

What Is God's Glory And How Do We Live For It?

You've probably heard it countless times—everything we do we do for the glory of God. This phrase and idea has strong biblical foundation. I'd argue it's actually at the centre of the Bible's story.

But what does it mean, and what does that look like practically?

In working this question out I've found the works and teaching ministry of John Piper very helpful. He starts by trying to define what 'God's glory' is, and often begins by stating that this is actually quite a hard thing to define. It's as hard as trying to define the word 'beauty' in contrast, say, to the word 'basketball'. If you don't know what 'basketball' is, then it is very easy to explain. But to explain and define 'beauty' is much more difficult—mostly because 'beauty' is something we 'see' rather than something we 'say'. We can point to it, and if we point to enough things and say, 'That's it, that's it, that's it...' we might get a common sense for what beauty is. But it's very hard to try and put beauty into words.

But after many years of plumbing the depths of scripture, Piper comes up with this (I think) helpful definition: "The glory of God is the infinite beauty and greatness of God's manifold perfections. The infinite beauty—and I am focusing on the manifestation of his character and his worth and his attributes—all of his perfections and greatness are beautiful as they are seen, and there are many of them. That is why I use the word manifold. So here it is in another sentence. The glory of God is the infinite beauty and greatness of his manifold perfections."

If that is a good definition, and I think it has strong biblical foundations, then how do we go about 'living for the glory of God'? Here's two (very) brief suggestions:

First—we orient our lives around God's glory as it is revealed ultimately in the gospel of Jesus' death and resurrection. It's the death and resurrection of Jesus that fully and most satisfyingly demonstrates for us (on this side of Jesus' return) the 'beauty and greatness of God's manifold perfections'. His perfect plan to save sinners, freely, graciously, mercifully. So we glory God first and foremost by growing in our understanding, appreciation of, and love for the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Secondly—we ask ourselves how my thought, activity and actions point people to, demonstrate, and communicate, God's infinite beauty and worth. How does my parenting, my studies, my work, my holidays and retirement—how do all of these things and my activities within them communicate (immediately and/or over time) that Jesus is at the centre?

The danger in offering these two very brief suggestions is that it raises more questions than answers. But that's ok—because we have God's Word, God's Spirit, and God's Church to help us work these out in our personal circumstances. So why not meet up with a fellow Christian today to pray and work out together what this might look like in your life.



15 April 2018 | 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: MVV #1—Our Mission

Our Mission: The purpose and reason for our existence is to glorify God by proclaiming the gospel to all. But what things in our lives prevent us from doing so?

by Pastor Steven Tran

Next Week:

MVV Sermon Series #2—Our Values



Today's Service

- Welcome and Singing** Your Words of Life
O Great God
For the Cause
- Holy Communion**
- Offering**
- Community News**
- Bible Reading** Matthew 28:18-20;
Revelation 5:6-14, 7:9-12
- Sermon** By Pastor Steven Tran
- Song of Response** Facing a Task Unfinished

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

PASTOR BEN HO

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Financial Update

Last Week \$8,503.45

Weekly Required \$5,500

Shortfall 2018 \$0

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 ROMANS 8! Praise God that we have in scripture such a powerful and wonderful word from God about his loving assurances to us who have faith in Jesus. Praise God that *nothing* can separate us from the Love of God in Christ.

PRAY FOR OUR UPCOMING SERMON SERIES ON OUR MISSION, VALUES, AND VISION.

Pray that as we open scripture God would reveal to our hearts the ways in which we need to align ourselves more with God's mission. Pray that we would all be a part of contributing to, shaping and being a part of SLE Church's vision for 2018 and beyond.

THANK GOD FOR TIMES OF REST.

Thank God for those among us who have had a chance to rest, even if briefly, over these Easter holidays. Pray that we would return to work rejuvenated and ready to work diligently, to the glory of God, and ready to serve in ministry whole heartedly and joyfully.

CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR UNCLE

RICHARD TEO. Pray that God would, in his sovereign grace and mercy, bring healing to Uncle Richard. Pray also that he, and his family, would be sustained in patient trust to rest, and lovingly care for him. Pray that Uncle Richard and his family would also be a great Christian testimony to patient endurance in suffering.

Community News

BLOOM EVENT

Becoming God's True Woman—Part 1

Saturday 28th April

1:30-4pm

In the first of a two-part series, this upcoming Bloom session will help us explore God's plan and design for womanhood. We will have the opportunities in small groups to discuss what and who has shaped our ideas on womanhood. We will be challenged to look to God and His Word. As our Creator, he has all the answers we need!

Please register at morning tea today or online at <https://slechurch.org.au/bloom/>

Serving

	Today	Next Week
Chair	Randy <i>Zach</i>	Mervin <i>Marcus</i>
Preach	Ps Steven	Ps Steven
Bible Read	Matthew <i>Alan</i>	Jansen <i>Alice</i>
M.Tea	Haley Elaine	Tania Elleen
Wash Up	YF Saturday	YF Friday
Welcome	Richard Amy Esther <i>Zach</i> <i>David</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>Joy</i>	Richard Amy Esther <i>Zach</i> <i>David</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>Joy</i>
Stewards	Graham Richard <i>Josh</i> <i>Josiah</i> <i>Stanley</i>	Graham Richard <i>Josh</i> <i>Josiah</i> <i>Stanley</i>
Piano	Sylvia	Joanna
Guitar	Joachim	
Bass	Kevin	
Drums	Ivan	Ariel
Vocal	Lim An	Alisha
PA	Li Wei <i>Jowin</i>	Matt <i>Daniel</i>

Our Mission

Intro

1. The Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20)

2. The Story of the Bible

3. Our Mission

So what?

Check-up: how are we doing?

Things that prevent us from engaging with God's mission...

What do we aspire for SLE Church to become?