

ALL MY DAYS

HELPING EACH OTHER FOLLOW **JESUS**



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LETTER

The Christian life is never a solo journey. God has placed us in the body of Christ, where, as Paul reminds us, “each member belongs to all the others” (Romans 12:5). We are bound together in Christ, and part of that calling is to help one another follow him faithfully.

God does not call us to merely watch out for our own walk with Jesus. He expects each of us to play a part in encouraging, supporting, and strengthening others in their walk too. Loving, caring for, and spurring one another on requires that we understand what life is like for each other. Each of us experiences different seasons of life, with their own opportunities and challenges for discipleship, and we can only truly serve one another when we learn to see those joys and struggles through the eyes of our brothers and sisters.

Of course, we can't cover every demographic or situation in this series. But over these five weeks, we're going to focus on some particular groups in our church family: those who are doubting, those living with mental ill-health single people, the elderly, and the young. Each of

these groups faces unique challenges in following Jesus, and each has much to contribute to our shared life of faith.

Our hope for this series, *All My Days*, is that we would take seriously our responsibility toward one another. As we open God's word together, may we grow in love, deepen in empathy, and strengthen our commitment to helping each other walk faithfully with Jesus all the way home.

With love in Christ,

Mark

³⁴ “A new command I
give you: Love one
another. As I have
loved you, so you must
love one another. ³⁵ By
this everyone will
know that you are my
disciples, if you love
one another.”

John 13:34–35

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEP
10

Caring for those with mental ill-health

Seminar with social worker & counsellor, Miriam Chan



SEP
13

Onboard

A place to help those who are new get oriented to WBC



SEP
17

321

Discover life according to Jesus



SEP
20

Men's Breakfast

Men being strengthened in following Christ



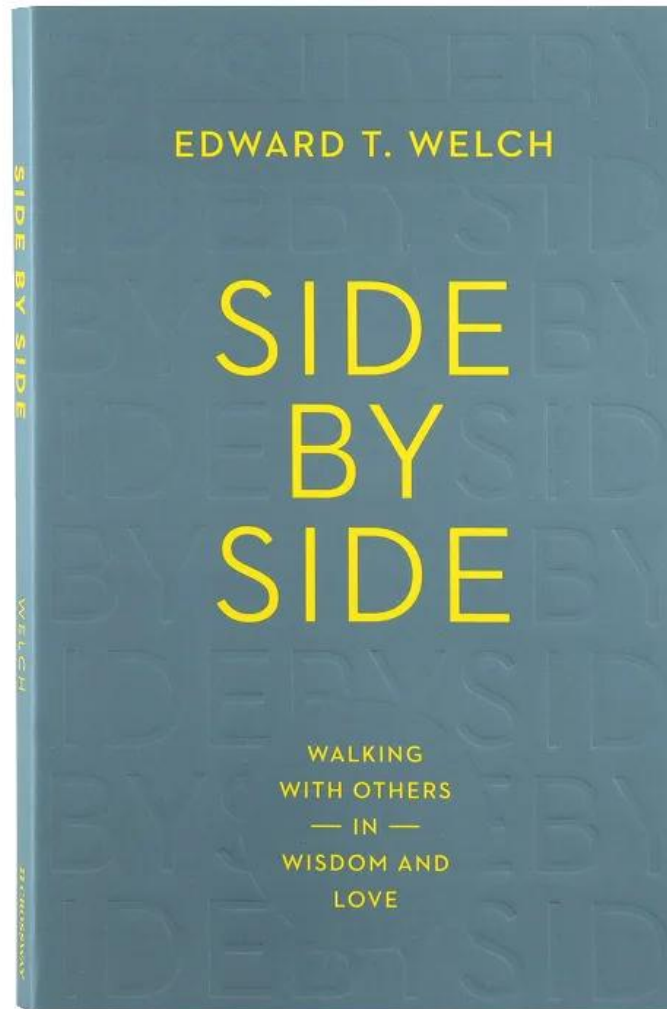
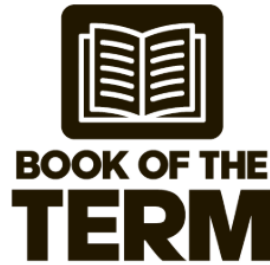
OCT
25

Parenting Seminar

Gospel-centered and practical advice for parents

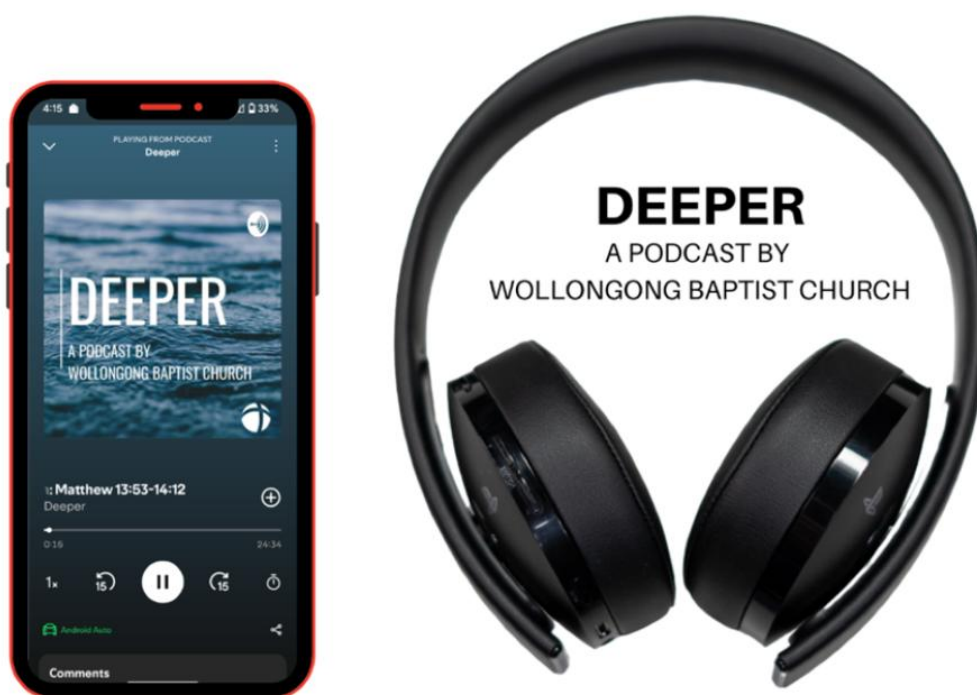


For more info, scan here or go to wollongongbaptist.org



Available for purchase in the foyer after each service (\$15)

In this book, Edward Welch helpfully lays out the ways in which all of us are both *needy* and *needed*, and that recognising this is the way to providing the best help for each other. Drawing on Scripture and his experience as a counsellor, he puts forward thoughtful and practical advice for how we as a church family can be open in our weakness, genuine in giving comfort, and humble in keeping each other from sin. This book aligns well with our series content and so would be a helpful companion resource as we consider how we can help each other follow Jesus.



Have you listened to the Deeper podcast? Each week we dive deeper into the Bible as our pastors are interviewed about the Bible passage preached on Sunday. Deeper gives us space for follow-up questions. We'll be covering lots of different Bible passages as we consider how we can help each other follow Jesus, so whether you listen while you travel, while you do jobs around the house, or while you exercise, tune in to delve further into God's wisdom for us!

Listen on the church website
or also available at:



Have a question for Deeper?
Ask it here:



HOME GROUP STUDY

FOLLOWING JESUS WHEN FAITH FEELS FRAGILE

1. What sorts of things do you think cause people to doubt someone's trustworthiness?

John 20:19–31

2. What's the context of this passage? What significant things have happened in the passages before this one?
3. Why do you think Thomas says what he does in verse 25? Have you experienced doubt for similar reasons?
4. How does Jesus address Thomas' doubt? How does what he says in verse 29 make you feel? Why?

Matthew 14:22–33

5. What's the context of this passage? Where is it situated in the narrative of Matthew's gospel?

6. What causes Peter's doubt? How is it overcome? (Compare with Mark 9:24).

7. What do you think this passage reveals about the relationship between faith and doubt?

Read Jude 22–23

8. What do you think it means to be merciful to those who doubt? How is this related to what Jude says in verse 23?

9. How can we at WBC help each other to be open and honest about our faith? How can we encourage each other when it feels fragile?

Pray that God would help our unbelief, giving us persevering faith in the saving work of Jesus. Pray that we would walk alongside one another with mercy, grace, and encouragement.

SERMON NOTES

31st OF AUGUST

HOME GROUP STUDY

FOLLOWING JESUS THROUGH INNER TURMOIL

1. In general, do you think people are open about what's going on inside? What things do people tend to keep hidden?

Read Psalm 88

2. What strikes you about this psalm?
3. Why does the Psalmist cry out to the LORD? How would you describe his inward state?
4. Can you resonate with these words? Or maybe someone you know? Why do you think God placed Psalms like this one in the Bible?

Read Mark 14:32–36

5. What strikes you about the inner turmoil Jesus goes through in the garden? What does it tell us about him?

6. What does it mean for us that Jesus suffered the way he did? (see Hebrews 4:14–16).

Read 2 Corinthians 1:3–7

7. How does Paul talk about *God*, *Jesus* and *comfort* in these verses?

8. What do you think it means that we both share in Jesus' sufferings and receive comfort through him?

9. Verses 3 and 4 describe how Paul can comfort others with the comfort he has received from God. What would it look like for us to live this out at WBC? What steps can we take to learn when people are struggling on the inside, and how can we walk alongside them?

Pray that God would sustain us and help us to endure the inner turmoil we suffer through. Pray that we'd all grow in intentionally stepping into each other's lives to bring comfort in the face of distress.

SERMON NOTES

7th OF SEPTEMBER

HOME GROUP STUDY

FOLLOWING JESUS WITHOUT A LIFE PARTNER

1. What things does the world value about relationships?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:25–31

2. In the passage before this, Paul has been speaking about marriage to the Corinthian church. Here, he considers the unmarried. What point is he making and what's his reasoning?
3. What are your thoughts on these verses? Do you tend to think the same way as Paul? Why/why not?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:32–40

4. How does Paul develop his point in these verses?
5. In verses 32–35 Paul candidly puts forth the difference between married and unmarried Christians. In what practical ways might these scenarios play out?

6. How do you think we should consider this passage alongside passages which speak of the goodness of marriage (e.g. Genesis 2:18–25, Proverbs 18:22, Eph 5:31–33)?
7. Both the secular and Christian cultures tend to value relationships very highly. Why do you think this is? How do you think we might be able re-tune our value of marriage to consciously include the value of singleness?
8. For those of us who are married, what steps can we take to be caring for our brothers and sisters who are single, whether they are happily or unhappily so?
9. For those of us who are single, how would we like our married brothers and sisters to walk alongside us in discipleship? And what steps might we take to encourage them in this?

Pray that we would lean on God and trust in his sovereignty in all situations, whether single or married. Pray that we would have compassion and genuine love and sensitivity toward one another, while sharing our lives in exhortation of following Jesus.

SERMON NOTES

14th OF SEPTEMBER

HOME GROUP STUDY

FOLLOWING JESUS THROUGH THE TWILIGHT YEARS

1. What challenges and difficulties do the elderly in our society face today?

Read Psalm 92:12–15

2. These verses conclude the psalmist's song in which he praises God for his faithfulness. What does he proclaim about "the righteous"? What stands out to you about the imagery in use?
3. What does this tell us about God and about those who proclaim "The LORD is upright..." in their old age?
4. In what ways do you see this righteous perseverance and fruitfulness lived out by the elderly at WBC?

Read Titus 2:1–8

5. In his letter to Titus, Paul encourages him to exhort the Christians of Crete to upright and godly living. What instructions does he have for the older men and women?

6. Spend some time discussing each of these qualities. What do they look like? Why do you think Paul raises them? Do you think each set is exclusive to older men and women?
7. What's the connection between the instructions for older people (verses 2-3) and younger people (verses 4-6)? What particular role do Christians in their old age have in the church?
8. For those of us in our old age, what can we do to commit to growing closer to God? How might we serve as examples and encouragements to the younger men and women of WBC?
9. For we who haven't yet entered the twilight years, what can we do to walk alongside the elderly of our church? How can we encourage and love them?

Pray that we would be united in faith and love of one another. Pray that the elderly would faithfully live their lives as examples to the young, and that the young would encourage and care for the elderly with the compassion of our Lord.

SERMON NOTES

21st OF SEPTEMBER

HOME GROUP STUDY

FOLLOWING JESUS THROUGH THE EARLY YEARS

1. What sorts of things do the kids and youth of today value highly? What do they chase after?
2. What challenges do you think children and teenagers face today in following Jesus?

Read Matthew 19:13–15

3. What do you notice about Jesus' attitude toward children? How should it shape our own?
4. In what ways do you see Jesus' attitude toward children being lived out by people at WBC? What opportunities are there for you to do this too?

Read Ephesians 6:1–4

5. Paul instructs children to obey their parents “in the Lord”, and fathers to “bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord”. What do you think this means? (See Deuteronomy 6:4–7 and Proverbs 22:6)
6. From these verses, what do you think a healthy Christian relationship between parents and children should look like? How might it change as the children grow?
7. Parents, in what ways are you currently bringing your children up in the Lord and teaching them to obey? Are there any other ways you might be able to pursue this endeavour?
8. We’re all one family with God as our Father, how can each of us encourage the children and youth of WBC to keep following Jesus? How might God use us in their lives?

Pray that we would be a church committed to bring up the next generation in gospel truth together. Pray for the understanding and faith of the young people in our church and ask that God would draw them to himself in Jesus.

SERMON NOTES

28th OF SEPTEMBER

