

## The Storytelling God

For those who are fans of the Marvel comics, and the marvel Cinematic Universe, there was some sad news this week. The legend among fans, founder and writer Stan Lee passed away at the age of 95.

At the news of his passing many fans, old and new, paid tribute to the man. The tributes ran with a familiar theme: many gave thanks to the man who gave them great characters and great stories.

In the week I read up a bit more on what made Stan Lee and his pantheon of characters stand out. An unusual trait seemed to be noted by many commentators: the ordinariness of the characters. The prime example of this is Spiderman: a teenager struggling with his own personal anxieties, while at the same time wrestling with the burden of the responsibilities that his powers have bestowed upon him. These very human qualities made Lee's characters so relatable.

And that further translated to the stories that he told. Comic books are not the height of literature, but the stories they reached a generation—and when they became movies, well, the box office success is proof enough that the stories being told are resonating with audiences.

Story. Narrative. The development of characters, challenging events, problems that need to be resolved, endings that are sometimes expected, subversive, and/or wonderfully surprising. There's something about a good story that connects with our heads, our hearts, and our imaginations.

Humans are the only creatures known to tell stories. Storytelling appears across every generation and culture. It would appear that we have been created to know and tell stories.

And that would make sense too of how much of the Bible contains stories. Narratives of God's people, thrown into various challenging situations, with actions and endings that often subvert our expectations and surprise us. And perhaps the most surprising thing of all: the Bible, written by 40-plus authors over 1500 years tells one united story of God seeking out and redeeming people to Himself.

Our God is a storytelling God. And He invites ordinary characters struggling with sins, anxieties, and responsibilities in life—us—into His big story, where Jesus is the main Hero, who defeats the biggest enemy, and will one day return as a King to finally rescue His bride. Thank you Stan Lee for writing fun stories. Praise You God for writing the greatest story of all.



18 November 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](http://www.slechurch.org.au).

### This Week: Proverbs #4— Wisdom In Our Wealth

Wealth is a blessing from God, but it isn't God and we mustn't love it. Instead our wealth is to be used to honour God and serve the higher priorities of God's purposes for us.

**Next Week:** Proverbs— Wisdom in our Work

PROVERBS

Practical  
wisdom for  
everyday  
living.

## Today's Service

<b>Welcome and Singing</b>	This Life I Live When I Survey The Wondrous Cross You Made Us Your Own
<b>Holy Communion</b>	
<b>Offering</b>	
<b>Community News</b>	
<b>Bible Reading</b>	Proverbs 22; 30:7-9 Luke 16:10-15
<b>Sermon</b>	By Pastor Ben Ho
<b>Song of Response</b>	Undivided

## Stay Connected

-  [facebook.com/slechurch](https://facebook.com/slechurch)
-  [slechurch.org.au](http://slechurch.org.au)
-  +61 7 3371 7589
-  [info@slechurch.org.au](mailto:info@slechurch.org.au)
-  83 Ryans Road, St Lucia 4067

Check out [slechurch.org.au/groups](http://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

**Mobile:** +61 433 581 335

**Email:** ben.ho@slechurch.org.au

### PASTOR STEVEN TRAN

**Mobile:** +61 411 621 159

**Email:** steven.tran@slechurch.org.au

## Financial Update

Last Week	\$4,871.29
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 THAT HE IS A GOD WHO SPEAKS!** Praise God that in scripture He reveals His nature, character, grace and mercy. Praise God that He has finally and fully revealed Himself to us through His Son, Jesus Christ. Pray that we would be a people who love God's Word because we love that God speaks and can be known.

**PRAY FOR OUR WORDS TO WISELY** reflect the goodness of our God who speaks. Pray that our words would be marked by gentleness (not harshness), peace (not anger), love (not hate), grace and mercy (not legalism). Pray that we use our words to encourage, build up, and give life to each other. (Why not pray for each other now!)

**PRAISE GOD FOR THE END OF EXAMS.** Praise God for opportunities to learn and study. Pray that the information tested will not be retained purely for the exam, but in thanksgiving that all knowledge is God's knowledge, and in humbleness that God has graciously given our students the chance to learn about His world.

**PRAY FOR PASTOR BEN'S UPCOMING LONG SERVICE LEAVE.** Praise God for his faithful ministry these past 10 years. Pray for a restful and renewing time with his family, as they visit other churches to be encouraged by other like-minded ministries. Pray for safe travel to Singapore and Malaysia as they catch up with former students and ex-SLEers, as well as grow our partnership with various ministries over there.

## Community News

### YRS 1-6 SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Sunday School Christmas Program for Yrs 1-6 are as below. Parents please encourage your children to pass the invitations that they have been given to their friends. For more information please email Grace at grace.phon@gmail.com

18 November 9-10:30am

25 November 9-12noon (Christmas party at St Lucia Playground Park from 11am)

2 December 9=10:30am

### TOGETHER FOR THE GOSPEL – 25 NOV @ BRISBANE CITY HALL

Brisbane City Hall | Sunday, 25 November 2018 | 7:00pm

Tickets: \$10 from <https://www.qtc.edu.au/event/together/>

### PURPOSE DRIVEN BIBLE STUDIES WORKSHOP | 18 NOV 1:10PM-3:30PM | NORTH HALL

If you haven't signed up but would still like to come, please do.

### IGNITE TRAINING CONFERENCE 2019 | 14-18 JANUARY

Head to <https://ignitetrainingconference.com/> for registration and conference details.

## Serving

	Today	Next Week
<b>Chair</b>	Ps Steven	Randy
<b>Preach</b>	Ps Ben	Ps Ben
<b>Bible Read</b>	Boon Cheng <i>Ps Steven</i>	Andrew <i>Dan Lowe</i>
<b>M.Tea</b>	Gen Lee  Lilian	Eilen  Cecilia
<b>Wash Up</b>	Sunday YF	Sunday YF
<b>Welcome</b>	Philip  Mee-Lan  Meng Yin  <i>Andrew</i>  <i>Marcus</i>  <i>Hui Xian</i>  <i>Joy</i>	Philip  Mee-Lan  Meng Yin  <i>Andrew</i>  <i>Marcus</i>  <i>Hui Xian</i>  <i>Joy</i>
<b>Stewards</b>	Jeffrey  Jordan  <i>Stanley</i>  <i>Yong Seng</i>  <i>Aaron</i>	Jeffrey  Jordan  <i>Stanley</i>  <i>Yong Seng</i>  <i>Aaron</i>
<b>Piano</b>	Dan Lowe	Joanna
<b>Guitar</b>	Dom/Mark	Jabez
<b>Bass</b>	Ethan	Chuans
<b>Drums</b>	Marcus	Ivan
<b>Vocal</b>	Shaun	Sarah/Joachim
<b>PA</b>	Reuten  <i>Daniel</i>	William  <i>Jowin</i>

# Wisdom in Our Wealth [Proverbs]

1. Introduction: The Prosperity and Austerity 'Gospel'

2. The Goodness of Wealth

A. Blessing

B. Influence

C. Security

3. The Limitations of Wealth

A. Curse

B. Influence?

C. Insecurity

4. The Lower Priority of Wealth

5. Practical Wisdom in our Wealth

A. Love God, not money.

B. Generosity... towards God's highest priorities

6. Conclusion