



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

27 August 2023

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P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Romans 12:1-8 (NLT)

A Living Sacrifice to God

12 And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

² Don't copy the behaviour and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

³ Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us.

⁴ Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, ⁵ so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

⁶ In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you.

⁷ If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well.

⁸ If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Other Lectionary Reading for this week:

Exodus 1:8 – 2:10 Psalm 124



There is no greater wealth in this world **than** PEACE OF MIND. ~ Buddha

The Parable of Cookies and Kindness

A young lady was waiting in the airport's departure.

Realising there was a delay, she bought a small bag of chocolate chip cookies to enjoy while she waited.

Beside her sat a pleasant, young man reading his book. The bag of cookies



between them. Neither spoke. The young lady took her first cookie. Then, much to her surprise, the young man also took a cookie.

He said nothing. She said nothing but was clearly bothered. For each cookie she took, he did the same.

Again, no words or looks were exchanged, but her anger grew.

This continued until there was only one cookie left. The young man broke it in two and offered half to her.

Well, that was it!

She was so infuriated and bothered by his lack of consideration that she packed up her things and moved. Soon she boarded her flight, took her seat and began to settle in for her trip – still very upset by this young man's lack of manners.

She went into her purse and she felt her heart sink.

There, in her purse, was HER bag of cookies – unopened and untouched. She was so ashamed of how she responded and was further upset by the realization that it was too late to make amends and apologize.

This young man had shared HIS cookies without saying a word.

He even gave her half of his last one. He wasn't upset or worried about her actions.

He gave without condition or feelings of anger or bitterness.

There are 3 things to take away, and realize we can't take back:

1 The stone...after it's been thrown.

2 The word...after it's been said.


3 The time...after it's gone.

~ unknown

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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We give thanks for warm, pleasant weather. 
- We continue to pray for Jan Parker.
- We also pray for Mavis Chaffey, who has been feeling unwell.
- We pray for the many people we know who have lost loved ones in the past few months.
- We pray that world leaders will choose to seek peace, rather than war.

Meg's Musings


So many things tell us that spring has arrived - if not officially, (it's not yet September), then in spirit. The days are warmer, and mostly the wind is less icy.

The flowers are showing their beauty, and the perfumes are lovely.

The birds are singing and flitting about.

And I saw my first blue-tongued lizard of the season today, lazily soaking up the warmth of the sun. It has chosen it's spot very carefully, with the vegetation blocking the breeze, and the sun streaming onto its' back.

How fortunate, and how blessed we are, to be surrounded by beauty and wonder every day.

It seems to me to prove the existence of a God of generosity, of creativity and of transformation. 

Blessings from Meg

Mathew 16:13-20 (NLT)

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

¹⁴ "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets."

¹⁵ Then he asked them, "But who do you say I am?"

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

¹⁷ Jesus replied, "You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being.

¹⁸ Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means 'rock'), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.

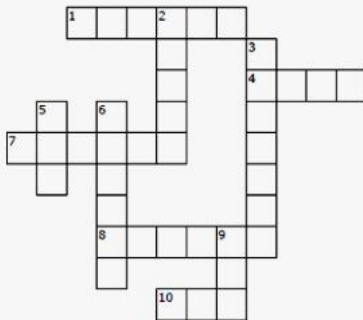
¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you forbid on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven."

²⁰ Then he sternly warned the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Peter's Confession of Christ

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Matthew 16:15 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV)



ACROSS

1. Persons; men, women, and children; human beings
4. A large stone that sticks up out of the ground or the sea
7. A male parent
8. The Messiah, as foretold by the prophets
10. An adult male human being

DOWN

2. The name that Jesus called Simon
3. A persons who speaks for God
5. To speak
6. The whole body of believers in Christ
9. A male child in relation to his parents

Good people give you happiness.
Bad people give you experience.
Worst people give you a lesson.
Best people give you memories.

~ Zig Zigar

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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 0476 375 989** 

Elders: Margaret Crowell Daryl Lush

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