

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

## IN OUR PRAYERS

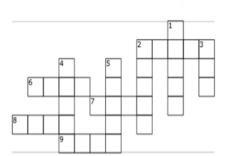
- We continue to pray for Pat Hoyt. Pat has made some improvement, but is patiently waiting for further healing.
- Geoffrey Wicks, Glenda Whittens brother needs our prayer. He has suffered a number of strokes which have severely impacted on his quality of life.
- We pray for Elizabeth Monckton. Her wedding celebrations are on hold, as her husband has been unable to get the paperwork to come to Australia.
- We continue to uphold Bob Forrester in our prayers.

## Real Friendship Is When Your Friend Comes Over To Your House And Then You Both Just Take A Nap

# Are You Ready?

sun-gazing.com

"Stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Luke 21:28 (NIV) Based on Luke 21:25-36



### ACROSS

- 2. Twinkling points of light in the sky at night
- 6. To make a request to God
- The large heavenly body visible in the night sky
- 8. To raise from a lower to a higher position
- The part of the body containing the brain, eyes, ears, nose, mouth

#### CHURCH SERVICES

DOWN

- To observe very carefully
- To rise to an upright position on your feet
- The earth's source of heat and light
- 4. The planet on which we live
- 5. Large, white, fluffy things
  - floating in the sky

4 December 6pm Hallsville ~ Rev Hansford 6December 8.30 am Gowrie BAPTISM~ Meg Mangan 6 December 11am West HC ~ Meg Mangan followed by luncheon at Doug and Margaret Crowell's

## Luke 21:25-36 (NIV)

## The Coming of the Son of Man

 $^{25}$  "There will be signs in the sun and the moon and the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring;

<sup>26</sup> men fainting from fear and expectation of what is coming on the inhabited earth. For the powers of heaven will be shaken.

<sup>27</sup> Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

<sup>28</sup> When these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, for your redemption is drawing near."

#### The Lesson of the Fig Tree

<sup>29</sup> He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees.

<sup>30</sup>When they are sprouting leaves already, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near.

<sup>31</sup> So in like manner, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

<sup>32</sup> "Truly, I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things are fulfilled.

<sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

#### Exhortation to Watch

<sup>34</sup> "Take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts become burdened by excessiveness and drunkenness and anxieties of life, and that Day comes on you unexpectedly.

<sup>35</sup> For as a snare it will come on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth.

<sup>36</sup> Therefore watch always and pray that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will happen and to stand before the Son of Man."

#### Meg's Musings

Sometimes when our family is travelling we carry a tent and other camping equipment with us. We try to find somewhere suitable to pull up whilst it is still daylight. That makes it far easier to find somewhere pleasant, and it also makes it easier to set up the tent and prepare a meal.

However, sometimes we choose to travel just a bit further before we stop, and we finally run out of daylight before we've found a suitable site. In some of Australia's more remote areas, it can be quite a distance between good camping sites, and all that can be found is somewhere to "make do". Of course it's entirely possible to choose a site, and to set up the tent in the dark..... but it's far more difficult.

At one site we chose in the dark, we woke the next morning and found dingo tracks in the dry creek-bed beside where we had camped – not the spot we should have chosen!!

Sometimes our lives reflect a similar struggle to that of finding a good camp-site in the dark. At times I choose to ignore Jesus' presence, his love and his strength, and live in my own quite limited light. It IS possible to live like that, but it's absurdly difficult. I eventually realise why my life has become such a struggle, and choose to live in Christ's light once again.

Life is much easier when we live in the light of Jesus. My life is so much smoother and richer when I choose to access Jesus' light, wisdom and power. I can see where I'm going, and I

know that there is someone beside me, guiding me, and supporting me.



Blessings from Meg

