

17/7/2020

Epping Church!

Our next live stream will be this Sabbath at 11am, see below for the links.



This week we learnt about Hannah and Samuel - and how we serve God when we help God's leaders.

"For his whole life he will be given...to the Lord"

1 Samuel 1:28 NIV

SATURDAY PROGRAMS

| What | When | Link |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Adult Sabbath School | 10am Saturday Morning | https://acts-technology.zoom.us/j/481995096?pwd=NjlVS2xkVU9DZmtVSzIjQU9iaW8zdz09 Meeting ID: 481 995 096 Password: 675908 |
| Church Service | 11am Saturday | https://www.facebook.com/eppingsda |
| Afternoon Tea catchup | 4pm Saturday Arvo | Open invitation for those that would like to have a chat and cuppa. https://acts-technology.zoom.us/j/395777033?pwd=K2VvajVGdm9ON3dKbVloMlI3QyszQT09 Meeting ID: 395 777 033 Password: 395893 |

17/7/2020

Last Sabbath

Part 2. of the Prodigal Son story - focussing on the Elder Brother that stayed home.

Luke 15:25-52

He refused to join the celebration held of the lost son, what was stopping him from doing so?

The Elder brother faced 3 sins,

1. Had a grumbling negative spirit - where he was focussing on the sins of others, or finding faults.
2. Had an offended spirit - which he exaggerated his own righteousness, filled with self pity, exaggerated others sins, ungrateful for what he already has.
3. Had a compassionless heart - not interested in the welcoming party of his younger brother, unmoved by his departure in the first place, did not care for anyone else but himself.

Father cares for those who are lost, but also for those who have certain sins that stop them from really understand the love of Jesus Christ.



PHYSICAL CHURCH UPDATE!!

Dear Church Family,

This year has been a year like no other. I think if we could send it back and ask for a refund, many of us would. Currently, COVID-19 restrictions are easing in some places and getting tighter in others. I know many of you are wondering when we will be able to go back to church, so I just wanted to drop you a line and let you know what's likely to happen.

The Church Board has discussed reopening the church at great length. There is no one perfect solution or way of doing it, so this is what we have settled upon... We will continue with the current live-streaming regime until the government relaxes the restrictions to one person per two square meters. When this happens however, even with one person per two square meters, our church is still not large enough to hold us all. Therefore, we will split the church into two groups and take it week about coming to church. On the other weeks you can watch the live-stream (which will continue) from home as you are currently doing. Of course, there will be safety protocols we will all need to abide by at church to keep everyone safe and healthy. The group lists and safety protocols will be shared with you closer to the re-opening date.

Thank you for your patience and faithfulness. I look forward to seeing you all soon. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to request my number for a chat.

God bless and keep smiling!

Pr. Nigel

ADRA BLACKTOWN NEEDS YOUR HELP!

ADRA Blacktown is still in need of food to help those who have fallen on hard times. If you feel moved by the Spirit to contribute, if you are able please continue to drop donations off to the Blacktown ADRA office.



**** Positive Note ****

Another car full of food and supplies gratefully received by ADRA Blacktown. Once again you Epping church members helped to restock their shelves which were nearly empty. Thankyou!

- Rochelle Baxter

EPPING LIBRARY

****Reminder****

Dear Epping Church members,

We are so excited about our Children's Library Project....

Just a reminder to please continue looking for your old preloved Christian books and DVDs that your children may have outgrown to donate to the Library.

You can drop them off to Epping Church on Sunday, **July 19, 2020 between 10am - 12pm.**

Many thanks in advance for your help and support.

Rainy Lee

Dear Epping Church members,

I hope your week is going well. Since you are such an important part of the Epping Church family, we wanted to tell you about our upcoming project.

As you may know, our church has many growing kids and school age children where they love to learn, read and play. Their language, thinking and emotional skills are rapidly developing at this age.

We would like to start a Church Library for our Kindy and Primary kids - Christian books in particular. If you would like to contribute to this project, we'd really appreciate your support and would be happy to accept Christian books and DVDs that your children may have outgrown to add to our library.

So start looking for those books and DVDs....you can drop them off to Epping Church on Sunday, July 19, 2020 between 10am - 12pm.

Many thanks in advance for your donations.

Rainy Lee

EPPING YOUTH

Join us, every Friday night 7pm

EPPING YOUTH

ZOOM DETAILS

Meeting ID: 384 694 480

Password: 350006

[@epping.youth](#)

Prayer Requests

- Please pray for Penny who is experiencing health challenges
- Please pray for Arthur's friend, Winnie who is ill
- Please continue to pray for those who are feeling ill or facing challenging in their lives
- Please pray for our Year 12 kids doing the HSC this year
- Please Pray for Epping church as we continue to run live streaming church services.
- Heal those who are sick and protect those who are not.
- Give our leaders extra wisdom as they navigate this pandemic and economic uncertainty.
- Strengthen Your global Church. Reveal to us how we can partner together to reach the needs of those around us.
- Calm our fears. Fill us with Your hope, joy, and peace as we continue to trust in You.
- Use this pandemic to pave the way for spiritual renewal. We want Your glory, power, and healing to be on display.
- Pray for the safety of our frontline medical people
- Pray for the safety of our teachers and students
- Pray for the safety of all the sick, elderly and vulnerable members
- Pray for family and friends who have lost jobs
- Pray that God will open our eyes to people's needs, showing us how we can help.



Pastor Nigel's
Thought of the Week

Why Receive

Every day we are on the receiving end of many good gifts. We wake up and receive another day of life. We receive a hug from a family member. We receive a smile from a stranger. We receive our dinner from our spouse. We receive birthday presents, Christmas presents, and just-because-I-love-you presents. We receive a joke on our phones from a friend. We receive a letter in the mail from Grandma. We receive a paycheck from our boss. We receive quick and courteous service from the check-out-person at the store. We receive a helping hand when we are carrying too many parcels. And the list goes on and on and on...

How do you feel when you receive a good gift? Rather good? Warm inside? Nice knowing someone cares – even complete strangers? True, sometimes we are not as grateful as we should be, but I think everyone feels good when they receive something nice. But let me ask you this... why do you receive nice things? You could say no. You could refuse to eat the dinner your spouse made you. You could block your friends lame jokes. You could refuse a hug from your daughter. You could, but you don't. Why? Why do you keep receiving? Because it makes you feel good? Because it makes your life easier? Because it affirms your self-worth? All good reasons to keep receiving what we are given, but there is an even better reason. A noble reason. A reason we as Christians should aspire to. "Those who get the most good out of life, who feel the truest satisfaction, are those who receive to give" IHP 232.

Take a moment to let that sink in. Contemplate what that might mean to ALL the things you receive daily – both great and small. Is this not one of the primary ways God enables us to show His love to others? Is this not one of the main ways in which Jesus was able to win souls for the Kingdom on Heaven? Take time this week to contemplate the full ramifications of this and then ask yourself, "Am I a taker and Christian-faker? Or am I a carer and sharer?"

"Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely you have received, freely give" Matthew 10:8.

MEMORY VERSES

2 THESSALONIANS 3:3 (NIV)

BUT THE LORD IS FAITHFUL,
AND HE WILL STRENGTHEN YOU
AND PROTECT YOU FROM THE EVIL ONE.

WELCOME TO
EPPING
SDA CHURCH

Week 55

But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.

2 Thessalonians 3:3

Week 54

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under Heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Week 53

People will make weapons to fight against you, but their weapons will not defeat you. Some people will say things against you, but anyone who speaks against you will be proved wrong. The Lord says, That is what my servants get! They get the good things that come for me, their Lord.

Isaiah 54:17

To see the rest of the memory verses see the link below :)

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Ybw_EEbSMJRdPe_piLePW7sw1zLjO6Ki-ECvr7JEYLk/edit?usp=sharing

ZOOM LINKS

4PM WEEKDAY PRAYER GROUP CHANGED TO 1PM

With restrictions lifting a little and some of us traveling back into work, our 4pm prayer group will now be at 1pm each week day....zoom details remain unchanged.

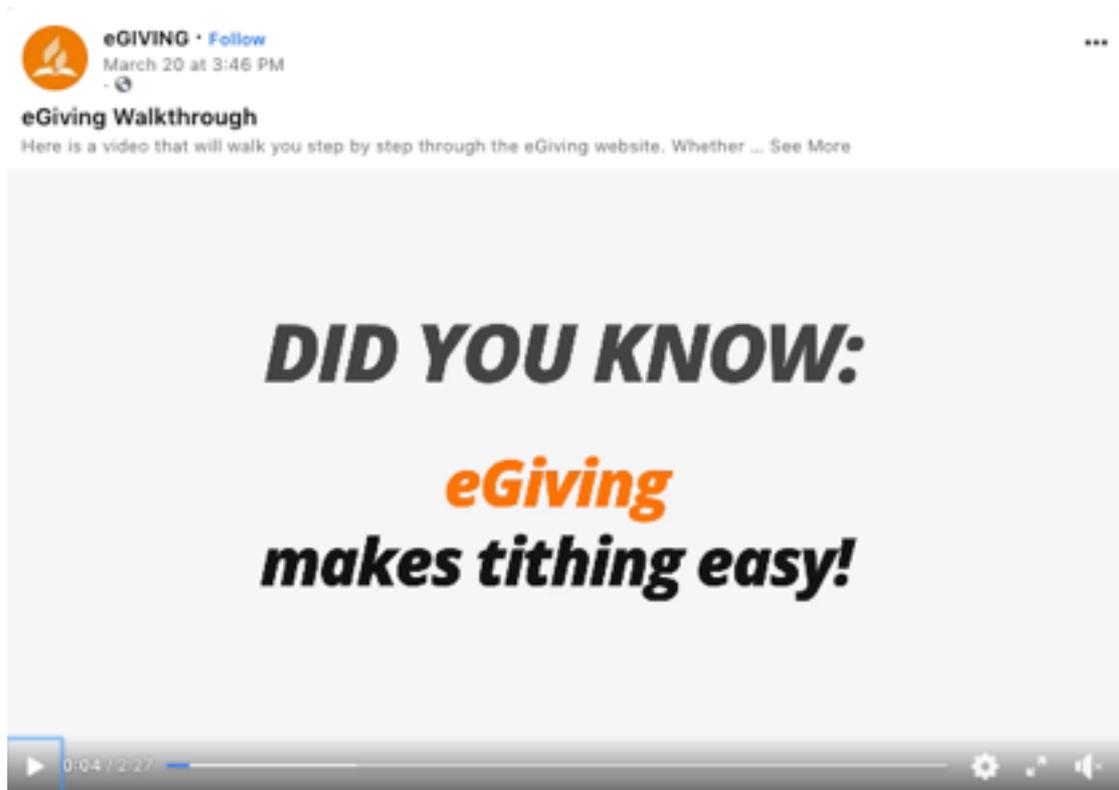
Weekly programs

| What | When | Link |
|------------------|----------------------|--|
| 8am Prayer Group | 8am Mon - Friday | https://acts-technology.zoom.us/j/384619955? pwd=SXp5V2RHSDJhQW85eXJnSWpBNUhsQT09 |
| 1pm Prayer Group | 1pm Mon - Friday | https://acts-technology.zoom.us/j/887853048? pwd=NmQ4WUp6cVBRK21BQXFEOctXbytzZz09 |
| Youth Hangouts | 7pm Friday Nights | Meeting ID: 384 694 480 Password: 350006 |

Saturday Programs

| What | When | Link |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Sabbath School | 10am Saturday Morning | https://acts-technology.zoom.us/j/481995096? pwd=NjlVS2xkVU9DZmtVSzJJQU9iaW8zdz09 Meeting ID: 481 995 096 Password: 675908 |
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eGivings walkthrough



eGiving Walkthrough

Here is a video that will walk you step by step through the eGiving website. Whether you are in Australia or in New Zealand you can still be faithful and return your tithes and give your offerings and thanksgivings.

Video Link here

<https://www.facebook.com/eGIVINGSDA/videos/635678597222482>

eGiving Link here

<https://egiving.org.au/?fbclid=IwAR1mkQR6PcpSqTCw-4UF0tw2ABnyf7TtStP7sG5agVmQBeivkp5m2nfiU7I>

eGivings walkthrough

eGiving Step by Step Guide.

Use the eGiving App to securely return tithes and offerings.

Did you know that you can return tithes, give offerings and make charitable contributions where ever you are?



AUSTRALIAN USERS

1

Search "eGiving" in the Apple App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android).
Once downloaded, open the eGiving app.



2

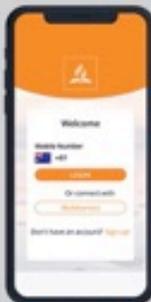
Tap "NEXT" to move through the introductory slides, reading the information as you go, then tap "DONE".



3

Sign-up Instructions

- At the welcome screen, tap the flag and select your country. Then enter your mobile number and tap "LOGIN".
- You'll be sent a code via SMS (text message). Enter the code and tap "VERIFY".
- Then enter your email address and tap "CONFIRM" and enter your name details. Tap "OK" to dismiss the message on your screen.
- You'll be sent an email with another verification code. Open your email, note the code and type it into the app and tap "VERIFY".
- Next, choose your preferred security method and tap "OK".

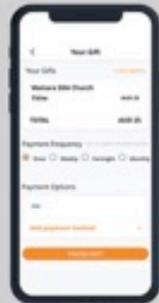


HELPFUL INFORMATION
eGiving uses your location to help find your local church. A window will pop up asking you to choose your preferred privacy settings. Simply select the option you are most comfortable with. If you can't find your local church, tap the search bar at the top of the screen, enter the name of your church, and tap the search button.

4

Returning Tithes & Offerings

- To return tithe, press the orange RETURN button, then tap the line underneath "Amount & Payment Options". Enter your amount, tap outside the box, and tap "CONFIRM GIFT".
- To also give offerings, tap "more options" at the top right hands side of your screen. Swipe down the list until you find the offering of your choice and select it. As before, enter your amount and press "CONFIRM GIFT".
- Select your payment frequency.
- Under payment options, add a payment method.
- Fill out your details then tap "ADD CARD". Tap outside of the box to dismiss the message, then select the card.
- Review the transaction details and when you are ready, tap "FINISH GIFT".
- Next, a confirmation screen will confirm that your contributions has been completed.





HAVE YOU TRIED USING THE EGIVING WEBSITE?
This website is linked to your local church bank account and deposits tithe and offerings to that account within 48 hours.

Australia: www.egiving.org.au
New Zealand: www.egiving.org.nz



HELPFUL TIP!
Check your email inbox. The receipt should be available shortly after giving. It's useful to download and save the receipt for your own records.