

Meg's Musings

This week I've been pruning our roses. It's a job I dread. I end up with pricked fingers and hands.

What I find most challenging about the process, however, is the number of decisions to be made.

I enjoy our roses, and want to do a good job pruning them.

Each cut involves a decision. Is this the right spot to prune - should I take more; should I take less?

It quickly becomes a task involving hundreds of decisions. Long before I would get blisters from the pruners, I get mental fatigue.

For Susie Budden, who prunes hundreds of roses each year, it must become an automatic process - something which doesn't require a conscious decision about each cut.

In life, some of decisions become automatic - how long to boil the potatoes doesn't involve too much thought after you've done it for a lifetime!

For Christians, prayer becomes the automatic response to many issues.

Many people worry about all sorts of details which we, as Christians can take to God, assured that God will help us to come up with the right answer.

It is so good to be able to entrust things into God's hands.

Blessing from Meg



Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

In these passages, it seems that everyone wanted to spend time with Jesus.

Some people wanted to hear what Jesus had to say. Some people wanted to be healed.

Probably some people just wanted to be near him.

It didn't matter where Jesus went - whether it was in Israel, or across Lake Galilee, in Gentile territory.

Jesus was recognised. At a time way before photography, newspapers and TV, people somehow knew who Jesus was, and what he did.

Jesus made himself accessible to everyone. There wasn't anyone who was too old, too sinful, too rich, or too poor.

Jesus was even available to the religious leaders - the ones who criticised him, tried to trap him, and made life as difficult as possible for Jesus.

With so much going on, life must have been exhausting for Jesus. Yet, he cared about each and every person. He took the time to listen to their needs, and to meet those needs.

Jesus even recognised needs before they were voiced, feeding a group of thousands of people who were miles from home.

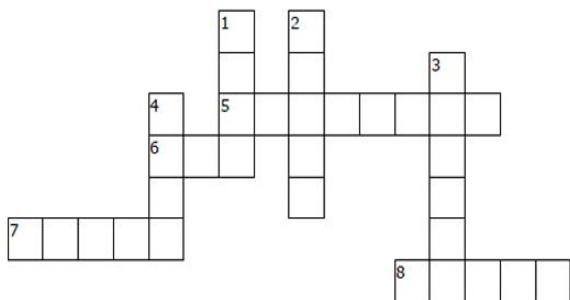
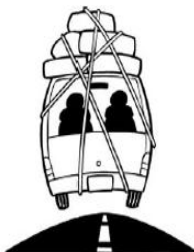
We often feel that we can't be of much help to people. But maybe what Jesus asks of us is to just be there for people, and with people - ready to listen, and to recognise their needs.

Blessing from Meg

Getting Away from It All

Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. Mark 6: 30-32

Puzzle is based on Mark 6:30-34



ACROSS

5. The early followers of Jesus
6. To take solid food through the mouth
7. Without noise or activity
8. To give knowledge or skills to others

DOWN

1. A small vessel for traveling on water
2. A large group of people
3. Any group of men, women, and children
4. To take a break from activity



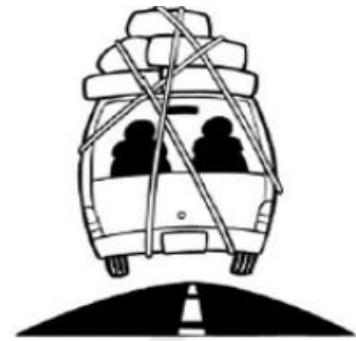
Don't wait to pray until you need something. Pray and be thankful everyday for your blessings. ~ unknown



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B O A T V F Z S S P Q W T W A
 V S P A M W N Y W H E N H I W
 H Y V K B W B K Z J E O D N Y
 T L R W O U A E O B E E P C U
 O Q A T A Z Z V F H T T P L B
 W J P R C G S O L I T A R Y E
 N M O P G Y F J U B D X R F T
 S H S Z E E G R N T I L N E W
 N I T N P Q I I T V E K Y T S
 K W L D K U U S U D K I X U B
 T F E K M I E I S D Q X S B Z
 S E S A S R S H E P H E R D I
 D Y A V O B H R M T J W G U Q
 N I Q C C C R O W D G E I O L
 V X Q A H Y I G S O E A T N M

PEOPLE	TOWNS	SHEEP	BOAT	REST
APOSTLES	JESUS	CROWD	LARGE	TOWNS
SHEPHERD	SOLITARY	EAT	QUIET	TEACH

What is the difference between "I like you" and "I love you"?
 Beautifully answered by Buddha:
 When you like a flower, you just pluck it. But when you love a flower, you water it daily. One who understands this, understands life.

**BE GRATEFUL
 THAT NO MATTER HOW
 MUCH CHOCOLATE YOU
 EAT, YOUR EARRINGS
 WILL STILL FIT.**