

Today

This term in Sunday Club we are looking at the Big Bible Story: The King, the snake and the promise. **Today** we will see that Adam and Eve disobeyed God. They didn't want God to be King, they wanted to be their own king. The sad thing is that we are all just the same.

This Week

Wed 28 Toolbox concludes! Meet at church for 7.45pm for refreshments and time together before breaking into seminar groups for the evening. Finish by 9.30pm.

Sat 1 Oct New-ish to church? Please come to the **Welcome Meal**, 7.30pm, and find out what St Stephen's is all about. Further details from Chris and Helen Hobbs or the Parish Office.

Looking Ahead

Wed 5 Oct Vision Evening. 7pm at Church for dinner, 8-9.30pm for the Vision Meeting. If you'd like to come for the meal please sign up at the back of church today.

Thu 6 Oct Identity starts. 8.00-9.30pm at. A series of evenings looking at big questions. Everyone is welcome. Nothing is assumed. Everything is explained. Anything can be asked. Details from Chris Hobbs, chris.hobbs@sssw.org.uk.

Fri 7 Oct Musicians' social and rehearsal. For everyone involved in church music or for those interested in getting involved. Fri 7 Oct, 7-9pm in the Cranmer Room, including food. Please speak to Allan Ooi (allan.ooi@live.co.uk) for more details.

Fri 7 Oct The Bolivians are coming! Find out more from poster and fliers in church. Open invitation to meet Maurice and Gill guests, 8.00pm at.

Sat 15 Oct Autumn Church Family Walk, starting at 2pm. It is a 3 mile flat walk starting at Baddesley Clinton (National Trust property near Solihull), further information will be available on the Information Table in the coming weeks.

Sat 22 Oct Midlands Women's Convention, Solihull, starting at 10.00am. Let Helen Hobbs know if you'd like to go so that we can do a group booking.

Sat 5 Nov Midlands Men's Convention, Nottingham, starting at 10.00am. Let Rob Davies know if you'd like to go by Sun 9 Oct with payment and your seminar option.

News and Requests

Fellowship Groups. If you would like to join a group when they restart on 12 Oct, and haven't already been in one, please speak to Chris Hobbs.

Equip. Our in-house one-year training course designed 'to equip the saints for the work of ministry'. Flyers are on the Information Table. Speak to Chris Hobbs if you are interested.

Are you female? Would you like to read Christian books more often, then have a chance to discuss them? In November the Women's Book Club are meeting to discuss 'Instruments in the Redeemer's hands'. Speak to Elizabeth Barry or Chris Stonehouse for more details.

Eman is looking for a homestay for the year. If you can help her,

Vicar: Chris Hobbs **Assistant Minister:** Andy Martin

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ST STEPHENS AND ST WULSTANS SELLY PARK



taking Jesus seriously, taking the Bible seriously

Welcome

25th September 2016

If you are new, you are especially welcome. Please help yourself to a Welcome booklet and, if you have time, introduce yourself and ask any questions you may have.

10.00am Morning Service

'Priorities' (Acts 6:1-7) – Andy Martin

Children and young people will go to their activities part way through the service:

Creche and **Club114** leave through the Foyer to go to their rooms. **Scramblers, Climbers** and **Explorers** leave through the Hudson Taylor Room at the front of church.

Coffee, tea and biscuits are served after the service in the foyer.

6.00pm Evening Service

'The danger of grace' (2 Kings 5:19-27) – Chris Hobbs

Coffee, tea and cakes are served after the service in the foyer.

Toilets are adjacent to the foyer and upstairs; baby-changing facilities are in the disabled toilets.

Priorities

Acts 6:1-7

OPENING PRAYER *led by Chris Hobbs*

HYMN Sing to God new songs of worship

SONG You're the word of God the Father

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Heavenly Father, you have loved us with an everlasting love, but we have gone our own way and broken your laws. 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 more and more, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG All through history

NEWS

after which children and young people go to their activities

SONG Through all life's sorrows and despairs

THE APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS ending with THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BIBLE READINGS Exodus 18:5-27 (page 76), Acts 6:1-7 (page 1098)

(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON Priorities

SONG From the squalor of a borrowed stable

Please collect your child from crèche

CLOSING PRAYER

Sermon Notes

1. The problem: grumbling and division threaten the church (1-2)

2. The solution: spirit-filled servants get to work (3-6)

Two principles:

Church ministry needs every one of us to be involved

Church leaders must be devoted to prayer and to teaching God's word

3. The result: the Word spreads and the church grows (7)

Missed a sermon recently? Please visit www.sssw.org.uk to hear or download an audio version.

- Gehazi's sin seems reasonable (v20)

- Gehazi's sin is successful (v21-24)

- Gehazi's sin is found out (v25-26)

- Gehazi's sin is punished (v27)

OPENING PRAYER *led by Helen Buckley*

SONGS And can it be
Who could know your thoughts
There is a higher throne

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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.

PRAYERS ending with THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SONGS You're the Lion of Judah
The grace of God has reached for me

THE APOSTLES' CREED

NEWS

BIBLE READINGS 2 Kings 5:19b-27 (page 373), Luke 18:9-14 (page 1052)
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON The danger of grace

INSIGHTS AND QUESTIONS

SONG Come thou fount of every blessing

CLOSING PRAYER

To him who is able to keep us from falling and to present us before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and for evermore. Amen.