

A prayer for living under authority in this world

This prayer from Scotty Smith is quite a nice reflection and application for our mindset when it comes to world governments and authorities in the light of what we heard in Romans 13 last week.

“Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Jer. 29:7 (NIV)

Heavenly Father, these words are pretty shocking. You called your people to bring a redemptive presence in the pagan land of Babylon, where you sent them into exile. Rather than making it their goal to get out of Babylon, they were to bring the firstfruits of your kingdom there—even to Babylon.

Help us, as well, to live and love to your glory—no matter our passport, the political atmosphere, or how pleased or disgusted we are with the government. Instead of being cynics, may we be servants and intercessors; instead of withdrawing out of disgust, may we be engaged with hope and kindness; instead of seeking judgment on our government, may we seek its peace and prosperity; instead of throwing political grenades, may we seek love mercy and work for justice in our communities.

Honour everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the emperor. 1 Pet. 2:17 (ESV)

Show us how to honour our “emperor,” and others in authority—when it’s easy, and when it’s very hard. Our confidence is in the One who sits on the throne of heaven, not the one who sits in any other seat of authority. It still boggles my mind that Nero was emperor when Peter wrote these words, “Honour the emperor.”

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. Phil. 3:20 (NIV)

Father, herein lies our peace and joy, freedom and hope. Our truest, most defining and binding citizenship is in heaven. As we seek to obey human authorities as your delegated servants, so we will gladly obey you above all men. Give us grace and courage for the coming days, when obeying you will be costlier than we can imagine.

As Jesus’ kingdom has already appeared, so one Day it will come in fullness. We eagerly await Jesus’ return, for on that Day “the kingdom of the world will become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever” (Rev. 11:15). So very Amen we pray, with hope and joy, in Jesus’ name.



10 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.

This Week: Church Worship : Welcome and Serve

A worshipful church is a family of believers who have a thoroughly welcoming attitude and are committed to serving others and their faith.

by Pastor Ben Ho

Next Week:

[Romans 15:14—16:27]



Today’s Service

- Welcome and Singing** Servant of the Gospel
Before You I Kneel
Live for the Kingdom
- Holy Communion**
- Offering**
- Community News**
- Bible Reading** Romans 14:1—15:13
- Sermon** By Pastor Ben Ho
- Song of Response** O How Good It Is!

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

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Financial Update

Last Week	\$5,364.85
Weekly Required	\$5,520
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

PRAISE GOD FOR THE GOVERNING OFFICIALS WE LIVE UNDER. Praise God that we live in a society and country that values each citizen. Pray that we would not take this for granted, and live as good citizens of this world, knowing that our eternal citizenship is secure through Jesus. Pray for our elected officials to govern well, justly, with wisdom, and for the benefit of our diverse community.

PRAY FOR OUR SLE CHURCH VISION. Pray that as the vision for SLE Church is revealed that we would prayerfully consider it, asking God for wisdom, humbly give feedback, and once affirmed that we, as a church, would together seek to implement it into our church, fellowship groups, and personal lives. Pray that through this vision a gospel unity, that we value so much, would grow among us.

PRAY FOR THE STUDENTS in middle of swotvac and exams. Pray as they study for their exams and finish assessment that they will be rested and sustained for the weeks ahead. Pray for thankfulness for what they have learned in this time—a reminder that all the truths they have encountered are ultimately your truths revealed in creation. Pray also that they will prioritise their spiritual growth even in this very busy time.

Community News

GROW WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

When we see so much wrong in our world and in us, and all seems out of control, how do we keep going? Who and what do we hang on to? Is our only choice to just keep calm and carry on... hoping all will be OK?

Come to GROW 2018 and meet Jesus through the book of Habakkuk. Bewildered by so much that is wrong everywhere, Habakkuk cries to God in protest. God's answer is unexpected, glorious, and personal. Habakkuk listened. Are we listening too?

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 (including morning tea and lunch).

Serving

	Today	Next Week
Chair	Simeon <i>David</i>	Gabriel
Preach	Ps Ben	Ps Ben
Bible Read	Simeon <i>Jessica</i>	Boon Cheng <i>Alice</i>
M.Tea	Karilyn Boon	Winnie Tao Corina
Wash Up	Clay	SOS Central
Welcome	Ken Steph Dan	Ken Steph Dan
	<i>Benedict</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>David</i> <i>Hui Xian</i>	<i>Benedict</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>David</i> <i>Hui Xian</i>
Stewards	Jeffery Simeon <i>DT</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Sarah</i>	Jeffery Simeon <i>Helen</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Sarah</i>
Piano	Joanna	Dan Lowe
Guitar	Jabez	Dom
Bass	Chuan Yuan	Chuan Yuan
Drums		
Vocal	Sharne	Alisha
PA	Matt <i>Daniel</i>	Li Wei <i>Chris</i>

Church Worship: Welcome and Serve

[Romans 14:1–15:13]

1. Introduction

2. Welcome; don't quarrel and judge (14:1-12)

i. Why? God's welcome

ii. Why? Jesus only is master

3. Serve; don't hinder, but build up (14:13—15:13)

A. Never hinder faith (14:13-23)

i. Why? Family > Food

ii. Why? Kingdom > Food

iii. Why? Faith > Food

B. Always please and build up (15:1-13)

i. Why? Jesus' example

ii. Why? Worship that glorifies God

4. Conclusion