

StMarks
uneChurch*

Your church.
On campus

*unechurch.org.au



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Support St Marks > Regional Australia Bank
BSB 932000 Account 609753
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‘Meant for Good’ Genesis 50:1-26 & Mark 14:32- 42

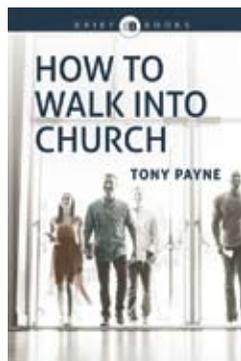
When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him” ... But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.”

Blog | *How Do You Walk Into Church?*

Ido it three times every week: Every Sunday morning, every Sunday evening, and every Wednesday evening I walk into church. Sometimes I walk into church eager and full of expectation; sometimes I walk into church grudgingly and grumpy; sometimes I walk into church sick or sorrowful. But week after week I do it. And I attach very little significance to it.

In the opening pages of his little book ‘How To Walk Into Church’, Tony Payne describes the common experience:

I suppose it must have happened upwards of 2000 times by now. I exit the car, usually with a wife and various kids in tow, and amble in the front door, tossing off a quick greeting to whomever is handing out the folded sheets of paper that in church-speak are called ‘bulletins’. After a quick scan of the seating situation - who has already parked themselves where, who I might want to avoid and so on - I choose a spot not too near the front and sidle into the chosen row, smiling feebly at the person sitting on the other side of the seat that I’ve politely left vacant between us. And there it is. I’ve walked into church. Not exactly a taxing or impressive feat, and hardly worthy of having a book written about it, even a very short book like this. But things are rarely as simple as they seem. (cont. over)



**A highly-recommended
‘must read’ for all
Just \$5.00 @ the
Connect Desk
(or FREE if need be)**

No, things are rarely that simple. Many of the mundane and repetitive tasks that fill our lives have outsized importance: Walking into your home at the end of a long day's work, saying goodnight to your children, participating in family devotions - these are little things but significant things, just like walking into church. After all,

How you walk into church will be determined by what you think church is, and what you think you're doing there. If you think church is a bit like going to the movies, you might walk in expecting to be entertained or inspired. If you think church is an opportunity for personal devotion and worship, you'll probably walk in not wanting to interact too much with anyone else. If you think church is something you have to do in order to 'do the right thing' or stay on God's good side, you'll walk in with a determination to do what needs to be done (and then leave as soon as possible) ...

So how should we walk into church? Here is what Payne asks you to consider: Walk into church praying about where you should sit. Yes, it is that simple. And it has that much significance.

Of course, he doesn't just say that you should consider praying as you walk into church, he also proves its value. He does this first by asking and answering a pair of foundational questions: What is this thing we call 'church'? and Why am I walking into church? Church is God's gathering of God's people and we walk into this gathering week after week because we need mutual encouragement and exhortation. Each one of us has a role to play in church and each one of us is a necessary part of the gathering. We do not go first to be served by others, but to serve. "Church is not about me. It's not about the experience I have or what I get out of it. Church is a classic opportunity to love my brothers and sisters who are there, by seeking to build them up in Christ." With the questions answered, Payne

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goes on to offer counsel on how to approach church and how to make the most of the experience both during and after the worship service.

This is a short and simple book - less than 70 pages long - but one that could make a profound difference in the life and worship of your church. I would like to see it make that difference in the life of my church. If I and the other members at Grace Fellowship Church would read, understand, and implement the basic teaching of this book, I believe we would think very differently about how we walk into church and I believe we would do it a lot better. What Payne describes here is exactly what I long for my church to be. Tim Challies www.challies.com

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Family Prayer

- **Betrothed** > Ben Lukins & Laura Millican (Dec 9); Ali Lockyer & Dan Sole (Jan 13); Mitch Buster & Emma Austrin-Miner (Apr 21); Natasha Wiggins & David James (Mar).
- **Baking** > Izzy & Aidan Willams (due Mar).
- **'Tent' Wear & Repair** (2 Cor. 5) > Bill Bruce; David Meares; Owen Chapman.

NTE Student Support

- **Help get our Students to NTE Conf this December in Canberra** > Contact Matt in the office, or do a transfer via St Marks uneChurch (Regional Australia Bank) BSB 932000 Account 609753 (add \$1 to transfer from another RAB Account) Reference 'NTE'). Per student rego & camping is \$340, but any donation would be helpful.

Upcoming & Notes

- **Newish Lunch 12.30pm NEXT Sunday Oct 22** > We'd love you to join us if you're 'Newish' to St Marks uneChurch. @ Gary & Bec Eastment's 4 Parsons Close. Info & Signup at Connect Desk or unechurch@une.edu.au
- **Confirmation SunPM Oct 22.**
- **Housemate wanted 2018** > Sam Reynolds and Kitty Lukins looking for female housemate from end of Jan 2018. Rent \$120pw + bills. Wifi. Contact Sam 0431030366 or sreynolds@live.com.au
- **Women's Reading Group Friday 7.15pm October 27 @ Tam's (12 Jayne Close)** > 'None Like Him' books available via Tam or on the 'Connect Table'. Cost \$13.50 (to Tam).
- **The Minnis' family (our link missios in Papua) with us Sat/Sun Nov 25/26** > Pot luck dinner 6.30pm Saturday + all services Sunday.
- **Armidale Overcomers Outreach Meetings 7.00pm - 8.30pm every 2nd Tuesday every month** > for those struggling with addiction, self-destructive behaviour, or affected by someone who is. Anglican Dio Offices (Rusden St entry at rear off gravel carpark). Oct 10, Oct 24, Nov 7, Nov 21, Dec 5, Dec 19. Info Kathy Ewers 0449 719 315 or www.overcomersoutreach.net
- **Church Family Weekend Away @ Scotts Head 18 -20 May (Friday-Sunday) 2018** > Be there!

Cross-Church

- **Sing in the Combined Churches' Carols Services Sunday Dec 10** > 7.30pm rehearsals start THIS Monday night Oct 16 @ Uniting Church. Contact David Gee dgee2@une.edu.au
- **Positions Vacant Young Life > 1. Minimbah Chaplaincy; 2. Abide Coordinator; 3. Administrative Assistant.** Call Brendan Hatte 0431 294 501.
- **'Parenting in a Connected Age' workshop 9.30am-3.15pm Saturday Oct 28** > @ Sandon Primary School. RSVP Ruth France bandrfrance@gmail.com or 0490 669 157.
- **Prayer for Armidale meeting 7.30pm Monday Oct 16** > @ Christian Outreach Centre, Claude St.
- **Young Life Trivia Night & Silent Auction Fundraiser 7pm Saturday Nov 11** > @ St Marks uneChurch. \$20pp. 6-8 table rego or individual brendan@younglife.org.au by Nov 6.
- **International Student Ministry > 1. Welcome Party Afternoon Tea 2.30pm-4.00pm 21 Oct 21 @ St Peter's Parish Centre. 2. Indian Food Cooking Demo & Lunch 11.00am-2.30pm Sat Oct 28 @ St Mary's Anglican Hall. 3. Volunteers for half-hour Morning Teas @ Anglican Chaplaincy UNE 10.30am-11am every Wednesday to Friday 11 Oct - 3 Nov. Contact Polly Wong 0431 406 371 or polly@stpetersarmidale.org.au**

Family Finances | September & October

Giving 1/9-30/9	\$34,074
Average amount needed to meet Budget per month	\$36,763
Overall Giving 1/7-30/9	\$116,165
Average amount needed to meet Budget for this period	\$110,291

Giving 1/10-7/10	\$9,524
Average amount needed to meet Budget per week	\$8,484
Overall Giving 1/7-7/10	\$125,689
Average amount needed to meet Budget for this period	\$118,775

