

SLE Church's 2019 year in the Bible so far

Around November 2018 the pastors and staff sat down to begin thinking through the preaching program for the following year. As we sat down we opened our document listing through all the books of the Bible and all the topics/doctrines we have covered since 2009.

We knew that it had been a while since we covered a gospel and touched upon the Old Testament Laws. We then started to consider what were some of the major issues of our day and age, realising that one of the biggest present issues in our world is a mass confusion about what it means to be a human. Recent months have proven this to be true—with the legal issues surrounding abortion, the ongoing transgender debate, and even to an extent the debates surrounding free speech: all of these matters have, at their heart, radical redefinitions of what it means to be a human.

Given this, we thought it would be wise to explore what the Bible says about being a human. And while we haven't necessarily made this explicit, we hope that as the year has passed, and continues to progress, that what it means to be a human—in God's sight—has come through.

Consider the Gospel of Mark. There we started by looking at the perfect human—the one perfectly reflecting God's image in His compassion, grace, humility and love for God and others. Jesus gives us a perfect view of what humanity should be—a picture that all humanity yearns for. The Gospel of Mark also gives us a picture of what God does to restore our brokenness—by giving His Son to die in our place, as a ransom for many. So that all who trust in Jesus can find forgiveness, and reconciliation with God and each other.

From Mark we considered 1 John where the themes of loves and care for each other continued. This time to a particular church situation in which Christians were encouraged to not give up on the gospel but rather maintain their trust, grow their love, and keep persevering. True humanity is found in believing the gospel, trusting, it, and loving out brothers.

Our next sermon series highlights that true humanity is found in being in Union with Christ—what we hope will be a paradigm shifting series for us. Our Church Camp will also touch on the theme of humanity. Then finally our series to end the year—Leviticus—will consider how holiness plays a big part in what it means to be a human.

So what things have you learnt so far from the Bible about what it means to be a human?



25 August 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: Union with Christ 1— What it is and why it matters (a lot!)

'Union with Christ' is at the very heart and foundation of salvation. 'Union with Christ' ought to define those who are saved and empower our transformation. This 6-week series will inform, reform and transform us as we dig deep into this foundational, life-defining and life-changing doctrine.

Next Sunday: Union with Christ 2—One of Us



Today's Service

Welcome and Singing Come Praise and Glorify
You Alone Can Rescue
Yet Not I But Through Christ

Holy Communion

Offering

Community News

Bible Reading Ephesians 1:3-14

Sermon By Pastor Ben Ho

Song of Response In Christ Alone

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

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PASTOR STEVEN TRAN

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Financial Update

Last Week	\$6,344.38
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

PRAISE GOD FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF 1 JOHN! Praise God while some parts have been difficult, John's primary message of encouragement to cling onto, and assurance in, the gospel have been clearly brought forth. Pray that we would keep reflecting and re-reading through the letter to find further encouragement.

PRAISE GOD THAT THE GOSPEL STILL CHANGES LIVES! Praise God that over the past few months, in slow and steady ways, attendees in our church have been reading the Bible, hearing from the Gospel of Mark, and have been convicted to trust Jesus with their lives! Praise God that the old gospel message is the same yesterday, today, and forever—and will continue to save people until Jesus returns.

PRAY FOR OURSELVES AS WE HEAR ABOUT 'UNION WITH CHRIST'. Pray that as we hear this sermon series the information will not just be for our heads—but that the great news of our union with Christ will fill our hearts with joy and help us live confidently before Him.

PRAY FOR CHURCH CAMP. Pray for the ongoing preparations needed for church camp. Pray for those who are still deciding to come—that the encouragements of gathering together for an extended weekend will encourage them to register. Pray that the weekend will come together smoothly and for Andrew Reid's talk preparations.

Community News

CAMP REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN FOR UPCOMING SLE CHURCH CAMP 2019– 4 TO 7 OCTOBER

Speak to your fellowship leaders or Christopher Ooi & Nathaniel Ng

Registration at slechurch.org.au/camp2019

REMINDER RE PARKING AROUND CHURCH ON SUNDAYS

Please be mindful of the following when parking around church on Sundays, so that by our action, we can serve and love our neighbours, both in and out of church, and so that we are obeying the laws to which God has put us under:

- By not stopping along the no parking zone on the white striped lines along the front of the church premise. These are no-stopping zones.
- By using the 2 carpark spaces in front of church as drop off zones on Sunday mornings (only 2 min loading Sundays 8am-1pm)
- By not parking along the yellow lines
- By not parking so as to obstruct driveways
- By leaving Ryans Road street parking for the elderly and the Armadale Street parking for parents with Sunday School-aged children.

Serving

	Today	Next Sunday
Chair	Bryan	Ps Steven
Prayer	Ps Steven	
Preach	Ps Ben	Ps Ben
Bible Read	Matthew <i>Alan</i>	
M.Tea	YF Fri/Sat	YF Fri/Sat
Wash Up	YF Fri/Sat	YF Fri/Sat
Welcome	Ken Steph Meng Yin <i>Marilyn</i> <i>Jabez</i> <i>James</i>	Philip Mee Lan Esther <i>Andrew</i> <i>Marcus</i> <i>Nethanel</i>
Stewards	Alvin John Graham <i>Stanley</i> <i>GengHao</i> <i>Edwina</i>	Richard Sunny Norman <i>Cam</i> <i>Yong Seng</i> <i>Helen</i>
Piano	Joanna	Liesl
Guitar	Shaun	Keith
Bass	Ivan	Aaron
Drums	John	Nigel
Vocal	Sharne	Hui Ming
PA	Chris, Matt C <i>Daniel</i>	Reuten, Matt Z <i>Jowin</i>

Union with Christ #1: What it is and why it matters (a lot!)

1. Introduction

A. What we call ourselves

B. The faith-life, head-heart gap

C. What's missing?

2. Union with Christ

First, we must understand that as long as Christ remains outside of us, and we are separated from Him, all that He has suffered and done for the salvation of the human race remains useless and of no value for us. [...] For, as I have said, all that He possesses is nothing to us until we grow into one body with Him. It is true that we obtain this by faith.” (John Calvin)

A. Where in the Bible

B. What it is

i. Mysterious but real

ii. Metaphors but real

3. Implications: why it really matters

A. How 'united with Christ' defines who we are

B. How 'united with Christ' transforms who we are and become