

So Why Do You Want To Travel?

UNESCO’s Institute for Statistics tells us that the number of students travelling overseas has increased 75% in the last decade, and that the number is growing by 12% per year. What’s more, travellers of the millennial generation make up something like 20% of international travellers and the number of trips they are making is increasing all the time. But we shouldn’t just pick on the millennials. The retirement contingent is just as likely to pursue travel—not just “doing the lap” of Australia, but getting on a cruise ship or taking a tour to somewhere new.

The experience of wonder comes to us as we travel, because of the newness of things. We see animals we’ve never seen before, landscape that is weird to us, climate that is strange. It can make us more reflective and more aware people. And not to forget, the glorious new foods to savour!

Of course, a Christian will realise this. The opportunity to travel is a real blessing from God. God’s world is far more extraordinary and diverse than we imagine it to be. We are humbled as we open ourselves to new places, and have more opportunities to praise the Creator for his creativity.

We should travel “with God”, aware that there is nowhere we can go that is not his or where he is not present. With this in mind, we can be open to the ways God may bless us as we travel his world. One of those ways may be that we meet Christians in other places who have much to teach us.

But we also need to recognise our inner motives for wanting to travel in the first place. What do you think that travel will give you that you can’t find at home? Do you think that travelling or living overseas will satisfy that inner hunger, that sense of restlessness? We set sail for foreign shores in the hope that we will discover who we truly are. But whatever we may find, we will not find ourselves until we are found by our Creator in Jesus Christ.

In fact, there’s a grave spiritual danger in travel because we find ourselves an opportunity to try on different “selves”. We can pretend to be a different person altogether. We may tell ourselves that “what goes on tour, stays on tour” - as if the world of our travel is a world with an entirely different sense of right and wrong.

So, if you are feeling the yearn to travel, ask yourself: why? What is it about my current world that is giving me this sense of needing to be somewhere else, even if only for a time? And it’s worth checking that feeling, because we need to know that travel is a consumer good like any other. And the consumer economy feeds off our feelings of envy and dissatisfaction.

These feelings are massively amplified by our poring over the Instagram feeds of our travelling friends. What do we see there? Images of freedom, pleasure, joy, beauty. Sheer happiness. Novelty and excitement. When will it be my turn? When will people be envying me as I am now envying them?

Like any consumer good, travel is more accessible to those who have more money. Though it seems more noble, it’s a middle-class accessory like any other. We often gear our whole personal economies to affording travel. It costs, and sometimes it costs big bucks. As with any big spend, a Christian should think twice about whether travel is really a wise use of all that time, effort and money.

(from <https://www.eternitynews.com.au/opinion/so-why-do-you-want-to-travel/> with modifications)



3 June 2018 | Service Times: 9am & 11:30am

Welcome, we’re glad you’re here!

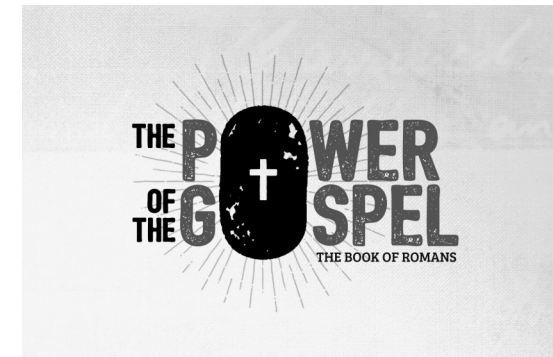
We are a church family committed to following Jesus Christ as Lord. We do this by getting to know him through his living Word, the Bible, which is why the sermon is the key part of our Sunday services. Find out more about us at www.slechurch.org.au.

Obeying Authorities & Love

God ordains authorities in this world as part of his good order and administration of justice, so we are to be good, submissive citizens. We are to love each other, and so fulfil the Law, and live in the light of our salvation.

by Pastor Steven Tran

Next Week: Romans 14:1—15:13



Today’s Service

Welcome and Singing	This Life I Live Oh How Good It Is Before You I Kneel
Holy Communion	
Offering	
Community News	
Bible Reading	Romans 13
Sermon	By Pastor Steven
Song of Response	This Life I Live

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	\$5,805.25
Weekly Required	\$5,520.00
Shortfall 2018	\$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

THANK GOD FOR THE DEPTH OF THE RICHES of His mercies shown to us in Christ. Give praise to God that in His eternal plan, He chooses to save sinners like us.

PRAY THAT WE WOULD RESPOND to God's mercy by living our entire lives in worship of God. Ask God to help us realise that we were dead to sin and now alive to God in Christ. Pray that we would live out that new life in loving and obedient worship. Pray that our worship will be evident both in the way we treat brothers and sisters in the church as well as out in the communities where we live, work and play.

PRAY FOR THE WORD IN ART EVANGELISTIC EVENT that Women's Group will be holding this Friday morning. Pray that those who have been invited will come unhindered. Pray that God's Spirit will work in their hearts to be receptive to hearing the gospel. Pray for Melinda to be faithful in explaining how God speaks to us through His Word.

PRAY FOR THE AGMS BEING CONDUCTED this afternoon. Pray for wisdom in decision making and for unity in our gospel partnership as a church.

CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE BATTLING WITH SICKNESS.

Community News

SLE CHURCH, SLDB & CCCB INC AGM | Sunday 3 June at North Hall

Members are expected to attend either in person or by proxy the SLE Church AGM. For the SLDB and CCCB Inc AGMs, attendance by proxy will be acceptable.

Proxy votes are available on the outside of the foyer sliding doors

SLE AGM : 1:15pm-1:45pm

SLDB AGM : 1:45pm-2:15pm

CCCB Inc AGM 2:15pm-2:30pm

MEMBER'S MEETING NEXT SUNDAY

The first major phase of our MVV process is drawing to a close. This phase involved setting clear Mission, Values and Vision statements. Through various discussions and a formal meeting held on 13 May, the Core Values and Vision Elements were determined. We draw our first phase to a close on Sunday 10 June with a short member's meeting where the finalised MVV will be presented.

Time: 11-11:30am @ North Hall

The second phase begins thereafter. This is the implementation phase where we will work with all levels and ministries of the church to come up with plans and goals to endeavour to achieve what our Vision sets forth.

GROW WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

GROW is an annual women's conference by QCCA. It will be held on 4 August, Saturday 9-3:30pm at St Peter's Lutheran College Performing Arts Centre (Indooroopilly). Jenny Baddeley and Keiyeng Nation will be speaking on the book of Habakkuk. Register online at <http://qcca.org.au/grow> under "SLE Church" for a group price of \$52 (includes morning tea and lunch).

Serving

	Today	Next Week
Chair	Randy <i>Zach</i>	Merv <i>David</i>
Preach	Ps Steven	Ps Ben
Bible Read	Chi <i>Dan Lowe</i>	Simeon <i>Jessica</i>
M.Tea	Muriel Georgie	Karilyn Boon
Wash Up	Clay	Clay
Welcome	Ken Steph Dan <i>Benedict</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>David</i> <i>Huixian</i>	Ken Steph Dan <i>Benedict</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>David</i> <i>Huixian</i>
Stewards	Jeffery Simeon <i>Helen</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Sarah</i>	Jeffery Simeon <i>Helen</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Sarah</i>
Piano	Dan Lowe	Joanna
Guitar		
Bass	Ethan	
Drums	Ivan	
Vocal	Lim An	Sarah
PA	William <i>Jowin</i>	Matt <i>Daniel</i>

Obeying Authorities & Love [Romans 13]

Intro:

1. Obeying Authorities (Romans 13:1-7)

Christians are called to submit to authorities because we recognise they are appointed by God to administer justice.

a. Reason one: they are appointed by God (13:1b-2)

b. Reason two: they are God's servant (13:3-4)

c. Applications: submission, honour, and taxes (13:5-7)

2. Love in Action (Romans 13:8-14)

Christians are called to love one another as a fulfilment of the Law and as a response to the time we live in.

a. Owe no debt but love (13:8)

b. Fulfilling the Law through love (13:9-10)

c. Knowing the time (13:11-14)