

A Fresh Start

And in the blink of an eye 2018 is gone, and 2019 is upon us. I've heard that the older you get the more you feel time pass quickly by. This might be to do with having experienced so much already, but I'd also like to think that the God who put eternity into our hearts (cf Ecclesiastes 3:11) has also set a timer so that as we get older we feel it all the more. We were made for something more, and the older we get, the more time passes, the more we feel this.

Often in response we busy ourselves – we pack our schedules, we increase our workload, we put our heads down and hurry about our daily lives. But each and every one of us, in the quiet moments when there is nothing we can do (perhaps before we drift off to sleep), each ask the same question: 'Where has the time gone?'

And in that question is the ticking of the timer, reminding us that eternity is around the corner.

Francis Chan, pastor and speaker, uses an illustration that Ben and I have used before as well. He brings into his talk a long piece of rope – long enough to go around the stage, and around the hall/room he is speaking in. He asks us to picture this rope as a timeline – stretching infinitely off into eternity. He then holds one end up which has approximately 10cm covered in red tape. This 10cm of red tape represents our lives in contrast to eternity.

Here's the punch of this illustration: we spend about 2.5cm of the first part of that line being born and educated. The next 4cm of that rope we spend working, sometimes very hard, to enjoy the final 3cm or so. There is nothing inherently wrong with this – but how much of this precious small red tape of life is spent preparing and helping others prepare for the eternity to come?

2018 is gone. 2019 is upon us. Would that we use this coming year not just being busy with ourselves and our own preoccupations, but pray that we all might use this coming year well to prepare for the eternity that awaits us, and help others around us to do the same.



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: Encounters with Jesus— How do I make a fresh start?

by David Cook

Next Week: John 2



Today's Service

Welcome and Singing	See the Man
	Man of Sorrows
	Precious Blood
Holy Communion	
Offering	
Community News	
Bible Reading	John 3:14-16
Sermon	By David Cook
Song of Response	I will glory in my Redeemer

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	\$7,530
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 2018. Praise God that in all the pain, sorrow, trials, joys, and re-joining God remained sovereign over the year. Pray that we would continue to trust him, especially in the difficulties that may cross from 2018 to 2019.

PRAY FOR JESUS-CENTRED REFLECTION on the year that has been. Pray that God would help us recall the challenges and encouragements we have received from His Word. Pray that we would reflect in a way that asks how we have understood Jesus more, and how we have grown in our trust and joy in knowing Him.

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER as we continue to reflect. May we use this time of the year to meet together to encourage each other towards Christ-likeness, and to keep persevering in this long race together.

Community News

IGNITE TRAINING CONFERENCE 2019 | 14-18 JANUARY

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

SERVICE TIME CHANGES ETC OVER DECEMBER–JANUARY

Please note that from 16 December to 27 January, the 11:30am service at the South Hall will be changed to 11am service at the North Hall.

Please note that from 9 December to 27 January, for both 9am service and the 11:30/11am service will have the overflow available at the White Door Room.

Serving

	Today	Next Week
Chair	Bryan	Mike Husband
Preach	David Cook	Chris Lung
Bible Read	Jansen <i>Alice</i>	Simeon <i>Dan Lowe</i>
M.Tea	Eileen Genevieve	Winnie Tao
Wash Up	SOS Dan	SOS Randy
Welcome	Ken Steph Dan <i>Joy</i> <i>Leya</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>Bryan</i>	
Stewards	Simeon Richard <i>Helen</i> <i>Josh</i> <i>Josiah</i>	
Piano	Joanna	
Guitar	Joachim	
Bass	Ivan	
Drums	Marcus	
Vocal	Sarah	
PA	Matt <i>Daniel</i>	William <i>Chris</i>

How Do I Make A Fresh Start? [John 3:14-16]

Preacher: David Cook Passage: John 3:14-16

Notes:

I never knew:

I was reminded:

I still want to know:

Something I should change:

A Biblical truth I could share:

With (names):

A key verse:

My prayer response (repentance/thanks/praise):