

The Art of Apologising

I did it again. Through a bad assumption, speaking too soon, or a poor assumption I messed up and hurt some relationship. After dithering on who should apologise first, the Spirit often convicts me to make the first move. So how do I go about doing this?

The Bible says a lot about our words, and Proverbs in particular is littered with advice. Kind words can benefit us (11:17), gives life (15:4), and bear fruit for others to enjoy (18:21). The New Testament also has its fair share of words about words. Colossians reminds us to ensure our conversations are always full of grace (4:6), Peter warns us to keep our tongues from evil (1 Pet 3:10), and James devotes an entire section in his epistle warning of the dangers of the tongue (1:19-26). Jesus Himself reminds us that what comes out of our mouths has its origins in our hearts (Matt 15:11).

There isn't a set formula for how to apologise and reconcile relationships. But there are a few principles that we can draw from scripture and biblical wisdom to help us work out the best way forward. So, non-exhaustively, here are some thoughts:

Own the issue. We must begin by acknowledging our error and the hurt it has caused—and we must do this totally. David does this in Psalm 51. In his helpful little booklet 'Resolving Everyday Conflict' Ken Sande says something along the lines that you might only be responsible for 10% of the issue, but you are 100% responsible for that 10%. And in fact, we're probably responsible for a bigger percentage than our minds have justified. So begin your apology for everything you are responsible for.

Give a full explanation. When my kids fight and they have to apologise to each other it's tempting just to get them to say sorry—but that would be of no benefit to them. So I not only get them to explain what they did, but why they did it. We need to be in that habit as well. Not that our explanation excuses us, but in giving the wider context we are reminding ourselves of the weight of our sin and its roots.

Seek forgiveness. Move from 'I'm sorry' to seeking forgiveness—of asking the person in front of you to forgive your wrong and the hurt caused, and to both move towards a reconciled relationship.

Remind yourself of the gospel. Remind yourself that forgiveness is ultimately, perfectly, and fully given to us in the gospel—and that compels us to love and forgive each other. Ground your apology in praise to God for the gospel.



15 September 2019 | 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: Union with Christ 4— Sanctified in Christ

We were created to be holy to God. This gives us our identity and value, and it is what being truly human is. We rejected God and became unholy, but those who are united with Christ are sanctified in Christ and restored as God's holy people.

**Next Sunday: Union with Christ 5
— Together in Christ**



Today's Service

Welcome and Singing	Yet Not I but through Christ in Me Undivided All I Have is Christ
Holy Communion	
Offering	
Community News	
Bible Reading	Isaiah 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
Sermon	By Pastor Ben Ho
Song of Response	In His Image

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

SENIOR PASTOR BEN HO

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Financial Update

Last Week	\$8,183.21
Weekly Required	\$5,750.00
Shortfall 2019	\$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 BY UNION WITH CHRIST ALL THAT IS HIS BELONGS TO US!

Praise God that we are made righteous and justified by faith in Jesus. Praise God that faith unites us to Jesus so that His righteousness becomes our own. Praise God that when He does this work it demonstrates His grace and upholds His justice.

PRAISE GOD FOR THE NEW LIFE WE

HAVE in union with Christ. Praise God that our dead selves are now united with Jesus and raised to life. Pray that we would mold our view of ourselves—particularly our sanctification—around being united to Jesus. Pray that we would continue to forsake sin and turn to true joy in living wholeheartedly for Jesus.

PRAY FOR CHURCH CAMP. Keep praying for the final preparations for the camp to go smoothly, that the talks and worships will be edifying, encouraging and helpful, and for the safety of our members driving to and from the campsite.

PRAY FOR THE QUEENSLAND

BUSHFIRES AND DROUGHT. Pray that in God's common grace He will restrict the damage of the many bushfires that are burning across Queensland. Pray also for rain. Pray that our farmers would be supported well during this difficult season.

Community News

Serving

	Today	Next Sunday
Chair	Ps Steven	Josh
Prayer	Faith <i>Ivy</i>	Ps Ben <i>Ps Ben</i>
Preach	Ps Ben	Ps Ben
Bible Read	Boon Cheng <i>Alan</i>	Matthew <i>Marilyn</i>
M.Tea	Winnie T/	Yee Lin/Lillian
Wash Up	SOS Central	SOS Dan
Welcome	Philip Mee Lan Esther <i>Andrew</i> <i>Marcus</i> <i>Nethanel</i>	Philip Mee Lan Esther <i>Andrew</i> <i>Marcus</i> <i>Nethanel</i>
Stewards	Richard Sunny Norman <i>Cam</i> <i>Yong Seng</i> <i>Helen</i>	Richard Sunny Norman <i>Cam</i> <i>Yong Seng</i> <i>Helen</i>
Piano	Dan Lowe	Dan Lowe
Guitar	Keith	Shao Peng/ Mark
Bass	Ethan	Ivan
Drums	John	Nigel
Vocal	Alisha	Hui Ming
PA	Chris/Matt C <i>Daniel</i>	Matt T/Matt Z <i>Jowin</i>

Union with Christ #4: Sanctified in Christ

1. Introduction: Holiness... who wants it?

2. Sanctification: What is it?

3. Sanctification and Me

A. Created to be holy

B. Becoming unholy

4. Sanctified in Christ

A. Jesus is our sanctification (definitive)

B. Sanctified to be more like Jesus (progressive)

5. Sanctification: Do You Want It?

A. Do you want to be God's again?

B. Do you want to be human again?