

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

9 June 2024

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989 P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

## Mark 3:20-35 (NLT)

#### Jesus and the Prince of Demons

<sup>20</sup> One time Jesus entered a house, and the crowds began to gather again. Soon he and his disciples couldn't even find time to eat.

<sup>21</sup> When his family heard what was happening, they tried to take him away. "He's out of his mind," they said.

<sup>22</sup> But the teachers of religious law who had arrived from Jerusalem said, "He's possessed by Satan, the prince of demons. That's where he gets the power to cast out demons."

<sup>23</sup> Jesus called them over and responded with an illustration. "How can Satan cast out Satan?" he asked.

<sup>24</sup> "A kingdom divided by civil war will collapse. <sup>25</sup> Similarly, a family splintered by feuding will fall apart.

<sup>26</sup> And if Satan is divided and fights against himself, how can he stand? He would never survive.

<sup>27</sup> Let me illustrate this further. Who is powerful enough to enter the house of a strong man and plunder his goods? Only someone even stronger-someone who could tie him up and then plunder his house.

<sup>28</sup> "I tell you the truth, all sin and blasphemy can be forgiven, <sup>29</sup> but anyone who blasphemes the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. This is a sin with eternal consequences."

<sup>30</sup> He told them this because they were saying, "He's possessed by an evil spirit."

## The True Family of Jesus

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus' mother and brothers came to see him. They stood outside and sent word for him to come out and talk with them.

<sup>32</sup> There was a crowd sitting around Jesus, and someone said, "Your mother and your brothers are outside asking for you."

<sup>33</sup> Jesus replied, "Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?"

<sup>34</sup> Then he looked at those around him and said, "Look, these are my mother and brothers.

<sup>35</sup> Anyone who does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

## 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 (NLT)

<sup>13</sup> But we continue to preach because we have the same kind of faith the psalmist had when he said, "I believed in God, so I spoke."

<sup>14</sup>We know that God, who raised the Lord Jesus, will also raise us with Jesus and present us to himself together with you. <sup>15</sup> All of this is for your benefit. And as God's grace reaches more and more people, there will be great thanksgiving, and God will receive more and more glory.

<sup>16</sup> That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day.

<sup>17</sup> For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!

<sup>18</sup> So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

## New Bodies

**5** For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down (that is, when we die and leave this earthly body), we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands.

#### **Other Lectionary Readings:**

1 Samuel 8:4-11 (12-15) 16-20 (11:14-15) Psalms 138

Ships don't sink because of the water around them; ships sink because of the

water that gets in them. Don't let what's happening around you get inside you and weigh you down. ~ anon





#### IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Bob and Robyn Riek as Bob continues with his new chemotherapy.
- We pray for Lynne Bowd, who is such a support to so many people.
- We pray for Ashley and Claire, Beulah's grandson, and his wife who is in hospital.
- We pray for the continued recovery for Alan Littlejohns.
- We continue to pray for the Budden family as they mourn Heather's passing.
- We pray for Bruce Jarrett who is in hospital.
- We give thanks for God's love and support as we face difficult circumstances.

## **Meg's Musings**

At Heather Budden's funeral, the eulogy outlines many strands of Heather's life. She was a very capable cook, gardener and seamstress.

Heather also encouraged her family in all of their pursuits - sport, work, family. Heather enjoyed her pet cats and chooks.

Heather was similar, in many respects, to many other members of our congregation, who also have many strings to their bows.

Fay's contribution to worship had been her singing for 80 years - but then she found that she could very capably lead worship as well.

Hospitality was always Marg's forte. She has found , over the past few years, that she excels at managing the Op Shop.

Doug's sporting prowess is legendary - but his memorabilia section of the Bric-A-Brac has people amazed.

We never know where the Holy Spirit will lead us

- we just need to be ready to trust that leading. Blessings from Meg

Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville Open 9:30 to 1:00pm

FABULOUS Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.

Cuppa & chat always available.

## Singing Group

West Tamworth 2nd & 4th Monday 10am

Beginning with morning tea Commencing on 24th June (10th June is the long weekend)

FINDS



#### Words from Rev Geoff

In 2 Corinthians 4:16 Paul writes "So we do not lose Even though our outer nature is wasting away our inner nature is being renewed."

Paul is say that the clue to "not losing heart" cannot be found in what was. We are not likely to get back what we sometimes think of as "the glory days" of the church. And yet, could it be that God has something even greater in store?

Peel Valley Church Council met on 28 May and approved the redevelopment of 79 Denison Street, West Tamworth by the tenant, Primrosin Pty Ltd, including extension and new shed at the rear of West Tamworth Church Property as per Quote Q1205 from David Read Homes. This \$400,000 project funded by a Commonwealth grant will provide an extra 20 pre-school places for families in Tamworth.

The Executive, in reviewing the Singing Group resolved to move it from Hallsville to West Tamworth and to meet fortnightly on Monday mornings from 24 June. This new format will better facilitate the inclusion of folk living with dementia.

Wednesday was a big day in the life of Peel Valley. Reverend Chris Wright presided at the Funeral Service for one of the great saints of the West Tamworth community Heather Budden. At the same time, we hosted the Ministers Fraternal at Hallsville. Margaret Crowell did a marvellous job of being in two places at the one time. She was at Hallsville, to welcome our guests from the Liberty, C3, The Chapel, Presbyterian Churches and Scripture Union before she left to attend the s funeral.

At the meeting I learnt why the cross at the lookout is currently not lit at night. It's not that no one has paid the electricity account as the cross is considered to be one of the City Councils streetlights, but rather a matter of fluctuating voltage which keeps blowing the lights.

On 23 June the Joint Nominations Committee will be making a presentation to all three Congregations in regard to the placement of second Minister for the Tamworth Regional Uniting Churches. In parallel the Southside Church Council has inspected a modern family home in Calala that is potentially suitable for use as a Church Manse.

"I give thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart: before the gods I sing your praises." Psalm 138:1.

Reverend Geoff

The pessimist complains about the wind; The optimist expects it to change; The realist adjust the sails. ~ W A Ward A father saw that his 11-year-old son was crying silently. He asked him.

"What's the matter, son?"

The young boy replied.

"My classmates mocked. They said that my father's work is dirty, working in others gardens."

The father paused for a moment, then said. "Come with me son, let's plant some flowers. It might cheer you up"

He held his hand and walked him to the garden, took out some flower seeds, and said.

"Let's carry out an experiment. We will plant two lots of flowers. I will care for one, and you will care for the other. I will water mine with clean water from the lake but you will water yours with dirty water from the pond. We shall see the outcome in the weeks to come." The son was delighted as he joined his father planting flowers. It took them some days to finally germinate the flower seeds. They cared for them respectively and watched them grow. Later on, the father brought his son to the

garden, and said to him. "Look at the two flowers and tell me what you see." The boy responded.

"My flower looks better



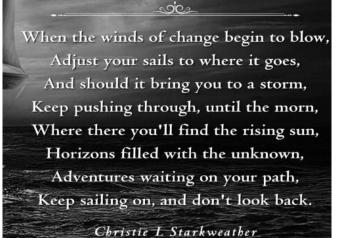
and healthier than yours. How is that even possible when your water is cleaner?" The father smiled, then said.

"That's because dirty water doesn't stop a plant from growing, rather it serves as organic fertiliser to help it flourish.

You see son, there are some people who put you down in life, mock your dreams, and throw dirt on you.

Always remember that there's nothing wrong with you, it is their ego they have to satisfy. So, don't let the harsh words from people affect you. Instead, let it encourage you into being a better person. And doing so, you will be like the plant and will flourish even in the midst of dirt like negativity and harsh words.

~ unknown



If wars can be started by lies, peace can be started by truth. ~ Julian Assange

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Retreat Day - Friday, 14 June 10am-4pm BYO Lunch/snack, No cost Tea and coffee provided Burrabaroo Girl Guide Camp, Porcupine Road, Kootingal Led by Rev Patty Lawrence RSVP to Church Office by 12 June 6766 5311 Circle Conveners, Elders and Leaders encouraged to attend.

#### CHURCH SERVICES 16 June 8:30am Gowrie



Meg Mangan
16 June 11:00am West Tamworth
Rev Tony Schumach
23 June 11:00am West Tamworth
Marg Crowell, Parish meeting to follow
30 June 11:00am Hallsville
Combined Service
Rev Geoff Flynn, Lunch to follow

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 Darvl Lush

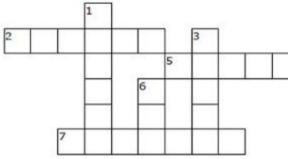


# We Are Family

"Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother." Mark 3:35(NIV)

Puzzle is based on Mark 3:20-35



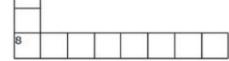


#### ACROSS

LAW

HOUSE

- 2. Parents and children; people descended from a common ancestor
- 5. A woman who has given birth to a child
- 7. A male with the same parents as someone else
- 8. A follower of Jesus



#### DOWN

- 1. A female with the same parents as someone else
- 3. A dwelling that serves as living quarters for one or more families
- A large number people gathered together
- 6. To take in food

TEACHERS

GOD

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~ Sermons 4 Kids

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

SEATED

BROTHER