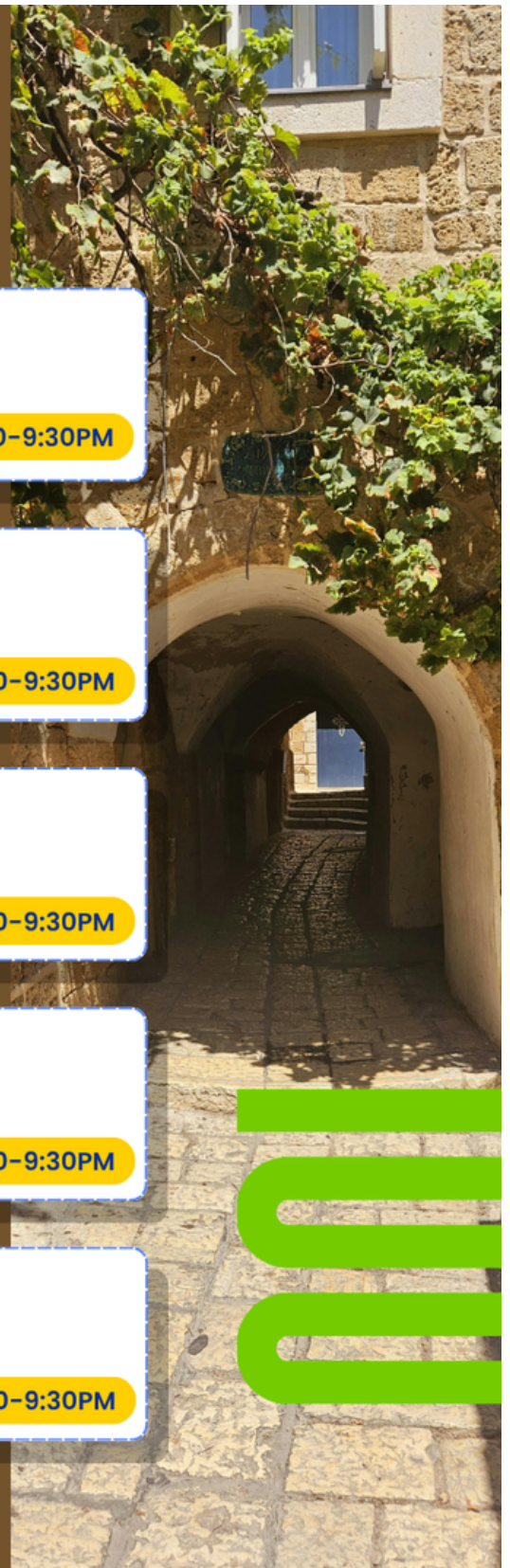
7:30-9:30PM

10
Dec

Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,
Park Orchards

7:30-9:30PM



TERM 4

2025

SUPERDASH

17 OCT	Q&A NIGHT 7: 30 PM @ PRETORIUS HOME
26 OCT	STATE YOUTH SERVICE 5 PM @ ONE HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
31 OCT	NO SUPERDASH DUE TO MELBOURNE CUP HOLIDAY (4 TH OF NOV)
7 NOV	BIBLE STUDY: MARK 7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC
21 NOV	BIBLE STUDY: MARK 7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC
5 DEC	SOCIAL: CHURCH SLEEPOVER 7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC TIL 6 TH 12 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO YOUR YOUTH LEADERS

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**

*Nothing is too great and nothing is too small to commit
into the hands of the Lord. Arthur W. Pink*

Personal **PRAYER POINTS**

As we go into the coming week let us daily pray;
That the Lord will graciously accept the prayers we bring and that he will mercifully answer them
in accordance with his good and perfect will.

I call upon you, O Lord; come quickly to me; give ear to my voice when I call to you.

Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening
sacrifice. (Psalm 141:1-2 NRSV)

Give praise and thanks to our heavenly Father for assuring us of his listening ear when we raise
our voices to him in prayer.

Congregational **PRAYER POINTS**

Please continue to pray for Bryce Keegel that the Lord will be his strength and grant him healing.

Please continue to pray for our elderly folk and those who support them as many struggle with age related illnesses.

Pray for those of us who have family, especially elderly parents, overseas as the tyranny of distance tends to add to the burden.

Please pray for those of us who have positions of authority within our church whatever that may look like, give thanks for their willingness to serve and pray that they will have all the resources they need to fulfil their calling.

Local & Global **PRAYER POINTS**

Please pray for our nation, pray that people will seek that which is best for our nation as a whole and not just look after selfish interests.

Pray for world leaders that they will also show genuine interest in the wellbeing of the world as a whole.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Sudan, pray for all those affected by the present situation.

The horrors unfolding in Sudan rival the nightmares of this century's worst massacres. The situation, the United Nations warns, is spiralling out of control. The horrors, so gruesome that even American news outlets cannot look away, are "visible from space" – blood pooling on the ground, piles of human remain, lines of terrified people who could be next.

After a year and a half of fighting, the city of El Fasher, which had been the last stronghold of the Sudanese military, fell – unleashing a wave of Rapid Support Forces (RSF) militants on the hundreds of thousands of innocents inside the city. As the sand wall around the city was toppled, armed men opened fire on the local people, mowing down helpless men, women, and children as others videotaped the rampage.

"They would ask a man to run," one survivor said. "Once you start running, they shoot you." "It was like a killing field. Bodies everywhere and people bleeding and no one to help them," Tajal-Rahman told the Associated Press after he escaped to a nearby town.

"Some people were run over by vehicles," reiterated Saeeda, a 28-year-old woman. "While we were on the road, they took girls from our group – choosing them and dragging them away." Trapped like caged animals, the locals were lined up and executed. In grisly footage uploaded by the RSF fighters, the carnage is chilling. "One, shows dozens of bodies on the ground and fighters with RSF insignia walking among them as vehicles burn nearby and sporadic gunfire pops off in the background. In eerie echoes of Hamas, the soldiers went door to door through the houses, "beating and shooting" at everyone inside.

Some of the worst scenes took place at the city's only functioning hospital, where the World Health Organization can confirm that more than 460 patients, doctors, nurses, and staff were murdered in cold blood. For women and young girls, the terror is being caught alive. "At least 25 women were gang raped when RSF's forces entered a shelter for displaced people near El Fasher University. Witnesses confirm RSF's personnel selected women and girls and raped them at gunpoint," Seif Magango, spokesperson for the U.N. human rights office, said sombrely. And there's no way to know the extent of these atrocities, since the area is under a complete communications blackout. What international aid groups do know is from the small number who escaped. Nathaniel Raymond, the executive director of the Humanitarian Research Lab at the Yale School of Public Health, pored over the high-res satellite images, telling NBC News that the "'activity that suggests mass killing on a level that can only be compared to Rwanda,' where an estimated 800,000 people were killed in 1994 by armed militias from a rival ethnic group. 'We have never seen a velocity of violence at this scale,' he said in a telephone interview.

Surrounded by desert, there is no easy place to run to. While close to a quarter million people were living in El Fasher last August, the United Nations estimated that 62,000 had fled in the week, but only a fraction – 5,000 – had made it the 40 miles to Tawila by Friday. Most who made it to the town were starving, disoriented, and dehydrated, but others, "including gunshot victims, travelled on foot, hiding by daylight and trekking at night to avoid armed men along main roads," the Times notes. Top U.N. humanitarian official Tom Fletcher told the Security Council that hundreds who've made it to relative safety have untreated bullet wounds, 'and many bear signs of torture,'" Scores of children, many who are now orphans, are being picked up and carried to safety by escaping strangers. Thousands are unaccounted for, trapped inside El Fasher, where witnesses describe "widespread executions and routine shelling." "If people are still in El Fasher, it will be very difficult for them to survive," one of the refugee camp organizers warned. For Sudan, it's another tragedy in a long history of tragedies. The country's civil war – long considered one of the worst humanitarian crises in history – was a genocidal bloodbath, a time when the word "Darfur" reverberated across Africa as the darkest of chapters.

After a period of brief peace under the transitional government in 2020, the country seemed to be turning a corner – repealing its dangerous apostasy law and inching toward a culture of religious tolerance. Two years later, the nation was plunged back into chaos when fighting broke out between RSF's leadership and the Sudanese military, reigniting the wave of terrorism against innocent civilians.

In April of 2023, when the country began to unravel, church leaders were desperate for help. "We feel forgotten," they said, even then. "The situation is deteriorating every day, and there is no response from the world. There is a strong feeling of abandonment," they told Open Doors. "There is no security, no protection. Not from the warring parties or from opportunists who will use this situation to further their own agendas. Christians, churches have been attacked with impunity."

Source: The Washington Stand

Sermon NOTES

Bible passage:

Date:



Something
that shines
from the
passage



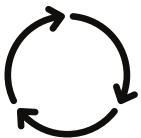
Anything
hard to
understand
or any
questions



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?

Discussion QUESTIONS

- What does “in the Lord” add to children obeying their parents, and how does it qualify the command?
- How might this obedience look different for young children, teenagers, and adult children?
- Why does Paul reach back to the fifth commandment, and what does that signal about the ongoing role of the moral law?
- How can someone honour a parent who is unbelieving, difficult, or unsafe, and what boundaries might be needed?
- Why are fathers singled out in v. 4, and what responsibilities does that assume without excluding mothers?
- What does “discipline and instruction of the Lord” look like in day-to-day family life?
- How should we read Paul’s words to slaves given the later history of slavery, and what distinctions matter?
- What modern parallels (e.g. workplaces) are appropriate, and where does the analogy break down?
- Why does Paul stress that masters must stop threatening, and what does that reveal about accountable authority?
- How should Christian employers or leaders treat those under their authority today?
- How does this whole section connect back to 5:21 and the call to mutual submission?
- What common threads and key differences run between wives/husbands and children/parents?
- How does recognising Christ as the true Master reshape both obedience and leadership?
- Where do you personally struggle to exercise authority in a Christlike way?
- Where do you struggle to submit or follow faithfully, and what might repentance look like this week?

Helping HANDS

	16 November	23 November	30 November
Preacher	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius	Peter Williams
Elder on Duty	Petet W	Peter W	Peter Williams
Prayer Leader	Janette	Peter W	Herman Linde
Music Leader	Neil	Nelleke	Inge
Children's Talk	Inge	Nicky	Janette
Bible Reader	Dankia	Conrad	Adri
Sound	Nina	Cassie	Nic
Visuals	Salme	Isaac	Ene
Broadcasting	Christo	James	Pieter
Sunday School	Lynette, Izelle, Ilze	Ilze, Sarah, Nicky	Ilze, Sarah, Nicky
Coffee	Du Toit Family	Theron Family	Jo & Dale Reed

Upcoming BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



14 November - Izelle Steenkamp

18 November - Rob Miller

28 November- Martin Ting

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	jenna@wpcrc.org.au
Church Administrator:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	admin@wpcrc.org.au
Deacons:	Leana van Gent	0452 334 224	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:	Riaan Bergh	0452 578 665	deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Newsletter:	Leana van Gent	0452 334 224	newsletter@wpcrc.org.au