



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

12-14 May 2017

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

## Acts 7:55-60 (NIV)

<sup>55</sup> But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

<sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

<sup>57</sup> At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, <sup>58</sup> dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

<sup>59</sup> While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

<sup>60</sup> Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

## Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup> Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me.

<sup>3</sup> Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.

<sup>4</sup> Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.

<sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God.

<sup>15</sup> My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me.

<sup>16</sup> Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love.

**Your values become your destiny." ~ Gandhi**

## 1 Peter 2:2-10 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup> now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

### The Living Stone and a Chosen People

<sup>4</sup> As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—<sup>5</sup> you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For in Scripture it says:

"See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

<sup>7</sup> Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

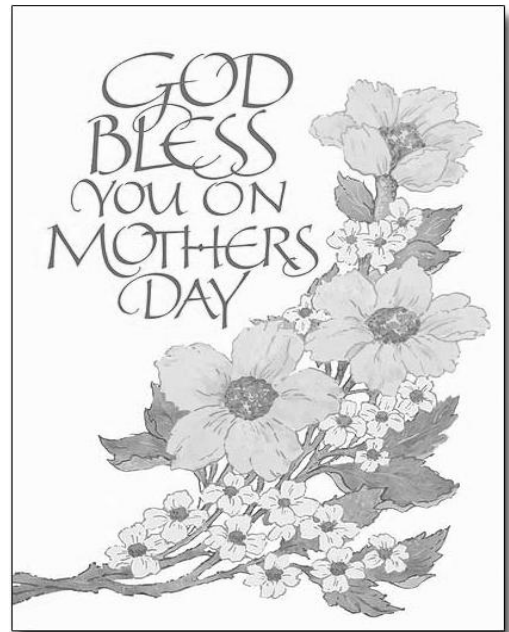
"The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"

<sup>8</sup> and,

"A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

14 May ~ Evelyn Keane

Sincerity makes the very least person to be of more value than the most talented hypocrite. ~ C Spurgeon

## 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 Marie Meyer Barbara Murray  
Doss Wark Ross Davidson Bruce Jarrett



## CHURCH SERVICES

19 May	5.30 pm	<b>Hallsville</b>	~ Rev S Hansford
21 May	8.30 am	<b>Gowrie</b>	~ Patrick Johnston
21 May	9 am	<b>Hallsville</b>	~ No service
21 May	11am	<b>West</b>	~ City Church Preacher

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



### PRAYER LIST.

- Mavis Crowell had eye surgery this week. We pray that she makes a good recovery.
- Bill Forrester is slowly improving after suffering from an ulcerated throat. We pray that he recovers in time to enjoy celebrating his birthday later this month.
- We thank God for mothers.
- We also thank God for our wonderful autumn weather. It feels good to be alive.

### Meg's Musings

This past week has been designated "Volunteers Week". Volunteers have been treated to morning and afternoon teas, and their contributions within our community have been recognised. But each of us is a "volunteer". When we smile at a stranger; when we collect the mail for a neighbour on holidays; when we show kindness towards others, we are "volunteering". Jesus asks each of us to be a "volunteer". And he said that even when we do something as simple as providing a cup of water for someone, we are doing it for him. Our "volunteer" efforts are Christ-centred. And that makes it all achievable, as we are doing it in His strength.

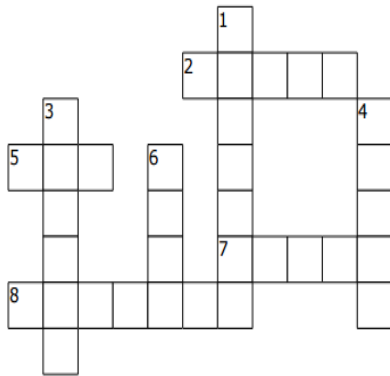
Blessings from Meg



## "I Am the Way"

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6

Based on John 14:1-14



### ACROSS

2. The actual facts about something
5. The route or path to follow to get to a place
7. Areas in a building that have their own walls, floor, ceiling, and door
8. To accept something as being true

### DOWN

1. To get ready for something that will happen in the future
3. The male parent
4. A building in which people, usually one family, lives
6. The period between birth and death

### John 14:1-14 (NIV)

#### Jesus Comforts His Disciples

- 14 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.  
<sup>2</sup> My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?  
<sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.  
<sup>4</sup> You know the way to the place where I am going."  
**Jesus the Way to the Father**  
<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"  
<sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.  
<sup>7</sup> If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."  
<sup>8</sup> Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."  
<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"  
<sup>10</sup> Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.  
<sup>11</sup> Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.  
<sup>12</sup> Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.  
<sup>13</sup> And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.  
<sup>14</sup> You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Even if you are a minority of one, the truth is the truth. ~ Mahatma Gandhi

**UPDATE:** Thank-you to everyone for your patience at the congregation meeting last Sunday. We got through several items of business.

Our meeting resolved to continue towards the process of calling a minister.

Our first morning tea will be held this Tuesday at 10:00am to 11:30 am. Please feel welcome to bring along friends, guests etc.

We will be discussing what people would like to do, and what to call the group. Please come, and bring along any ideas you might have.

Genuine sincerity opens people's hearts, while manipulation causes them to close. ~Daisaku Iked



God never fails me  
He loves me despite my flaws  
Tonight I Thank Him



**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month**

~ Luncheon @ West

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month**

~Trading Table @ West Tamworth

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month**

~ Markets @ Hallsville

**28 May**

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