



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

21 January 2024

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST

## Mark 1:14-20 (NLT)

<sup>14</sup> Later on, after John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God's Good News.

<sup>15</sup> "The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!"

### The First Disciples

<sup>16</sup> One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living.

<sup>17</sup> Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!"

<sup>18</sup> And they left their nets at once and followed him.

<sup>19</sup> A little farther up the shore Jesus saw Zebedee's sons, James and John, in a boat repairing their nets.

<sup>20</sup> He called them at once, and they also followed him, leaving their father, Zebedee, in the boat with the hired men.

## 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (NLT)

<sup>29</sup> But let me say this, dear brothers and sisters: The time that remains is very short. So from now on, those with wives should not focus only on their marriage.

<sup>30</sup> Those who weep or who rejoice or who buy things should not be absorbed by their weeping or their joy or their possessions.

<sup>31</sup> Those who use the things of the world should not become attached to them. For this world as we know it will soon pass away.

## Lectionary Readings

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:5-12 1

"All that is gold does not glitter,  
Not all those who wander are lost;  
The old that is strong does not wither,  
Deep roots are not reached by the frost.

From the ashes a fire shall be woken,  
A light from the shadows shall spring;  
Renewed shall be blade that was broken,  
The crownless again shall be king."

~ J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Fellowship of the Ring*

## CHURCH SERVICES

28 January 11am WEST ~ Meg Mangan

Live for yourself and you will live in vain;  
Live for others, and you will live again.

~ Bob Marley

## Carrying the Message

"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" Mark 1:15 (NIV)

Based on Mark 1:9-15



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

REPENT	TEMPTED	TIME	BAPTIZED	BELIEVE
DESERT	COME	VOICE	KINGDOM	JORDAN
FORTY	NEWS	OPEN	WATER	DAYS
GOOD	SPIRIT	DOVE	HEAVEN	NEAR

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



### IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Noreen Dobbie, who has pneumonia.
- We pray for a safe and happy festival for all of the visitors to Tamworth.
- We give thanks for the many volunteers at the Scripture Union tent.
- We pray for world leaders making decisions - as military actions in the Middle East grow more widespread.

### Meg's Musings

Five years ago, Laurie had a cataract operation. It went well, and we were delighted that he could see so well.

Over time, that good vision gradually dulled. Over recent months it has become a bit like looking at the world through a plastic bag.

He consulted an optician who was able to diagnose the problem - scar tissue growing under the "new" lens.

An ophthalmologist was then able to use a laser beam to destroy the scar tissue.

Ten minutes of treatment worked wonders. Laurie's sight has been restored to that of five years ago.

These days we don't usually refer to medical procedures as "miracles".

But it felt every bit as miraculous to Laurie as it felt for people in Jesus day, when he restored sight to the blind.

God works today through everyone who is happy to be God's hands, feet and heart

- including you!

**Blessings from Meg**



**21 January, 2024 Country Gospel Breakfast at Hallsville**

**Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville**

Re-open 2024 on **28 January**

**Open 9:30 to 1:00pm**

**Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.**



### 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



### From Rev Geoff Flynn

I am looking forward to my first Gospel Breakfast at Hallsville on Sunday Morning. At the same time, I have been reflecting on what makes a breakfast "Gospel." We're familiar with the Gospel According Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are each quite distinct. But what is the Gospel According to You from the vantage point of twenty-first knowledge? What is the Gospel According to Peel Valley?

What good news do we have to share about who Jesus is, who God is, or what insights we are living into about how to live an abundant life according to the way of Jesus? These related questions seem appropriate as we reflect this week on the first 20 verses of the Gospel, the "good news" according to Mark.

In Mark chapter one, the phrase "good news" appears three times, and in each instance, there is a different nuance of meaning. In verse one, Mark tells us that his book concerns the "good news of Jesus Christ." In verse fourteen, Jesus comes proclaiming the "good news of God." And, in verse fifteen, Jesus instructs us to "believe in the good news." So, at least in the first chapter of Mark, the phrase "good news" has at least three different shades of meaning.

When trying to understand the Gospel of Mark's first-century perspective from our twenty-first century context, we cannot remind ourselves often enough of the historical event surrounding Mark's writing. In the middle of the Roman-Jewish War, Mark uses the genre of gospel, a genre typically associated with good news from the battlefield regarding Roman military victories or a new Roman emperor — to tell the subversive good news of Jesus, a Jewish peasant whom the Roman had crucified decades earlier.

If we keep this in mind, we can take heart that proclaiming the Gospel was not any easier back then than it is now. However, despite the negative impression many people have of followers of Jesus we are the custodians of a message of good news which Jesus calls the "kingdom of God" that is, the way of being in the world when God is in charge instead of our politicians or global corporations. Do we believe this? What is holding us back from sharing this good news with everyone we meet?

Rev Geoff



**"There is no loneliness where Jesus is." ~ anon**

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