



## Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

16 February 2025

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

### Luke 6:17-26 (NIV)

#### Blessings and Woes

<sup>17</sup> He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon,

<sup>18</sup> who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, <sup>19</sup> and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

<sup>20</sup> Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> Blessed are you who hunger now,  
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> Blessed are you when people hate you,  
when they exclude you and insult you  
and reject your name as evil,  
because of the Son of Man.

<sup>23</sup> “Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> “But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have already received your comfort.

<sup>25</sup> Woe to you who are well fed now,  
for you will go hungry.  
Woe to you who laugh now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,  
for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

### Psalm 1 (NIV)

- <sup>1</sup> Blessed is the one  
who does not walk in step with the wicked  
or stand in the way that sinners take  
or sit in the company of mockers,  
<sup>2</sup> but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and who meditates on his law day and night.  
<sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
which yields its fruit in season  
and whose leaf does not wither—  
whatever they do prospers.  
<sup>4</sup> Not so the wicked!  
They are like chaff  
that the wind blows away.  
<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.  
<sup>6</sup> For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

“Blessed is he who has learned to admire  
but not envy, to follow but not imitate, to  
praise but not flatter, and to lead but not  
manipulate.” ~ William Arthur Ward

### CHURCH SERVICES

23 February 11am West ~ Jennifer Battle



4th Sunday Monthly Hallsville Markets

Resume on: 7:30am

23 February



Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville

Open 9:30 to 1:00pm

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.

Cuppa & chat always available.



### Other Lectionary Readings:

Jeremiah 17:5-10 1 Corinthians 15:12-20



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



### IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for people in the midst of war - In Ukraine, the Middle East, the Congo and Myanmar.
- We pray for people who fail to notice their blessings.
- We give thanks for people who do notice the blessings which abound in their lives.
- We pray for people in nursing homes and hospitals.
- We pray for students beginning the new adventure of attending university.

### Meg's Musings

The story Janet found for this week reminded me of my grandparents. They had a 5 acre vegetable "farm" in Goulburn, where my grandfather grew potatoes and onions.

They also had a patch with all sorts of vegies in it; lots of fruit trees and about 2 dozen chooks.

My grandmother was a great cook, and she had plenty of fresh produce to work with. I can still remember her cherry pies and apple jelly, made with home-grown produce.

They had lots of relatives and friends, and my grandmother's faith was deep and strong.

They did their best for everyone, and everything - even the chooks got a hot feed of mash each day.

My grandparents never had a car or a telephone. The crude toilet was outside. Their only heating was the stove in the kitchen.

Did they consider themselves "poor" or "cursed"? Never!

*Blessing from Meg*



"Gratitude means to recognize the good in your life, be thankful for whatever you have, some people may not even have one of those things you consider precious to you (love, family, friends etc). Each day give thanks for the gift of life. You are blessed"

Pablo

### Tamworth Regional Uniting Churches Weekly

Bulletin. I am deeply moved by the song 'Thank you Lord for your blessings on me' - a Bill Gaither special where the last line for both verses sing 'thank you Lord for your blessings on me'. In the second verse looks at a person who, perhaps, is isn't financially wealthy and doesn't have 'new clothes', yet is so dependent on God's provision, care and love. And that is the truest blessing of all.

Luke's recounting of the sermon on the mount is challenging for readers of any generation. Jesus flips the script and challenges our idea of what our understanding regarding 'blessed' might look like. I confess that sometimes my understanding of what being 'blessed' looks like is somewhat influenced by the secular world. The teachings, elsewhere called the Beatitudes, turns prevailing ideas about what it means to be blessed upside down. Where is there blessedness in deep poverty, or hunger or being hated? I wonder how blessed did you feel in the terrible drought or going for so many years without Ministers? Is this passage all future oriented - a promise for an afterlife or is there something more profound operating here. There is certainly some eschatological feature at play, but the greater reality is that when we are dependent on God for our lives, whether we are poor, hungry or hated, the sustenance we experience is, in itself, miraculous. Total dependence on the grace of God is the hallmark of Jesus' life and ministry. We are invited into just such a life.

Blessed are you!

Rev Samuela Sadrata



"Happiness is like a butterfly, the more you chase it, the more it will evade you, but if you notice the other things around you, it will gently come and sit on your shoulder."

~Henry David Thoreau



Shrove Tuesday!



Pancake Day!

**4 March**

**10am Pancake Tuesday morning tea at Southside.**

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

One day a very wealthy father took his son on a trip to the country for the sole purpose of showing his son how it was to be poor. They spent a few days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family. After their return from the trip, the father asked his son how he liked the trip. "It was great, Dad," the son replied. "Did you see how poor people can be?" the father asked. "Oh Yeah," said the son. "So what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father. The son answered, "I saw that we have one dog and they had four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night. Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon. We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight. We have servants who serve us, but they serve others. We buy our food, but they grow theirs. We have walls around our property to protect us, they have friends to protect them." The boy's father was speechless. Then his son added, "It showed me just how poor we really are." Too many times we forget what we have and concentrate on what we don't have. What is one person's worthless object is another's prize possession. It is all based on one's perspective. Sometimes it takes the perspective of a child to remind us what's important.

#### 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."

Minister: **Rev Geoff Flynn 0421 338 202**

Pastoral Care: **Meg Mangan 0476 375 989**

Elders: Margaret Crowell Daryl Lush



#### Thank You Lord, for Your Blessings

1 While the world looks upon me as I struggle along and they said I have nothing but they are so wrong in my heart I'm rejoicing how I wish they could see.

I thank you Lord for your blessings on me

2 There's a room up above me I have good place to sleep there's food on my table and shoes on my feet you gave me your love Lord and a fine family.

I thank you Lord for your blessings on me

3 I know I'm not wealthy and these clothes they are not new and I don't have much money but Lord I have you and that's all that matters though the world may not see.

I thank you Lord for your blessings on me.

~ Bill and Gloria Gaither

You will be blessed the moment you realize you already are. ~ Bryant McGill



**NSW Trustee and Guardian**

NSW Trustee and Guardian, a government agency, are hosting Will-making appointments in Tamworth City Uniting Church. Their expert team will be on hand to guide you through the process, ensuring your wishes are documented and your affairs are managed by people you trust.

Appointments are available on:

- Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 February 2025
- Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 May 2025

Basic Will-making services start from \$462. These documents are FREE for those eligible for a full Centrelink Age Pension.

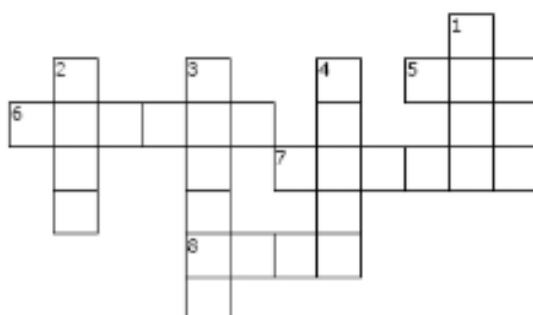
Visit [www.nsw.gov.au/makeyourwill](http://www.nsw.gov.au/makeyourwill) or call 1300 10 20 30 to request an appointment. Bookings are essential.

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

# The Sermon on the Plain

"Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their fathers treated the prophets. Luke 6:23 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Luke 6:17-26 (NIV)



## ACROSS

5. A feeling of great happiness
6. The home of God, the angels, and those who have been saved
7. To have a desire or need for food
8. Having a great amount of money

## DOWN

1. Having very little money or few possessions
2. To shed tears
3. Something given or received in return for good behavior
4. The sound which expresses happiness or delight

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

blessed  
reject  
reward  
weep

exclude  
joy  
rich  
poor

evil  
satisfied  
great  
rejoice

insult  
hunger  
kingdom  
mourn

comfort  
woe  
hate  
laugh

~ Sermons 4 Kids

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