



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

22-24 April 2016

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

## Acts 11:1-18 (NIV)

### Peter Explains His Actions

11 The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God.

<sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him <sup>3</sup> and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them."

<sup>4</sup> Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story:

<sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was.

<sup>6</sup> I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds.

<sup>7</sup> Then I heard a voice telling me, 'Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.'

<sup>8</sup> "I replied, 'Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.'

<sup>9</sup> "The voice spoke from heaven a second time, 'Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.'

<sup>10</sup> This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again.

<sup>11</sup> "Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying.

<sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house.

<sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter.

<sup>14</sup> He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.'

<sup>15</sup> "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning.

<sup>16</sup> Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'

<sup>17</sup> So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God's way?"

<sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life."

"It is an absolute human certainty that no one can know his own beauty or perceive a sense of his own worth until it has been reflected back to him in the mirror of another loving, caring human being."

~ John Joseph Powell

Hatred does not cease through hatred at any time. Hatred ceases through love. This is an unalterable law. ~ Buddha

## Psalms 148 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights above.

<sup>2</sup> Praise him, all his angels;  
praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

<sup>3</sup> Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you shining stars.

<sup>4</sup> Praise him, you highest heavens  
and you waters above the skies.

<sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for at his command they were created,

<sup>6</sup> and he established them for ever and ever—  
he issued a decree that will never pass away.

<sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you great sea creatures and all ocean depths,

<sup>8</sup> lightning and hail, snow and clouds,  
stormy winds that do his bidding,

<sup>9</sup> you mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars,

<sup>10</sup> wild animals and all cattle,  
small creatures and flying birds,

<sup>11</sup> kings of the earth and all nations,  
you princes and all rulers on earth,

<sup>12</sup> young men and women,  
old men and children.

<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is exalted;

his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

<sup>14</sup> And he has raised up for his people a horn,  
the praise of all his faithful servants,  
of Israel, the people close to his heart.

Praise the LORD.

## Revelations 21:1-6 (NIV)

### A New Heaven and a New Earth

21 Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.

<sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

<sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

<sup>4</sup> 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

<sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

<sup>6</sup> He said to me: "It is done.

I am the Alpha and the Omega,  
the Beginning and the End.

To the thirsty I will give water

without cost from the spring of the water of life.



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



### PRAYER OINTS

- We continue to pray for Audrey, Laura and Moses. Audrey is home from Westmead, but continuing to have problems.
- We pray for Jim and Heather Newton as Jim continues to improve after hip surgery.
- Myra Forrester spent time in hospital earlier in the week, but is now home again. We pray for improvement in her health.
- We give thanks that Beulah and Fay are improving after the 'flu.
- We pray for Beth and Peter Scorgie, Pat Hoyt and Barbara Murray. Each of them have continuing health problems.



### John 13:31-35 (NIV)

#### Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial

- <sup>31</sup> When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him.
- <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.
- <sup>33</sup> "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.
- <sup>34</sup> "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.
- <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

### Meg's Musings

#### "Love one another."

What a seemingly simple directive - and what difficulties we have in following that command!

Each of us comes with our own understanding of what "love" is, and isn't. Our perceptions are formed from our earliest days

Because the people who taught us about love also had differing, and imperfect, ideas of what "love" is, we flounder about, trying awkwardly to sort it out for ourselves.

Of course, the perfect example of what "love" is all about is Jesus. His stories, such as The Good Samaritan and The Prodigal Son show us glimpses of what love can be. But the stories are from long ago, and provoke as many questions as answers.

So how should we "love one another"? The formula "What Would Jesus Do" offers many solutions. The trick is to ask the question at the time, rather than afterwards. After all, Jesus is there beside us, each step of the way. He is always more than ready to answer such a question..... Are we ready to ask it?

Blessings from Meg



"Don't waste your time looking back, you're not going that way." ~Ragnar Lothbrok



"Where there is love there is life." ~ Gandhi

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

22 April ~ Mavis Chaffey  
28 April ~ Jean Stratford



Announcement: Simon Hansford has been made Moderator Elect for the NSW Uniting Church Synod. We congratulate Simon, who will be made Moderator in October 2017.

### CHURCH SERVICES

29 April	6pm pm	Hallsville	~ Jim Newton
1 May	8.30 am	Gowrie	~ Jim Newton <b>HC</b>
1 May	9am	Hallsville	~ NO SERVICE
1 May	11am	West	~ Jim Newton

### 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



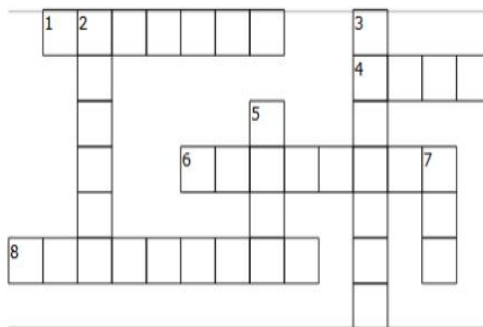
A new commandment I give unto you,  
that you love one another as I have loved you,  
that you love one another as I have loved you.  
By this shall all know that you are my disciples,  
if you have love one for another;  
by this shall all know that you are my disciples:  
if you have love one for another.

If you truly loved yourself, you could never hurt another. ~ Buddha

### Jesus Loves Us All

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:35 (NIV)

Based on John 13:31-35




#### ACROSS

- An order or a rule given with authority
- To have feelings of compassion and concern for another person
- Boys and girls between birth and puberty
- Those who follow the teachings of Jesus

#### DOWN

- People aside from oneself
- To give praise and honour to God or a person
- A period of seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years, etc.
- The opposite of old

HAVE A GREAT DATE

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month</b> ~ Luncheon @ West	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month</b> ~ Markets @ Hallsville
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month</b> ~ Trading Table @ West Tamworth	<b>24 April</b>

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