

5 reasons why Scripture is our ultimate authority

I love brie. It's a great soft cheese. It's also a great way to work out the biggest authority in someone's life. Let me explain.

In matters of authority BRIE stands for Bible, Reason, Institutions (ie Traditions), and Experience. When it comes to matters of faith and spirituality what do you fall upon as your primary source of authority?

While using our reasoning, relying on our experiences, or falling upon our institutions or traditions is not necessarily wrong, when it comes to what we believe and how we respond to our faith, the Bible should have the highest authority.

Here are a few reasons why the Bible needs to be the priority in matters of faith and spirituality:

1. Jesus prioritised the Word. When he fended off Satan in the wilderness (Matt 4:1-11), corrected misapplication of the Sabbath (Matt 12:1-5) and misapplication of rules of cleanliness (Mark 7:1-13), or pointed to what framed the purpose of His ministry (Luke 18:31, 22:37), Jesus put God's Word front and centre.
2. The Apostles prioritised the Word. In one example from the book of Acts, when the Apostles heard of the conversion of the Gentiles and the Holy Spirit descending upon them, they turned to Scripture to inform their understanding of these events (Acts 15:1-18). Scripture was used to filter their experience.
3. Paul used Scripture to reason for the gospel. In the towering letter of Romans he reasons clearly that our perfect standing before God (righteousness) is received by faith alone. And in order to argue his point he refers to Abraham's story in Genesis (cf Rom 4:1-12) and quotes David from Psalm 32. Paul doesn't use reasoning alone, but his reasoning is rooted in a shaped by Scripture.
4. Paul would later declare that because 'All scripture is God-breathed' it made it perfect and sufficient for all our spiritual needs (cf 2 Time 3:14-16).
5. The church, during the Protestant Reformation, returned to prioritising Scripture as the ultimate authority. It is a distinctive hallmark of reformed theology that the Bible rises above other forms of authority (reason, institutions/traditions, and experience) and is constantly reforming our faith (in regards our knowledge and living).

There are five reasons why Scripture should be our chief authority in matters of faith. What would you say is your chief authority in life?



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 —The Conversion of Paul

The conversion and transformation of Saul shows the sovereign election and powerful saving grace of God. Saul's conversion and transformation displays God's power to save anyone, and to use their saved life to bring good to others and glory to God.

Next Week: Gospel of Mark—Mark 1:1-15



Today's Service

Welcome and Singing Come Praise and Glorify
Jesus There is No One Like You
Jesus Thank You

Holy Communion

Offering

Community News

Bible Reading Acts 7:54-8:3; 9:1-31

Sermon By Pastor Ben Ho

Song of Response All I Have Is Christ

Stay Connected

 facebook.com/slechurch
 slechurch.org.au
 +61 7 3371 7589
 info@slechurch.org.au
 83 Ryans Road, St Lucia 4067

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

Mobile: +61 433 581 335

Email: ben.ho@slechurch.org.au

PASTOR STEVEN TRAN

Mobile: +61 411 621 159

Email: steven.tran@slechurch.org.au

Financial Update

Last Week	\$4,712.23
Weekly Required	\$5,941.00
Shortfall 2018	\$2,904.00

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 IN JESUS THERE IS ALWAYS RESTORATION AVAILABLE!

Praise God for His profound mercy that He shows us in Christ. Praise God that in His wisdom He uses those He has restored in service of His kingdom. Pray that we would reflect on our own restoration in Christ, and ask for wisdom to know how you can best serve in God's kingdom.

PRAISE GOD THAT JESUS CAN SAVE ANYONE!

Praise God that as we read and reflect on the conversion of Paul that we can be encouraged that God can and does save anyone—even those who seem most furthest away from faith. Pray for our loved ones who seem far away. Pray that God would draw them into saving faith.

PRAY FOR THE UPCOMING SLE CHURCH LEADERS RETREAT

as we gather to think through the year and work out how we can best implement our church's vision into our church's life. Pray for wisdom and gospel-driven action for the leaders.

PRAY FOR THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BEGINNING OR RETURNING TO STUDY.

Pray that over the coming weeks as our church swells in a number of students returning that we would be a warm and welcoming place to encourage the students to know Jesus and to love and serve the church. Pray for safe travel for those coming.

Community News

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN CHILD MINDING

Currently, 3 areas in church require for people to help with childminding, so that Bible studies, or meeting, can take place more beneficially. If you have a blue card, or would like to apply for a blue card to help out in this area, whether on a regular, or ad hoc basis, please contact the following people:

Women's Group (meets Friday mornings at church)

Contact: Eilen Wong juliet.es@gmail.com

SOS West (meets Saturday mornings at church)

Contact Mel Chin melissakuek@gmail.com

Leaders' Retreat Day (meets at church 2 March) Contact

Winnie Wong info@slechurch.org.au

OMF ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE

Will be held on Saturday 9 March from 8:30am-3pm at the BST (Brisbane School of Theology).

The main theme is SERVING THE UNSEEN.

Come along to the State Conference to discover how you can serve the unseen God among the unseen people.

Cost: Adults (\$20); Students (\$15); Children 12 and under (\$10).

To find out more information, or register, contact qld@omfmail.com or (07) 3391 6777, or alternatively, Ken Choi on centro.toowong1@gmail.com.

Registration closes 23 Feb.

Serving

	Today	Next Week
Chair	Josh	Ps Steven
Preach	Ps Ben	Ps Ben
Bible Read	Andrew <i>Alan</i>	Ps Steven <i>Ps Steven</i>
M.Tea	Lillian Elleen	Stella Daniel
Wash Up	Sunday YF	Sunday YF
Welcome	Richard Georgie Meng Yin <i>David</i> <i>James</i> <i>Sarah</i> <i>Leya</i>	Richard Georgie Meng Yin <i>David</i> <i>James</i> <i>Sarah</i> <i>Leya</i>
Stewards	<i>Josiah</i> <i>Cam</i> <i>Alan</i>	<i>Josiah</i> <i>Cam</i> <i>Alan</i>
Piano	Liesl	Sylvia
Guitar	Ivan	Ivan
Bass		
Drums		
Vocal	Alisha	Joachim
PA	William, Matt Z <i>Chris, Stanley</i>	Matt T <i>Jowin</i>

Encounters with Jesus—The Conversion of Paul (Acts 9)

1. Introduction: the impact of a single Christian

2. Who is Saul?

A. The Jew par excellence (Acts 22:3, Gal 1:14, Phil 3:5-6)

B. The zealous persecutor (Phil 3:6a, Acts 7:54-8:3, Acts 22:4)

Why?

3. When Saviour of the World Met Chief of Sinners (Acts 9)

A. Encountering Jesus

B. Blindness to sight

C. Chosen

D. Impact

4. Precious Lessons

A. Who can be saved?

B. How can we be saved?

C. The impact of saved lives