



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

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P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

8 November 2020

Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)

The Parable of the Ten Virgins

25 "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

² Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

³ The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them.

⁴ The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps.

⁵ The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶ "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

⁷ "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps.

⁸ The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'

⁹ "No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'

¹⁰ "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

¹¹ "Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!'

¹² "But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.'

¹³ "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

Psalms 78:1-7 (NIV)

¹ My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth.

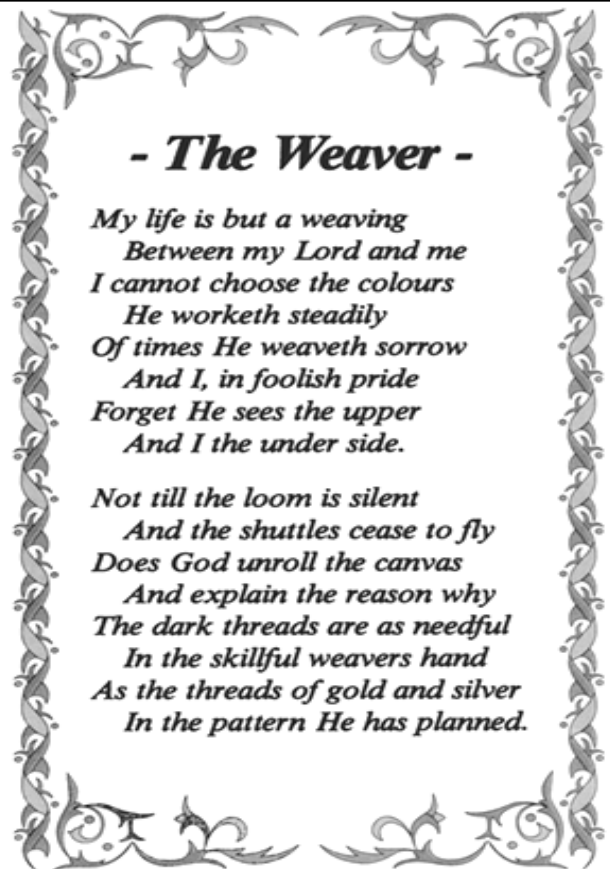
² I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old—
³ things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us.

⁴ We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done.

⁵ He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children,

⁶ so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.

⁷ Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.

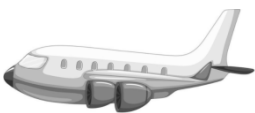


- The Weaver -

*My life is but a weaving
Between my Lord and me
I cannot choose the colours
He worketh steadily
Of times He weaveth sorrow
And I, in foolish pride
Forget He sees the upper
And I the under side.*

*Not till the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly
Does God unroll the canvas
And explain the reason why
The dark threads are as needful
In the skillful weavers hand
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned.*

11 November ~ Judy Nowland
11 November ~ Mavis Crowell
27 November ~ Elijah Debenham



If I offered you \$100,000 to jump out of a plane with no parachute would you do it?...

I bet you said NO... But what if I told you the plane was on the ground...

Moral of the story... Know all the facts before you open your mouth. ~ M Roark

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



"Winning is fun, but those moments that you can touch someone's life in a very positive way are better." ~ Tim Howard



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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Judy Lennon as she supports extended family members as they face some medical issues.
- We pray for Marg as she continues with chemo, and its' side-effects.
- We pray for God's guidance as questions are asked about how The Uniting Church in Tamworth will function into the future.
- We give thanks that Covid19 is so well under control in Australia at the moment, and pray for those people affected in other nations.

Meg's Musings

Earlier this week I received an email about a chocolate company's Cjristmas "collection".

There seemed to be hundreds of items available; many of them had especially designed containers.

One of the items available was a \$300.00 hamper.

I was stunned. Even a choc-aholic like me draws the line at spending anything like that sort of money on an assortment of chocolates.

But I'm sure that as such a hamper is available, it is because the company expects some people to purchase them.

There must be people in Australia who spend an huge amount of money in an attempt to have a "perfect" Christmas.

For me, what we were able to pack into the Operation Christmas Child boxes means so much more than having some specially packaged novelty assortment.

How do we get the message across that Christmas is about new life being offered to each person in our world?

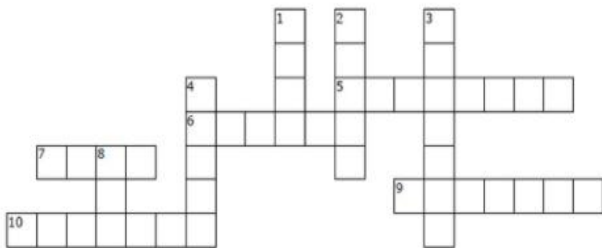
Blessings from Meg



Give Me Oil In My Lamp

Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. Matthew 25:13 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)



ACROSS

5. 12 o'clock at night
6. Not awake
7. A swinging or sliding cover over the place where someone usually enters a room
9. Ceremony in which a man and a woman are married.
10. Someone who does not use good judgment is _____.

DOWN

1. Someone who has good judgment and makes good decisions is _____.
2. Devices used to produce light
3. A feast or meal held in recognition of some person or occasion
4. To observe or look at something
8. A liquid that is often used to make fuel.



Joshua 24:14-25 (NIV)

¹⁴ "Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.

¹⁵ But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶ Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods!

¹⁷ It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled.

¹⁸ And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God."

¹⁹ Joshua said to the people, "You are not able to serve the LORD. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins.

²⁰ If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you."

²¹ But the people said to Joshua, "No! We will serve the LORD."

²² Then Joshua said, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the LORD."

"Yes, we are witnesses," they replied.

²³ "Now then," said Joshua, "throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel."

²⁴ And the people said to Joshua, "We will serve the LORD our God and obey him."

²⁵ On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he reaffirmed for them decrees and laws.

Other Lectionary Reading for this week:

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Joshua 24:1-3a



"Don't give up on the people you love. Your patient love and faithfulness may be exactly what they need to make a complete turnaround."

~ Joyce Meyer

Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most." ~Ruth Carter Stapleton

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