

A Prayer About Non-Selective Compassion (Scotty Smith)

You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realising that God's kindness leads you toward repentance? Romans 2:1-4

Heavenly Father, it's a good thing we begin each day with the promise of Your steadfast love and new mercies, because this Scripture just reminded me how much I will need the gospel today. The call to love others as Jesus loves me humbles me like nothing else. Hear my cry for mercy and grace.

As I meditate on this passage I'm convicted about being way too selective in my love for other sinners. I'm a selective lover, Father. I'm not an equal opportunity dispenser of Your compassion and grace.

It's not difficult for me to show the riches of Your kindness, tolerance and patience on people whose sins and struggles are like mine. But I'm often self-righteous and judgmental towards people who deal with temptations different than mine. Though understandable, it's not excusable. Have mercy on me, Father, for the extending of Your mercy through me. I'm the "mere man" Paul wrote about in this passage. No one has appointed me to be judge and jury of anyone.

May Your great kindness lead me to repent quicker and deeper of my sins. Help me grieve and deal with my heterosexual lust to a greater degree than I'm vexed about friends who struggle with homosexual temptations and entanglements. Help me to be more offended when I become a serial killer on the inside, than annoyed by the loud gossip and rants of others. May I be more concerned about my prayer-less unbelief than I'm critical of other people's lack of discipline and Biblical knowledge. Father, these are just a few things that come to mind. I know there's more... many more.

Lord Jesus, You willingly took the judgment I deserve on the cross—the fullness of God's righteous wrath. And now You love us with the fullness of compassion, acceptance and delight. The greatest non-sequitur in life is for me to show contempt for the riches of God's "kindness, tolerance and patience" which I have in You. Deepen my repentance and deepen my compassion for fellow broken sinners. Change me, because I cannot change myself. So very Amen, I pray, in Your righteous and loving name.



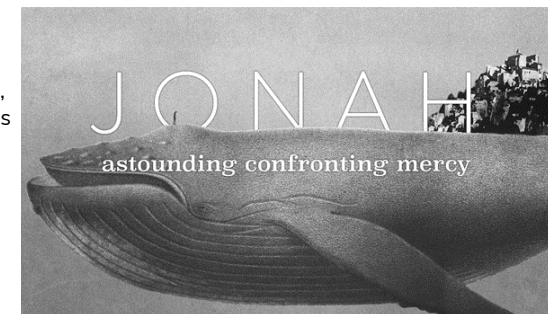
23 February 2020 | Service Times: 9am & 11:30am

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: Jonah — Meeting the World

Jonah, who says he fears God, runs away from His command; whereas pagans, who do not know God, through a storm come to fear and worship God. This highlights God's expansive mercy—Jonah's unwillingness to embrace it and rejects it, and the pagan sailors receiving of it.



Next Week: Jonah 2

Today's Service

Welcome and Singing	10,000 Reasons
	Only a Holy God
	Glorious Day
Holy Communion	
Offering	
Community News	
Bible Reading	Jonah 1:1-16; Mark 4:35-41
Sermon	By Pastor Steven Tran
Song of Response	Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

Stay Connected

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Check out sle.church/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	\$5,407.00
Weekly Required	\$6,280.00
Shortfall 2020	\$1,408.00

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 FIRM FOUNDATIONS SERMON SERIES.
Thank God that the foundations of our faith are steeped in the grace of God.
Thank God for the clarity He gives for what it means to be and live as Christians.

PRAY THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO BUILD OUR LIVES on the firm foundations of the faith, grounded always in the gracious gospel of Jesus Christ. We have been saved by grace through faith. We have been saved to a new life. We have been given the wonderful gift of God's word, prayer and the church. And we are to live in this world as shining lights and witnesses to Jesus, making the most of our time, through our actions and words, to honour Christ and make Him known.

THANK GOD FOR THE SHORT, YET WONDERFULLY PROFOUND AND CHALLENGING BOOK OF JONAH. Pray that God would astound and confront us with the mercy He reveals through this book.

PRAY FOR THE NEW UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC YEAR. Thank God for new and returning students. Pray for a smooth transition into a new year and a wisdom and awareness to work out how to live faithfully as followers of Christ, children of God.

Community News

Serving

	Today	Next Sunday
Chair	Mervin	Ps Steven
Prayer	Faith <i>Ps Ben</i>	Ps Steven <i>Ps Steven</i>
Preach	Ps Steven	Ps Ben
Bible Read	Alice <i>Alan</i>	Boon Cheng <i>Marilyn</i>
M.Tea	Winnie T.	SwEE VIE, Georgie
Wash Up	Sunday YF	Sunday YF
Welcome	Wen Marie Richard <i>Merv, Marcus</i> <i>Lydia, Jabez</i> <i>Sarah</i>	Ken Steph Esther <i>Steve, Andrew</i> <i>Marilyn, Sean</i> <i>Jun Hao</i>
Stewards	John Meng Yin Norman <i>Helen</i> <i>Camer</i> <i>Josh</i>	Sunny Philip Graham <i>Edwina</i> <i>Aaron</i> <i>Alan</i>
Piano	Joanna Pan	Joanna Pan
Guitar	Mark/	Keith
Bass	Liesl	Liesl
Drums	Andrew	Ivan
Vocal	Shaun/ Amanda	Huiming
PA	Matt Z <i>Daniel, Millie</i>	Reuten <i>Stan, Caroline</i>

Rejected Mercy [Jonah 1:1-16]

Introduction:

Introducing the main actors

- Nineveh

- Jonah, son of Amittai (2 Kings 14:25)

1. Jonah and God (1:1-3)

2. Jonah and the Sailors (1:4-16)
- a. The Hurlled Storm (1:4-10)

b. The fear-filled men (1:11-16)

3. Jonah and the Pursuing God

So what?

Fearing the One sleeping in the boat

“I am a Christian and I fear God...”