



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

4-6 March 2016

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Joshua 5:9-12 (NRSV)

⁹ The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

The Passover at Gilgal

¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 (NRSV)

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Psalms 32(NRSV)

The Joy of Forgiveness

¹ Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
² Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
³ While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.
⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah*
⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah*
⁶ Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.
⁷ You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. *Selah*
⁸ I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
⁹ Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.
¹⁰ Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.
¹¹ Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

CHURCH SERVICES

11 March	6pm	Hallsville	~ NO SERVICE
13 March	8am	Gowrie	~ NO SERVICE
13 March	9am	Hallsville	~ Meg Mangan HC
13 March	11am	West	~ Meg Mangan HC
18 March	6pm	Hallsville	~ Rev S Hansoford
20 March	8am	Gowrie	~ Ross Davidson
20 March	11am	West	~ Rev Bill Fischer
25 March	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE ~ Rev Chris Wright		
27 March	8am	Gowrie	~ NO SERVICE
27 March	11AM	West	~ Trevor Forrester

GIVE IT TO GOD

And stop worrying!



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

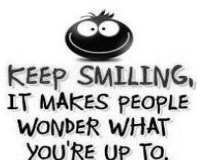
Elders: Margaret Crowell Barbara Murray Doss Wark
Ross Davidson Bruce Jarrett



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

9 March ~ Barry Constable

The first step toward change is awareness. The second step is acceptance. ~ Nathaniel Branden



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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- Viv Chaffey is back at McKay House, and is looking well.
- Pat Hoyt would appreciate our continued prayers. She has now been in considerable pain for 5 months.
- We are thankful for all the people who have helped with the bus over the past ten years or so. We pray that the new system of using taxis works well for everyone in the West Tamworth congregation. Thank-you to Fay for volunteering as our transport co-ordinator.
- Patrick Johnston has now moved to St.Andrews Village. We pray that he will be very happy there.



Meg's Musings

This weeks' gospel reading is "The Prodigal Son". I read an interesting perspective on it this week. Some theologians think that the father ran to the son when he saw him in the distance because he wanted to save his son from embarrassing stares and a lack of acceptance from others within the village.

The father cared deeply how his son would be treated by others, and showed a real empathy for this young man who had left his village to seek excitement and fun. He was showing everyone that he was ready to welcome his son, no matter what his circumstances were

It can be hard to feel welcoming towards someone who has hurt us, or who displays a different set of values to our own. But, if we try, God can help us to love and accept everyone.

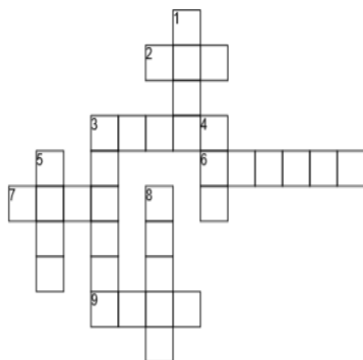


Blessings from Meg

The Parable of the Lost Son

So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. Luke 15:20 (NLT)

The puzzle is based on Luke 15:11-32



ACROSS

2. Farm animals with pink, brown, or black skin, short legs, and a flat nose.
3. A large special meal to celebrate something or honor someone.
6. A large amount of money and other valuable possessions.
7. To not be able to be found. (I ____ my dog.)
9. A piece of jewelry, generally made of precious metal and worn on the finger.

DOWN

1. To touch or press your lips against another person as a greeting or to express love.
3. A male parent.
4. The number that is equal to one plus one.
5. Your male children.
8. When something which was lost has been relocated. (I ____ my dog).

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 (NRSV)

15 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: The Parable of the Prodigal and His Brother

^{11b} "There was a man who had two sons.

¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them.

¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living.

¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need.

¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs.

¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger!

¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;

¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'"

²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.

²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.

²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on.

²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.'

²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"



1st Sunday of the month

~ Luncheon @ West

3rd Sunday of the month

~Trading Table @ West Tamworth

4th Sunday of the month

~ Markets @ Hallsville

27 March

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