

Who Am I? (Part 1 of 2)

1. As an ordinary human being, I am created as an image of God.

This means that my fundamental relationship is with God, and that I am created to resemble God, to communicate his character, to be his presence, to remind people of God, and to serve him. We are not accidents, without meaning or significance. We are made with a glorious destiny, a high calling, great responsibility, and immense dignity: 'crowned with glory and honour' in the words of Psalm 8.

Many people—believers and non-believers—have too low a view of themselves. They think too little of what God has made them; they undervalue what God is doing and will do with them. Another mistake is to focus on secondary aspects of our existence: 'I am fit;' 'I am successful;' 'I am male;' 'I am female;' 'I am gay;' 'I am Chinese;' 'I am Malaysian;' 'I am healthy;' 'I am sensitive;' 'I am right;' 'I am not popular;' 'I am sexually attractive;' 'I am a loser;' 'I am a failure;' 'I am lonely;' 'I am unemployed;' 'I am sick' etc.

In the Old Testament, God forbids representations of himself, graven images, because they are always inadequate, and because he created us for that purpose. Look in the mirror each morning and say 'Good morning, image of God!'

To ponder: When I look in the mirror each day, what most defines the person I see? How would I normally finish the statement "I am..."? How would seeing myself 'highly' as someone created in the image of God shape the way I think of myself and the way I live?

2. As an ordinary human being, I am also made of dust, a created being, and part of this creation.

As in Genesis 1 we learn that we are made in God's image, so in Genesis 2 we learn that we are made of dust. We are fragile, frail, easily blown away. We are limited, and as we are made of dust, so to dust we will one day return (Genesis 3). We should not image that we are God: omnipotent, eternal, omniscient! Nor should we attempt to be omnipresent! As created beings we need food, water, sleep, company, love, and community. When we are tired, there is not cure but sleep. When we are thirsty, there is no cure but water.

When we are at risk of expecting too much of ourselves, or when others expect too much of us we should remember the wonderful words about God in Psalm 103:14, 'For he knows of what we are made, he remembers that we are but dust.'

Yet one day our dusty bodies will be raised and transformed when Christ returns. 'He will change our lowly body to be like his glorious body' (Phil 3:21).

In the present time, though, our created bodies are still fearfully and wonderfully made. We are unique individuals, each with our own particular blend of strengths and weaknesses.

To ponder: Why is it so important to know that I am a creature, made from dust? As a unique 'creature', what strengths and weaknesses do I possess? How can I use these strengths and overcome these weaknesses in living for God? What kind of self-care and self-disciplines do I need, (like diet, exercise, sleep, time off, relaxation, stimulation, etc.) to be able to be sustained as a God-glorifying, well-functioning creature?

(Adapted from <https://au.thegospelcoalition.org/article/first-things-first/> by Peter Adams)



12 August 2018 | Service Times: 9am & 11:30am

Welcome, we're glad you're here!

We are a church family committed to following Jesus Christ as Lord. We do this by getting to know him through his living Word, the Bible, which is why the sermon is the key part of our Sunday services. Find out more about us at www.slechurch.org.au.

This Week: Isaiah #4— The Triumph of Grace

Isaiah is chosen by God to preach the hard word of judgement: that for her sins Israel will be cut down (by Assyria), and God will raise up a righteous Davidic King who will carry out the justice and recover the remnant.

Next Week:

Isaiah #5 : Let the Nations be Judged
[Isaiah 13-23]



Today's Service

Welcome and Singing Have Mercy On Me
O Come, O Come Emmanuel
The Lord is My Salvation

Holy Communion

Offering

Community News

Bible Reading

Sermon By Pastor Steven Tran

Song of Response The Lord is My Salvation /
Rock Of Ages

Stay Connected

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Check out slechurch.org.au/groups to find a group that you can join.

Say hello

Join us for morning tea at 10:30am.
We'd love to have a chat and get to know you better.

Our Pastors

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Financial Update

Last Week	\$5,460.75
Weekly Required	\$5,520
Shortfall 2018	\$0.00

Giving by Electronic Funds Transfer

A/C Name: SLE Church
Bank: National Australia Bank
BSB: 084-424
A/C No: 396558544

SLE Church is a branch church of Chinese Christian Church Brisbane

Prayer Points

GIVE THANKS AND PRAISE TO GOD

for calling us to be His Elect, a channel of blessings to the nations as we proclaim the excellencies of God and His Gospel, and as we live in such a gospel-shaped manner that draws unbelievers to God.

CONFESS THE TIMES WHEN YOU HAVE

failed to live out this calling, bringing shame to our Lord Jesus by the way we have been ashamed to share our faith, or have lived in a way contrary to what we profess.

PRAY FOR GOD'S CALLING TO

CAPTURE US, and by His grace, be strengthened to boldly proclaim the gospel with love, truth and conviction, and live holy lives among out family, friends, colleagues and classmates.

PRAY FOR THE LEADERS OF THE

CHURCH and in our homes. Pray for their life and teaching. Pray that they would take their responsibility seriously, knowing the great effects, both good and bad, of their leadership.

Community News

BLOOM EVENT: BECOMING GOD'S TRUE WOMAN PART 2 – 1 SEP @ SLE HALL

In our first BLOOM in April this year, we looked at how God designed man and woman to be equal in worth, but have different roles and responsibilities. This is God's blueprint for humanity, a pattern for us to follow for all times. But the world tells us otherwise. What does it mean to be a "helper" to the men? What does it mean to "submit" as the men lead? Sadly, these words have taken on a negative connotation in society today. How confusing that can be!

Join us for the next BLOOM talk on 1 September, 1:30-4pm. as we look at what it means, as godly women, to serve with the men at home and in church.

Please register at the BLOOM table outside over morning tea, or online at <https://slechurch.org.au/bloom/>

Serving

	Today	Next Week
Chair	Bryan <i>David</i>	Randy
Preach	Ps Steven	Ps Steven
Bible Read	Jansen <i>Alice</i>	Chi <i>Marilyn</i>
M.Tea	Elaine Joy	Elleen Steph
Wash Up	Clay	Clay
Welcome	Philip Mee Lan Meng Yin <i>Benedict</i> <i>David</i> <i>Hui Xian</i> <i>Jessica</i>	Philip Mee Lan Meng Yin <i>Benedict</i> <i>David</i> <i>Hui Xian</i> <i>Jessica</i>
Stewards	Norman Alvin <i>Aaron</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>	Norman Alvin <i>Aaron</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>
Piano	Sylvia	Liesl
Guitar		Ivan
Bass	Ethan	
Drums	Marcus	
Vocal	Joachim	Alisha
PA	William <i>Jowin</i>	Li Wei <i>Chris</i>

The Triumph of Grace (Isaiah 6-12)

Intro:

1. Picture 1: The True King (Isaiah 6)

2. Picture 2: A failed Davidic King and two boys (Isaiah 7-8)

3. Picture 3: A third boy and some good (and bad) news (Isaiah 9-10)

4. Picture 4: A Triumphant Davidic King (Isaiah 11-12)

5. The Triumphant Davidic Child

So what?