

A Gospeled Church (Jared C. Wilson)

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus.—Romans 15:5

The gospel cannot puff us up. It cannot make us prideful. It cannot make us selfish. It cannot make us arrogant. It cannot make us rude. It cannot make us gossipy. It cannot make us accusers. So the more we press into the gospel, the more the gospel takes over our hearts and the spaces we bring our hearts to, and it stands to reason, the less we would see those things antithetical to it.

You cannot grow in holiness and holier-than-thou-ness at the same time. So a church that makes its main thing the gospel, and when faced with sin in its ranks doesn't simply crack the whip of the law but says "remember the gospel," should gradually be seeing grace coming to bear.

It works out this way individually. The most gracious people you and I know are people who have had an experience of grace and fixate on grace. The least gracious people we know are people who may know about grace academically, "theologically," but don't seem the least bit changed by it and really have a fixation on the law. They have an inordinate fixation on who did what wrong and what they deserve.

The same dynamic takes place in churches. Where grace and law are taught academically but law is "felt" as the operating system of the church, you will likely have a stifling, gossipy, burdensome environment. Where grace and law are taught theologically but grace is felt as the operating system of the church, you will see people begin to flourish, breathe. (You'll also attract more sinners, which is where religious people start getting a little antsy.)

But the message of grace made preeminent will generate an atmosphere of grace.

This is why the harmony with each other of Romans 15:5 is "in accord with Jesus Christ." It's not predicated on having a bunch of stuff in common. It's not predicated on common race or social class. It's not predicated on a common special interest or political cause. It's not predicated on all being theology nerds, liking the same authors, being Reformed or Arminian or somewhere in between. It's not predicated on all being Republicans or Democrats. It's not predicated on all being for social justice. It's not predicated on all being homeschoolers or public schoolers. It's not predicated on music styles or preaching styles or anything like that. All of that sort of commonality produces a very fragile harmony.

It is instead predicated on our common Saviour, Jesus Christ, compared to whom we are all sinners who fall short of God's glory, and from whom we have all received grace upon grace. It's impossible to bask in the glorious grace of Jesus Christ and at the same time toot your own horn. So the more that we together focus on the gospel of Jesus, the more together we will walk in accordance with Him and therefore in harmony with one another. "Gospel doctrine," Ray Ortland Says, "creates a gospel culture."

<https://ftc.co/resource-library/blog-entries/a-gospeled-church>



23 June 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 King Dies and Rises

What has been witnessed about Jesus is being proclaimed so that we might have fellowship with God and each other, and for the completion of our joy.

Next Sunday: 1 John 1:5—2:2



Today's Service

Welcome and Singing	You Made Us Your Own Across the Lands Oh How Good It Is
Holy Communion	
Offering	
Community News	
Bible Reading	John 20:30-31, 21:24-25,
Sermon	By Pastor Steven Tran
Song of Response	Where Else Have We to Go

Stay Connected

-  facebook.com/slechurch
-  slechurch.org.au
-  +61 490 760 152
-  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

SENIOR 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	\$7,093.53
Weekly Required	\$5,750.00
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

GIVE UTMOST PRAISE TO THE GOD WHO SAVES! In His great love, He sent His Son to be born into this world, and then to suffer at the hands of sinful men, be crucified on the cross, becoming a ransom for many, becoming the curse of God for our sake, and then rising again in eternal glory and power! Glory be to God!

THANK THE LORD JESUS FOR HIS willing sacrifice for us. And pray that you will not tire of thanking Him and that you will never take Him and what He has done for granted.

THANK GOD FOR THE MANY WOMEN who came for the Women's Group cup cake making evangelistic session last Friday. Thank God for the time of friendship and fun, but even more so for the opportunity for them to hear the gospel invitation given by God to be part of His eternal banquet in heaven. Thank God for the many who served in various ways. Pray for those who came that God would work in them through the implanted word. Pray that they would come to the Christianity Explored sessions being run next term. Pray for the women of our church to keep reaching out to them, and following them up. Pray that our entire church, young and old, men and women, would press on in sharing the good news of the gospel.

THANK GOD FOR THE END OF EXAMS for the university students and the impending end of the schooling semester. Pray for students to keep reflecting on what all this learning is for and especially to figure out how this secular learning can be used for the glory of God.

Community News

SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAK: 30 JUNE TO 14 JULY INCLUSIVE

9am service, please note that during this time, the White Door Room downstairs will be set up as the overflow room to accommodate for children joining in the service.

BLOOM: CHANGE OF DATE TO SATURDAY 3 AUGUST

The second talk in our Bloom series ("Compared to Her") is now scheduled for **Saturday 3 August** (previously 7 September), 1:30-4pm at the North Hall. Please note this date change. More details to come.

DATE CLAIMER: MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY, SATURDAY 10 AUGUST, 9:30AM-12NOON.

All encouraged to attend. More details to come.

Serving

	Today	Next Sunday
Chair	Simeon	Randy
Prayer	Dan	Randy
Preach	Ps Steven	Ps Ben
Bible Read	Chi <i>Alan</i>	Boon Cheng <i>Alan</i>
M.Tea	Muriel, Linda	Cecilia
Wash Up	Sunday YF	Friday YF
Welcome	Philip Mee Lan Esther <i>Andrew</i> <i>Marcus</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>Joy</i>	Philip Mee Lan Esther <i>Andrew</i> <i>Marcus</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>Joy</i>
Stewards	Richard Norman Sunny <i>Cam</i> <i>Yong Seng</i> <i>Josiah</i>	Richard Norman Sunny <i>Cam</i> <i>Yong Seng</i> <i>Josiah</i>
Piano	Dan Lowe	Liesl
Guitar	Mark	Ivan
Bass		Ethan
Drums	Sharne	Sharne
Vocal	Alisha	Shaun
PA	William <i>Daniel</i>	Reuten <i>Jowin</i>

1. The First Letter of John—Life With God [1 John 1:1-4]

Introduction

Intro to 1 John

1. What we witnessed

a. From the beginning: the word of life

b. The life made manifest

2. Why we're writing

a. Fellowship

b. Complete joy

So what?