

## Pastor's Desk: Year End Reflections (part 1 of 2)

Perhaps, like me, you were shocked to realise that we entered the LAST month of the year during the past week. Has there ever been a year where you've not said to yourself "where has the year gone?"

I suppose any moment in time is suited for reflection on recent events, but it would seem that year ends are particularly suited for reflection on the year about to be ended. Along with all the varieties of year end reviews that we have undergone/are undergoing (e.g. exam results, performance reviews, etc. – all types of year end 'reviews'), why not add in the even more important review of how our Christian walk has gone for 2015? In case you have forgotten (or didn't realise), SLE's theme for the year has been "Everyday with Jesus" – how have you gone with that?

Here's some reflection questions to think through. Why not grab a piece of paper or open up a new document on your device of choice and write down your answers to these questions? Even better, why not compare your answers to a close brother or sister in Christ in the church? And best of all, why not pray on your own and together with that brother or sister about all that you've reflected on? Hopefully there will be plenty of praise points, thanksgiving points, confession and supplication (asking for stuff)!

'Personal walk' questions:

**How have I grown this year in godly character?** Identify the specific character traits: in what way particular ways has it grown?

**In what areas of sin and weakness have I remained the same or gotten worse?** Why has this been the case?

**How have I grown this year in conviction and devotion to Christ?** If so, what specific evidence can I point to? If not, what has been the cause?

**How have I grown in biblical and theological knowledge?** Try writing down all the books of the bible you have read, studied in bible study, listened to in sermons and see what you remember from them

**How have I grown in my ability to explain/defend/promote the gospel?**

**How have I gone with building relationships this year for the sake of evangelism and discipleship?** How has these relationships progressed? What is stunting these from growing more?

**How has your prayer life been this year?** When are the times/situations you have prayed? When have you not prayed? Can you account for why you are more/less prayerful at different times?

Why not add more reflection questions if you can think of them? Next week, I'll write up a set of reflections for our 'community walk' – how we have gone this year in our service to the church and the world.

### giving: financial stewardship update

Last Week:	\$4,378.45
Weekly Required:	\$7,739.00
Shortfall:	\$2,240.00

### electronic fund transfer

<b>A/C Name:</b>	SLE Church
<b>Bank:</b>	National Australia Bank
<b>BSB:</b>	084-424
<b>A/C No:</b>	396558544
<b>Description:</b>	Offering

24 December 2017

## welcome to sle church

We are delighted to have you join us today! It is our prayer that you will enjoy all aspects of our gathering this morning.

## about

The 'SL' in 'SLE' means St Lucia. The suburb our church is located in. The 'E' stands for English. We are a church family made of many migrant families from across South-East Asia, and we are English speaking. The 'E' also stands for Evangelical. 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.

## get connected

Please join us for refreshments and a chat after the service. We look forward to getting to know you. If you are new to SLE Church, have a prayer request, family news, or change of contact details please email: [info@slechurch.org.au](mailto:info@slechurch.org.au) or call 3371 7589.

Connect with us online: [slechurch.org.au](http://slechurch.org.au) or 'like' us for further updates at [facebook.com/slechurch](https://facebook.com/slechurch)

## service times

9:00am and 11:00am





## serving grace

	Today	Tomorrow
Chair	Joshua	Gabriel
Preach	Ps Steven	Ps Ben
Bible Read	Joshua <i>Alice</i>	Chi <i>Gabriel</i>
M.Tea	Ivy/An Ping Noel	Everyone
Wash Up	SaLT	YF Sunday
Welcome	Amy Ken Stephanie <i>Marilyn</i> <i>Joy</i> <i>Andrew</i>	Amy Ken Stephanie <i>Marilyn</i> <i>Joy</i> <i>Andrew</i>
Stewards	Jeffery Meng Yin Matthew <i>Daniel</i> <i>Aaron</i> <i>Stanley</i>	Jeffery Meng Yin Matthew <i>Daniel</i> <i>Aaron</i> <i>Stanley</i>
Piano	Deborah	Dan Lowe
Vocal	Chloe	Deborah
PA	William Chris	Daniel William

## current sermons

Last Week: Finding Comfort in Betrayal [Psalm 55]

This Week: In God We Trust [Psalm 56]

Christmas: Our Comforting God [Psalm 57]

## prayer points

- Thank God that He has entered into human history through the birth of His very own Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Pray that this would give us the sure hope of His second coming. Pray that this would motivate us to prepare all those around us for His return.
- Pray for boldness and wisdom and a clear expression of love as we try to convince people of their need for the gospel in light of impending judgement. Pray that we would know how to draw people towards God's way of life that He created us for and wants to save us to live out. Pray that we would work hard to convince people that Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life and that no one comes to the Father except through Him. Pray always for the Spirit to be at work through us and in the lives of those we speak to.
- Pray for all those who are on holidays. Pray also for all who continue to labour in work—paid and unpaid. Pray that in all situation, we as the people of God would do all things for the glory of God.

## community news

### Christmas Day Service—25 Dec | 9am and 11am | SLE Hall

Please take this opportunity to invite your friends and family to attend.

If you are able, please bring a plate of morning tea to share!

### Ignite Training Conference—Dust to Glory | 15 Jan-19 Jan, 2018 | 1 Cross Street, Toowong

Registration: by 11:30pm, Sunday 31 December, 2017

For more information head to

<https://ignitetrainingconference.com/>

## date claimers

1. Christmas Day Service—25 December
2. Impact 2018—10 January, 2018
3. Ignite Training Conference—15-19 January, 2018

## church contacts

83 Ryans Road,  
St Lucia 4067  
3371 7589  
[info@slechurch.org.au](mailto:info@slechurch.org.au)

**Pastor Ben Ho**  
m: 0433 581 335  
e: [ben.ho@slechurch.org.au](mailto:ben.ho@slechurch.org.au)

**Pastor Steven Tran**  
m: 0411 621 159  
e: [steven.tran@slechurch.org.au](mailto:steven.tran@slechurch.org.au)

# In God We Trust [Psalm 56]

Introduction

1. The backstory (1 Samuel 21)

2. Fear

3. Trust, Praise, Deliverance

4. The One filled with fear, who trusted God, and was delivered...for us

So:

A Disciple is not above his Master

Living with fear and faith

Trusting the Word