

Union with Christ—what does it mean?

We kicked off with a bang last week with our first sermon in this new series. So to recap one of the analogies used, here is an explanation from Rory Shiner (from his excellent book 'One Forever') of it to describe what 'union with Christ' means:

'... what does it actually mean to be *in Christ*? Let me try an analogy. Imagine yourself at the airport, about to board a plane. The plane is on its way to, let's say, beautiful Perth. You're at the airport. There's you. There's the plane. It's going to Perth. And my question is: What relationship do you need to have with that plane?

Would it help, for example, to be *under* the plane? To submit yourself to the plane's eminent authority in the whole flying-to-Perth caper?

Would it help to be *inspired* by the plane? You go to the airport, you watch it take off, and you whisper to yourself, "One day, I could do that too..."?

What about *following* the plane? You know the plane is going to Perth, and so it stands to reason that if you take note of the direction it goes, and pursue it as fast as your little legs will carry you, you too will end up in Perth.

Of course, the key relationship you need with the plane is not to be under it, behind it or inspired by it. You need to be *in* it.

Why? Because by being in the plane, what happens to the plane will also happen to you.

The question "Did you get to Perth?" will be part of a larger question, "Did the plane get to Perth?" If the answer to the second question is yes, and if you were in the plane, then what happened to the plane will also have happened to you.

At its heart, the New Testament idea of being in Christ is something like that. **What the New Testament is saying is that through faith in Jesus Christ, we become united to Him. And we are in Him, so that whatever is true of Jesus is also true of us.** (emphasis mine)

Those last lines are crucial: whatever is true of Jesus is also true of us! Over the next few weeks we'll explore what this means for Jesus' incarnation, and our justification, sanctification, corporate gathering (church), and future glorification.



1 September 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 2— One of Us

The incarnation (God taking on flesh and becoming fully God and fully man) means that mortals can truly be united to God, that sinners can be saved, and that God can really help us in all of our human experiences.

**Next Sunday: Union with Christ 3
— Justified in Christ**



Today's Service

Welcome and Singing See the Man
Jesus, There's No One Like You
This I Believe

Holy Communion

Offering

Community News

Bible Reading John 1:1-4, 14, 18;
Hebrews 2:5-18

Sermon By Pastor Ben Ho

Song of Response Never Alone

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

SENIOR PASTOR BEN HO

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PASTOR STEVEN TRAN

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Financial Update

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Last Week | \$4,892.98 |
| 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 OUR UNION WITH CHRIST! Praise God that in His divine wisdom and sovereign planning He purposed to save us in Jesus Christ before the foundation of the world. Praise God that the sinfulness of our hearts has been overcome not only by the indwelling of the Spirit in our lives, but also by God bringing us into union with Christ—so that as Jesus is, so are we.

PRAY THAT WE WOULD TRULY UNDERSTAND THIS DOCTRINE. Pray for our hearts and minds each week as we work (very) hard to grapple with all that the Bible teaches us. Pray that the truth taught would not only challenge our thinking, but draw us deeper into the joy-filled bottomless well of Jesus' glory. Pray that as we grow in our awareness we will also grow in our awe. Pray that Pastor's Ben and Steven will prepare their sermons faithfully.

PRAISE GOD FOR THE MANY NEWCOMERS who have visited SLE Church over the past few weeks. Pray that as our church continues to grow in number that we would all be doing our part to love and serve each other. Pray that we would connect with newcomers and share our lives together with them to encourage them in their walk.

PRAY FOR THE WOMEN DOING CHRISTIANITY EXPLAINED in the Friday Women's Group. Pray that God would use the clear teaching of Jesus from the Gospel of Mark to draw these women into saving union with Jesus.

Community News

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

Registration for Church Camp closes today (1 Sep), payments due by Mon 2 Sep. Chat to a camp committee member if you have questions/need to make alternative arrangements. Details at <https://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 | Simeon | Merv |
| Prayer | Ps Steven <i>Ps Steven</i> | Dan <i>Ivy</i> |
| Preach | Ps Ben | Ps Steven |
| Bible Read | Simeon <i>Simeon</i> | Alice <i>Dan Lowe</i> |
| M.Tea | YF Fri/Sat | Daisy/Georgie |
| Wash Up | YF Fri/Sat | SOS Central |
| Welcome | Philip Mee Lan Esther <i>Andrew</i> <i>Marcus</i> <i>Nethanel</i> | Philip Mee Lan Esther <i>Andrew</i> <i>Marcus</i> <i>Nethanel</i> |
| Stewards | Richard Sunny Norman <i>Cam</i> <i>Yong Seng</i> <i>Helen</i> | Richard Sunny Norman <i>Cam</i> <i>Yong Seng</i> <i>Helen</i> |
| Piano | Liesl | Liesl |
| Guitar | Keith | Shaun |
| Bass | Aaron | Ethan |
| Drums | Nigel | Jabez |
| Vocal | Hui Ming | Amanda |
| PA | Reuten.Matt Z. <i>Jowin</i> | William <i>Stan</i> |

Union with Christ #2: One of Us (Incarnation)

1. Introduction: "He's near me... he's near me not"

2. Incarnation: The Son of God Became One of Us

A. God became one of us

B. God became one of us fully

C. God became one of us perfectly

3. Incarnation: So what?

A. He is our connection

B. He is our salvation

C. He is our help