



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

24 August 2025

Rev Geoff Flynn

Rev Sam Sadrata

Meg Mangan (Pastoral)

Luke 13:10-17 (NLT)

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

¹⁰ One Sabbath day as Jesus was teaching in a synagogue, ¹¹ he saw a woman who had been crippled by an evil spirit. She had been bent double for eighteen years and was unable to stand up straight.

¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Dear woman, you are healed of your sickness!"

¹³ Then he touched her, and instantly she could stand straight. How she praised God!

¹⁴ But the leader in charge of the synagogue was indignant that Jesus had healed her on the Sabbath day. "There are six days of the week for working," he said to the crowd. "Come on those days to be healed, not on the Sabbath."

¹⁵ But the Lord replied, "You hypocrites! Each of you works on the Sabbath day! Don't you untie your ox or your donkey from its stall on the Sabbath and lead it out for water?"

¹⁶ This dear woman, a daughter of Abraham, has been held in bondage by Satan for eighteen years. Isn't it right that she be released, even on the Sabbath?"

¹⁷ This shamed his enemies, but all the people rejoiced at the wonderful things he did.

Jeremiah 1:4-10 (NLT)

Jeremiah's Call and First Visions

⁴ The LORD gave me this message:

⁵ "I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb.

Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations."

⁶ "O Sovereign LORD," I said, "I can't speak for you! I'm too young!"

⁷ The LORD replied, "Don't say, 'I'm too young,' for you must go wherever I send you and say whatever I tell you.

⁸ And don't be afraid of the people, for I will be with you and will protect you. I, the LORD, have spoken!"

⁹ Then the LORD reached out and touched my mouth and said,

"Look, I have put my words in your mouth!

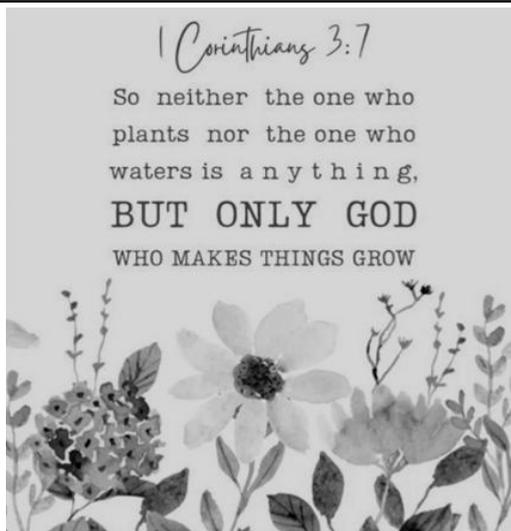
¹⁰ Today I appoint you to stand up against nations and kingdoms. Some you must uproot and tear down, destroy and overthrow. Others you must build up and plant."

I don't need it to be easy, I need it to be worth it. ~ Lil Wayne

Other Lectionary Readings:

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Hebrews 12:18-29

Psalms 71:1-6



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."

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Elder: Margaret Crowell

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH



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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Judy Lennon, who is in hospital with pneumonia, and damage to her back.
- We pray for the residents and staff of the aged care facilities in Tamworth.
- We give thanks that our chilly winter is almost over.
- Our prayers go out to people throughout the world who are living with conflict.
- We pray for wisdom for leaders throughout the world.

Meg's Musings

Last week I wrote about driving around, and noticing early blossoming trees.

This week I've been doing some walking, and I've enjoyed seeing smaller blossoms.

I spotted some snowdrops growing in a front-yard - flowers which I hadn't seen in years.

Irises are blooming in some gardens - purples, apricot, and white blooms.

I even spotted a couple of strawberry plants with a few blossoms - although I doubt that they will produce any strawberries anytime soon!

As I walked, I saw many things which I overlooked as I sped past in a car.

It reminded me that God sees it all - the large and the small. He overlooks nothing.

Blessing from Meg



CHURCH SERVICES

31 August 11am Hallsville



~ Combined Tamworth Regional Churches worship

7 September 11am West ~ Meg Mangan



TRUC 5th Sunday @ Hallsville
Worship, Fellowship & Lunch, hosted by
the Peel Valley Congregations



*Combined Tamworth
Regional Uniting
Churches worship
together
at Hallsville on
Sunday, 31 August at
11am.
Stay and enjoy
fellowship over a meal
together.
NB NO OTHER
SERVICES.*



Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville
9:30 to 1:00pm Friday & Saturday
Cuppa and a chat always available.

Minister's Reflection

Sabbath Healing

I doubt many Australian Christians concern themselves with Sabbath-keeping. Like everyone else we hurry along, keeping ourselves busy, even on the day of worship. I know that this is true because I rarely take a true sabbath rest.

The pace of modern culture is such that most people I talk to are dissatisfied with the frantic pace of life even in retirement. When feeling so time poor it is tempting to cut back on church to clear out Sundays as our special "family time." What puzzles me is why participation in sporting activities on Sunday is viewed as better family time than attending church on a Sunday. Perhaps our Australian culture makes it very hard for us to say "No" to our kids or "No" to the boss so that we can say "Yes" to the rest God wants to bless us with.

We might do well to devote more time to sabbath-keeping, but in this week's reading from Luke 13:10-17, the issue is a bit different. Folks at the synagogue where Jesus is teaching adhere to a strict observance of the Sabbath like my methodist Grandmother did. The Sabbath is a day of rest and that means not working. But what is the definition of work?

While Jesus was teaching in the synagogue, a woman plagued by a physical disability enters the room. When Jesus saw her, he stopped teaching and told her that she was set free. Then he laid hands on her, and 18 years of pain and suffering was lifted off her back. How can this not be good news?

Well, the leader of the synagogue didn't see it that way. He was indignant with Jesus, because Jesus had engaged in prohibited work. Apparently teaching isn't work, but healing is. After 18 years one more day wouldn't really matter, would it? The leader of the synagogue didn't think so. But Jesus didn't seem inclined to agree, and I expect the woman who was healed wouldn't agree either. If she could be free from suffering today, why would she want to wait one more day?

As I read the story, Jesus saw the woman suffering from this disability. He felt compassion for her. He released her from her condition and gifted her with rest from her suffering. It seems rather simple. From the way that Luke tells the story, it doesn't appear that she came to Jesus seeking healing. She was just coming to worship on the sabbath, and Jesus happened to be there, and he was willing to change her life. So, she praised God. That should be our model.

Acts of love lead to acts of praise to God.

Rev Geoff



Think of Others

As you prepare your breakfast — think of others.

Don't forget to feed the pigeons.

As you conduct your wars — think of others.

Don't forget those who want peace.

As you pay your water bill — think of others.

Think of those who have only the clouds to drink from.

As you go home, your own home — think of others — don't forget those who live in tents.

As you sleep and count the stars, think of others — there are people who have no place to sleep.

As you liberate yourself with metaphors think of others — those who have lost their right to speak.

And as you think of distant others — think of yourself and say

'I wish I were a candle in the darkness.'

~ Mahmoud Darwish

RECIPE FOR FRIENDSHIP

1/4 cup of Kindness

2/3 cup of Compassion

1 tsp. of speaking your mind

2 tbs. of Listening

3 cups of Laughter

Boil in challenges.

Simmer with Patience.

Stir in Sensitivity.

Spread over a life time.

Serve each other.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

A hands-on way to demonstrate God's love to children in need by filling shoeboxes with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, and fun gifts. Boxes distribute in the name of Jesus Christ to children living in vulnerable situations. ~ amaritanspurse.org.au



A rich young woman sat beside a poor elderly man on a plane. She alerted the flight attendant upon taking her seat.

The woman abruptly said, "Please find me another seat."

The flight attendant responded, "I'm sorry Ma'am, but the economy cabin is fully booked."

The rich woman replied, "But I'm not going to travel beside a worthless bum. Do something."

The elderly man stared in disbelief. The flight attendant responded, "I'll talk to the Captain about this." "Captain, a woman feels uncomfortable beside a poor elder man. What should we do?"

The Captain looked amused and said, "This woman is interesting. I've never encountered an issue like this before. I have a plan. Listen....."

The flight attendant was stunned at his plan.....

"The Captain said we could use an open seat in First Class. He also wants to apologise to you for having to travel with such a terrible person."

As the woman rose out of her seat, the flight attendant reached out her arm towards the poor elderly man.

"Sir will you please follow me?" To which the plane applauded.

Never look down on other people. We are all equal in God's sight. Stay humble. Keep your feet on the ground. The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot.

~ anon



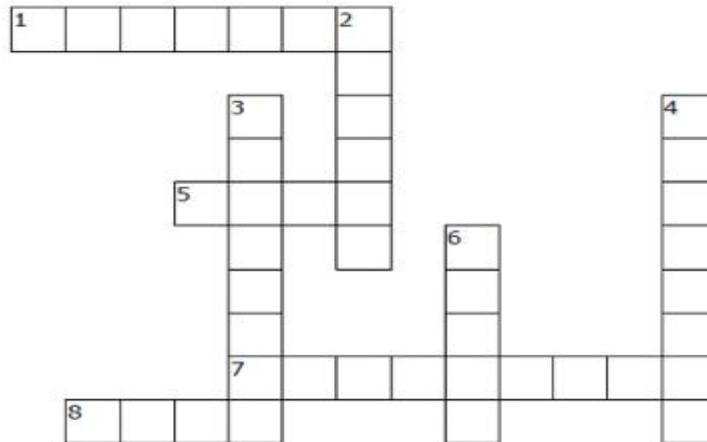
Worrying is like walking with an umbrella waiting for it to rain. ~ anon

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Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God. Luke 13:12-13

Based on Luke 13:10-17



ACROSS

1. The day set aside for rest and worship
5. Not limited or controlled by anything
7. A person who pretends to be what he is not
8. To be changed from an originally straight position

DOWN

2. To be cured from illness or injury
3. Not bent or curved
4. To be disabled, especially in the feet, legs, or back
6. To instruct or give knowledge to another person

FREE BENT	TEACH HYPOCRITE	HEALED SABBATH	STRAIGHT CRIPPLED
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K N X W B T X D H O B P F K C
 H J P S O G E C P H F O T M R
 P Y Y T K E W A F E A N Q F I
 E A P V Z J S B C R E N P V P
 D Q G O A Y T E S H E A D V P
 D F N O C L R N D O I E K S L
 L S T C D R A T W Z Q N F K E
 Z B Y O Y K I Q N R S H G I D
 U N G N O G G T N U T I I N F
 L I S L A T H T E A U O X T D
 Q E N E T G T G B S I U S C C
 P R A I S E O B K E M U S P O
 T W O M A N A G R N S V W Q X
 R L Y F Q S H O U E H V P A Q
 Q Y H R R W R F J E C K M M F

SIX CRIPPLED TEACHING	WOMAN HYPOCRITES STRAIGHT	HANDS SABBATH FREE	BENT SYNAGOGUE GOD	DAYS PRAISE JESUS
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~ Sermons 4 Kids

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