

“Do gay people go to hell?” - your friend/secular media

One of the oddest moments in our recent Australian election cycle was the issue of gay people and hell. Sparked by the now infamous Instagram post by rugby player Israel Folau, the then opposition leader came out during the campaign to call on the then current prime minister to deny the gay people go to hell. When asked whether he personally believed gay people would go to hell the then opposition leader replied, “No, I don’t believe gay people go to hell—I’m not sure there is a hell.”

There’s an odd and sad irony in a person not seeing that their view, even though passionately held, is nonsense—to believe in something definitively even though you do not believe in the foundational premise. But I digress.

So how would you answer that question in the title? And more importantly, how would you answer in a way that would pique the interest of the asker, point them to Jesus, and help them enquire further?

Here’s a great example answer from Murray Campbell:

“As it happens, I don’t believe anyone goes to hell because of their sexual orientation. I also don’t believe anyone goes to heaven because of their sexual orientation. Will gays go to hell? Will heterosexuals go to hell? The answer to both questions is yes, but not because of sexual orientation but because in a thousand expressions we all dismiss and denude God’s ways. Both self-realisation and self-righteousness are a sure path to hell, because both deny that there is God and that He is altogether good and holy and love. There will be plenty of happily married couples who never enter heaven and many same-sex attracted men and women who are welcomed by God. This isn’t because sex is malleable and or because the Bible’s teaching on marriage isn’t clear and good. Jesus insisted that any sexual activity outside the marriage between a man and a woman is to be considered immoral. And yet we also see His compassion on those who had digressed and lived in ways contrary to God’s design.”

Or, in my words:

“Gay people don’t go to hell because they are gay anymore than straight people go to heaven because they are straight. Everyone deserves to go to hell because we have all treated God with disdain and hatred. Some people get to go to heaven not because of their sexual orientation, but because they have trusted Jesus to forgive their sins and have lived with Jesus as their king.”

That’s my effort—how would you respond?



19 May 2019 | 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: Gospel of Mark—The Christ Enters His Corrupt City

The King comes into His city and temple and sees corruption to the core. The only solution is destruction. What hope then is left? Jesus’ answer is trust God to bring salvation through judgement. This message of salvation through judgement is a hard message to receive and to share with others, but it is our only hope.

Next Sunday: Mark 11:27—12:44



Today’s Service

Welcome and Singing	Have Mercy On Me So I will Trust in You You Alone can Rescue
Holy Communion	
Offering	
Community News	
Bible Reading	Mark 11:1-26
Sermon	By Pastor Ben Ho
Song of Response	Let Your Kingdom Come

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	\$5,738.14
Weekly Required	\$5,774.00
Shortfall 2019	\$842.00

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 WHILE FOLLOWING JESUS IS IMPOSSIBLE, TRUSTING JESUS MAKES IT POSSIBLE! Praise God that the impossibility of following Jesus is overcome by His substitutionary death for us. Praise God that following Him is worth it in our lives now, and enjoyed for eternity to come.

PRAY THAT WE WOULD PERSEVERE in trusting Jesus and living for Him, especially when it is difficult and feels easier to quit. Pray that we find ways to encourage each other to keep trusting Jesus, and pray for friends and family who have turned away: to be restored to faith.

PRAY FOR AUSTRALIA'S NEW GOVERNMENT. Praise God that elections in Australia are non-violent, and that the citizens of our country have their voices heard. Pray that our new government will lead well, allowing Christians (and other people of faith) to live peaceful and quiet lives.

THANK GOD FOR THE MANY GOOD THINGS happening in our church and fellowship groups! Praise God for those who have recently come to faith in Jesus—especially after some convicting sermons. Praise God that the men who attended Grunt have been seeking out ways to better live and lead in their lives. Praise God for the steady discipleship which has been going on over the months and years. Pray that we would continue to love and serve each other to preserve our unity together. Pray that we would remain focused on God's mission in our context.

Community News

CHILD MINDERS NEEDED FOR WOMEN'S GROUP!

The ladies have benefited much, thanks to the childminders who help care for our pre-school kids to lessen the amount of distraction in the room as we engage with each other on God's Word.

If you are available from 9:30-11:30am on Friday mornings (at church) and 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 Eilen Wong on Juliet.es@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!

Church Camp 2019—4 to 7 October.

More details to come soon!

Serving

	Today	Next Sunday
Chair	Randy	Ps Ben
Prayer	Randy	Ps Ben
Preach	Ps Ben	Ps Steven
Bible Read	Ps Steven <i>Dan Lowe</i>	Jansen <i>Alan</i>
M.Tea	Elaine, Lillian	Daniel, Elleen
Wash Up	SOS West	SOS West
Welcome	Meng Yin Dan Amy <i>James</i> <i>Jabez</i> <i>Sarah</i> <i>Mildred</i>	Meng Yin Dan Amy <i>James</i> <i>Jabez</i> <i>Sarah</i> <i>Mildred</i>
Stewards	Jeffrey Graham Alvin <i>DT</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>	Jeffrey Graham Alvin <i>Alan</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>
Piano	Joanna	Dan Lowe
Guitar	Jabez/Mark	Shao Peng
Bass	Ivan	Aaron
Drums	John	Ivan
Vocal	Shaun/ Amanda	Hui Ming/ Joachim
PA	Matt T. <i>Stan</i>	Reuten <i>Daniel</i>

12. The Gospel of Mark–The Christ Enters His Corrupt City

[Mark 11:1-26]

1. Introduction: Beyond Repair

2. The Christ Enters His City ... to Save (1-10)

3. The Christ Enters His Temple ... to Judge (11-21)

4. Judgement First, the Salvation... so Trust! (22-26)

5. Implications

A. Receiving the hard message

B. Sharing the hard message