

Our 2019 in the Word

And just like that, January is gone! It was only a blink of an eye ago that we were celebrating New Years, and in another blink we'll be feasting the Lunar New Year, and before you know it Easter will be upon us (Hot Cross Buns are *already* in supermarkets!).

One thing I am greatly looking forward to this year is the portions of Scripture we will be exploring. For those who don't know, Ben and I sit down around October/November to work out the sermons for the following year. We work out what books of the Bible we have yet to cover (ensuring a balance of OT and NT preaching), and work out what pressing issues or themes we prayerfully believe are necessary for us to consider as a church. One such area we would like us to grow in is understanding in a deeper, richer, and biblically driven way that it means to be and how to flourish as a human. This is one of the greatest pressing issues of our day, with many competing theories and beliefs being pushed in our world.

So after this present sermon series finishes we'll look first at the greatest example of what it means to be truly flourishing human: Jesus Christ. We'll walk through the Gospel of Mark and ask what Mark asks: *who* is Jesus and *what* He came to do?

After the gospel of Mark we'll journey into the massive letter of 1 John. At only 5 chapters long it isn't massive for length, but in terms of content and challenges we are looking at a towering letter. Love features throughout this letter—how God shows His love for us in Jesus Christ, and how we are to love each other. So as we consider what it means to be human, we must be reminded that love forms a central part of our identity, humanity, and personal growth.

In 2017 and 2018 we began to touch on the topic of 'Union with Christ' in our Ephesians and Romans series. To be united with Jesus (read through the NT and notice how often 'in Him' and the like appears!) is so central to understanding how we live our faith—so it's about time we covered this most wonderful doctrine!

Finally we'll end our year by venturing back into the Old Testament, in to the book of Leviticus. Our series, titled 'The Whole in our Holiness' (with apologies to Kevin DeYoung) will explore the treasures that await us as we work hard to understand this ancient Law in our 21st Century Christian context.

Are you excited for this year in the Bible? If so, share with the person next to you what you are excited to explore in Scripture this year.



27 January 2019 | Service Times: 9am & 11am

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: Encounters with Jesus—Three 'Criminals'

It is utterly astonishing that the innocent King of the universe would lay down His life and save even the most wretched of sinners who trust Him.

Next Week: Encounters with Jesus—The Stranger on the Road to Emmaus



Today's Service

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Welcome and Singing | And Can It Be Glorious Day Show Us Christ |
| Holy Communion | |
| Offering | |
| Community News | |
| Bible Reading | Luke 23:32-43 |
| Sermon | By Pastor Steven Tran |
| Song of Response | Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) |

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

PASTOR BEN HO

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PASTOR STEVEN TRAN

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Financial Update

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Last Week | \$10,391.15 |
| Weekly Required | \$5,880.00 |
| Shortfall 2019 | \$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

PRAISE GOD THAT JESUS SUBSTITUTES HIS LIFE FOR OURS!

Praise God that Jesus' death not only saves us from our sins, but also reunites us to the Father. Praise God that we can now behold God's majesty, beauty, and awesomeness as children!

PRAY FOR OUR YEAR IN THE WORD.

Ask God to be at work in the lives of all of us who hear from God's Word this year—whether it be through our weekly gatherings/sermons, our fellowship groups, and our personal reading—ask God to fulfil what He promises: to work in His word to change, shape, and mold us into the likeness of His Son.

PRAY FOR OUR WORLD as it wrestles and struggles profoundly with what it means to be a human. Ask God to work powerfully through hearts and lives, especially in the wake of legislatures in New York (and Queensland late last year) who have legalized abortion to full term. Pray especially that we would be a people who love and care for all people, and children, and that the church globally would grow in loving the least in our societies.

Community News

FROM 3 FEB, SECOND SERVICE MOVE TO SOUTH HALL, MEET AT 11:30AM.

Please note from next Sunday onward, second service will meet at the South Hall from 11:30am.

PRIMARY AND JUNIOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Primary and Junior Sunday School will start back again next Sunday 3 Feb at 9am.

For Primary Sunday School, registration will be done online this year. Please look out for an email from Grace with the rego link. Alternatively, contact her at grace.phon@gmail.com if you have any issues.

For Junior SS (2 years to Prep age children), there will not be a formal lesson as we will be running a crèche program. This will allow the younger kids to get to know their class teachers as well as parents to ask questions if needed. Parents will also be required to fill in registration forms during drop off. Please bring your child's water bottle and morning tea snack.

If you have any questions—please contact Mel Chin at 0434625409 or see her at the back of the hall after service today.

Serving

| | Today | Next Week |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Chair | Bryan | Randy |
| Preach | Ps Steven | Ps Steven |
| Bible Read | Mike <i>Alice</i> | Matthew <i>Ps Steven</i> |
| M.Tea | Genevieve Tania | Georgie |
| Wash Up | SOS West | SaLT |
| Welcome | Dan Philip Mee Lan | Richard Georgie Meng Yin |
| Stewards | <i>Stanley</i> <i>Aaron</i> <i>DT</i> | |
| Piano | Liesl | Joanna |
| Guitar | | |
| Bass | Aaron | |
| Drums | | |
| Vocal | Alisha | Joachim |
| PA | William <i>Matt</i> | Reuten, Matt <i>Chris, Stanley</i> |

Three 'Criminals' [Luke 23:32-43]

Intro:

1. The scene (23:32-38)

2. The first criminal (23:39)

3. The second criminal (23:40-42)

4. The third 'criminal' (23:43)

So what?