



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

19-21 February 2016

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 (NIV)

The LORD's Covenant With Abram

15 After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

"Do not be afraid, Abram.
I am your shield,
your very great reward."

² But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?"

³ And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir."

⁴ Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir."

⁵ He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

⁶ Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

⁷ He also said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it."

⁸ But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?"

⁹ So the LORD said to him, "Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon."

¹⁰ Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half. ¹¹ Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him.

"I am fundamentally an optimist. Whether that comes from nature or nurture, I cannot say. Part of being optimistic is keeping one's head pointed toward the sun, one's feet moving forward. There were many dark moments when my faith in humanity was sorely tested, but I would not and could not give myself up to despair. That way lays defeat and death."

~ Nelson Mandela, Long Walk to Freedom:
Autobiography of Nelson Mandela

PEEL VALLEY CONGREGATION

Our goal: "To be transformed communities, experiencing, enjoying & sharing the gift of the friendship of Jesus."

Mission: "Called to be Free, Gifted to Serve."

Pastoral Care: Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

Elders: Margaret Crowell Barbara Murray Doss Wark
Ross Davidson Bruce Jarrett



Psalms 27 (NIV)

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation—
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life—
of whom shall I be afraid?

² When the wicked advance against me
to devour me,

it is my enemies and my foes
who will stumble and fall.

³ Though an army besiege me,
my heart will not fear;
though war break out against me,
even then I will be confident.

⁴ One thing I ask from the LORD,
this only do I seek:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,

to gaze on the beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.

⁵ For in the day of trouble
he will keep me safe in his dwelling;
he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent
and set me high upon a rock.

⁶ Then my head will be exalted
above the enemies who surround me;
at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷ Hear my voice when I call, LORD;
be merciful to me and answer me.

⁸ My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"
Your face, LORD, I will seek.

⁹ Do not hide your face from me,
do not turn your servant away in anger;
you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me,
God my Saviour.

¹⁰ Though my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will receive me.

¹¹ Teach me your way, LORD;
lead me in a straight path
because of my oppressors.

¹² Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,
for false witnesses rise up against me,
spouting malicious accusations.

¹³ I remain confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.

¹⁴ Wait for the LORD;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the LORD.

*Be faithful in the little things
And God will give you more.
Be faithful in the little things
And He'll open the door. ~ Christina Morley*

..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus



Praise point - Anna Debenham has a new job which will see her using her skills in the community. We thank God that the right role has come up for Anna, and wish her joy and satisfaction in it.

IN OUR PRAYERS

- Doss Wark is home from hospital. We pray that her health continues to improve.
- We pray for Glenda Whitten, who has been experiencing a lot of pain recently.
- We pray for the people of Christchurch who experienced another earthquake last Sunday.
- We pray for Elaine and Leanne, neighbours of Myra and Bill. Their husband and father, Eric, died this week.

Meg's Musings

I thank God for all of the faithful members of our congregation. One of the lectionary readings for this week speaks of some religious leaders approaching Jesus, and warning him of the dangers of continuing to travel towards Jerusalem. Jesus would not be persuaded to change his course. Many of our congregation have continued to lead fruitful, faithful lives, despite the "roadblocks" thrown up by life. Together, and individually, you are an inspiration to many - as well as being a blessing to the people around you.

Blessings from Meg



Luke 13:31-35 (NIV)

Jesus' Sorrow for Jerusalem

³¹ At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you."

³² He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.'

³³ In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!

³⁴ "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.

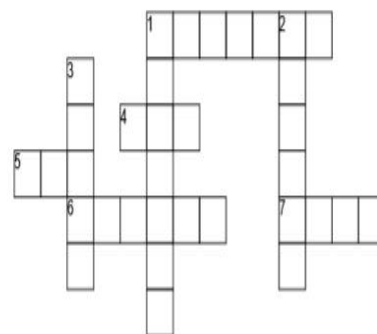
³⁵ Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The Fox and the Hen

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!" Luke 13:34 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on Luke 13:31-35.



ACROSS

1. To keep safe from harm
4. An animal similar to a wolf or dog that has a long bushy tail
5. A female chicken
6. To bring together in one place.
7. To put to death

DOWN

1. A person who teaches the will of God. Isaiah, for example.
2. Baby chickens
3. Feather-covered limbs a bird uses for flying.

Philippians 3:17 - 4:1 (NIV)

¹⁷ Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. ¹⁸ For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Closing Appeal for Steadfastness and Unity

4 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

**Whatever you sow,
you will reap, and
your life will show it**



Ships don't sink because of the water around them, Ships sink because of the water that gets in them. So, don't let what happens around you get inside and weigh you down.

	1st Sunday of the month	4th Sunday of the month
	~ Luncheon @ West	~ Markets @ Hallsville
	3rd Sunday of the month	28 February
	~Trading Table @ West Tamworth	

CHURCH SERVICES

26 February 6pm	Hallsville	~ John Nash
17 February 8am	Gowrie	~ John Nash
17 February 11am	West	~ John Nash

..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus