



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

12 July 2020

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23 (NIV)

The Parable of the Sower

13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake.

² Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore.

³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed.



⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up.

⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow.

⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants.



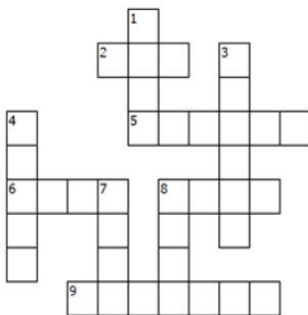
⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear."

The Parable of the Sower

But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. Matthew 13:23a

Based on Matthew 13:1-8, 18-23 (NIV)



ACROSS

- To put seeds in the ground so that plants will grow
- Small, sharp, pointed growths on the stem of a plant
- Plants such as grain, vegetables, or fruit grown by farmers
- A small, usually hard part of a plant from which a new plant can grow
- Not deep

DOWN

- The part of a plant which grows down into the earth
- A person who owns or takes care of a farm
- Covered with stones
- A way made by or for people walking on the ground
- The upper layer of earth that may be dug or plowed and in which plants grow

Romans 8:1-11 (NIV)

Life Through the Spirit

8 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh,

⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵ Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.

⁷ The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.

⁸ Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.

¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you..

- 18 July ~ Donna Harrow
- 26 July ~ Beulah Fenwick
- 26 July ~ Sue Budden
- 27 July ~ Amity Debenham



How to be happy....

Decide every morning that you are in a good mood.

Start each day by acknowledging one thing you're grateful for. With a little practice, you may even become more aware of all the positive things around you.



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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We continue to pray for Phyll Bylund.
- Please pray for John Murray who was transferred to Newcastle for heart surgery.
- Alan Littlejohns is making slow progress, and we pray for continued improvement in his health.
- We pray for sufficient rain to begin to replenish our dams.
- We pray for everyone involved in trying to find a vaccine to counter Covid19.

Meg's Musings

I recently came across this quote by Martin Luther, "Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, but laying hold of God's willingness."

How we regard prayer makes a difference to what, and how, we pray.

Some people seem to approach God with a shopping list. They seem to think that they know what God should be giving, and to whom.

Most people feel that they must always be polite with God. However, God has broad shoulders, and if we are angry at Him, we should express that anger. It is often the first step towards a new relationship with God, and a new understanding of what has caused our anger.

Some are confident in their prayers, whilst other people are very hesitant and uncertain. God hears all of the prayers of all of the people, no matter how unsure the person praying may be.

Prayer is a 2-way communication. We talk to God, and God talks to us. Sometimes people forget to listen for God's responses!

When we feel that our prayers haven't been answered, it could be for all sorts of reasons. Maybe the timing's not right, or perhaps we are asking for the wrong things.

No matter how, or when we pray, our prayers are always heard by our loving, understanding God who is just waiting for us to turn to Him.

Blessing from Meg



Other Lectionary Reading for this week:

Genesis 25:19-34



CHURCH SERVICES

19 July 11am **West** Marg Crowell



"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into friend." ~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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



Psalm 119:105-112 (NIV)

- ¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.
- ¹⁰⁶ I have taken an oath and confirmed it,
that I will follow your righteous laws.
- ¹⁰⁷ I have suffered much;
preserve my life, LORD, according to
your word.
- ¹⁰⁸ Accept, LORD, the willing praise of my
mouth,
and teach me your laws.
- ¹⁰⁹ Though I constantly take my life in my
hands,
I will not forget your law.
- ¹¹⁰ The wicked have set a snare for me,
but I have not strayed from your
precepts.
- ¹¹¹ Your statutes are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.
- ¹¹² My heart is set on keeping your
decrees
to the very end. (NIV)

SIMPLE FORMULA FOR LIVING

- Live beneath your means
- Return everything you borrow
- Stop blaming other people
- Admit it when you make a mistake
- Give clothes not worn to charity
- Do something nice and try not to get caught
- Listen more; talk less
- Take a 30 minute walk everyday
- Strive for excellence, not perfection
- Be on time.
- Don't make excuses
- Don't argue.
- Get Organized
- Be kind to unkind people
- Let Someone cut ahead of you in line
- Take time to be alone
- Cultivate good manners
- Be humble
- Realize and accept that life isn't fair
- Know when to keep your mouth shut
- Go on an entire day without criticizing anyone
- Learn from the past.
- Plan for the future
- Live in the present
- Don't sweat the small stuff
- It's all small stuff

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