



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

10 May 2020

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P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

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

### Jesus Comforts His Disciples

**14** "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God<sup>1</sup>; 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.

**John 14:1-14**

The first words of this passage, "Set your troubled hearts at rest" speak to us of reassurance.

Maybe that is one of the reasons why it is often used during funeral services. At such a time people are looking for reassurance and comfort.

Jesus is saying, "Trust God, and trust me."

If we choose to do that, our hearts will be at rest.

But so often, our minds race ahead, looking for possible problems and concerns. The words, "What if..." can sometimes take over our minds, ensuring that our hearts, and our minds are not at rest. Instead they are travelling down all sorts of dead ends and blind spots.

When that happens it is sometimes because, although we trust God right now, we forget that we can trust Him with our future too.

Instead, we are fretting over our future, forgetting that God will be with us then, just as He is with us now.



Maybe that is why Jesus told the disciples that he would prepare a place for them. He was letting them know that the distant future, as well as the shorter term, are all able to be left to God...He has it all in hand.

We have nothing to worry about, as long as we trust God with our futures, as well as with the present. ~ Meg

### Other Lectionary Reading for this week:

Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
1 Peter 2:2-10



10 May ~ Alison Forrester  
14 May ~ Evelyn Kean  
20 May ~ Shirley Whitten  
26 May ~ Bill Forrester



**Life is like a roller coaster. You can either scream every time there is a bump or you can throw your hands up and enjoy the ride.**



### 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 Ross Davidson Bruce Jarrett



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



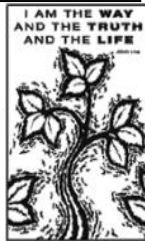
### IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for families who can't be with their Mums this Mothers Day, and Mums who can't spend time with their families.
- We give thanks for the field hospitals established by Samaritans Purse to help meet the Covid19 crisis in various parts of the world.
- We pray for Colin Hoyt, Kevin's brother.
- We are thankful that so far in Australia the Covid19 epidemic has been contained well by social distancing measures. We pray that people continue to follow the guidelines.

### Meg's Musings

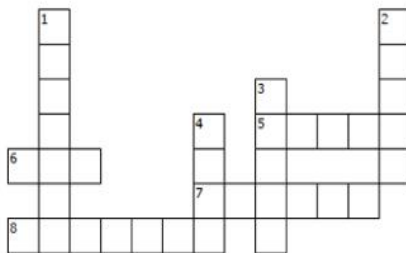
For many of us, it is easy to focus how, in this year of the Covid19 crisis, nothing is the same.... that things are far from normal.  
 Yet the rhythm of the season is very much the same.  
 The days are getting shorter, as they always do at this time of year.  
 We have the usual zig-zag of autumn weather, with many pleasant sunny days, and a few windy winter blasts to shake us out of our complacency.  
 Overall, the weather is getting slightly cooler, as it does each year.  
 It is a lovely time for getting out in the garden and enjoying the beauty of autumn. There are still some roses blooming, and there are chrysanthemums starting to take pride of place in some gardens. Lots of plants are responding to the rain and the sunshine, and producing vibrant flowers.  
 We have bought our first loads of wood, and lit our first fires of the season.  
 We can choose to focus on the crisis, or we choose to enjoy the autumn which God is slowly unfolding for us to enjoy.

Blessings from Meg



## Finding 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  
 This puzzle is based on John 14:1-14 (NIV)



#### ACROSS

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

#### DOWN

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

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



### FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND

One night I dreamed a dream.  
 As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.  
 Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.  
 For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,  
 One belonging to me and one to my Lord.  
 After the last scene of my life flashed before me,  
 I looked back at the footprints in the sand.  
 I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,  
 especially at the very lowest and saddest times,  
 there was only one set of footprints.  
 This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.  
 "Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,  
 You'd walk with me all the way.  
 But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life,  
 there was only one set of footprints.  
 I don't understand why, when I needed You the most,  
 You would leave me."  
 He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you  
 Never, ever, during your trials and testings.  
 When you saw only one set of footprints,  
 It was then that I carried you."

~ sung by Leona Lewis

Praying solves more problems than worrying does.  
 ~ anon

