



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

16 June 2024

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Mark 4:26-34 (NLT)

Parable of the Growing Seed

²⁶ Jesus also said, "The Kingdom of God is like a farmer who scatters seed on the ground.

²⁷ Night and day, while he's asleep or awake, the seed sprouts and grows, but he does not understand how it happens.

²⁸ The earth produces the crops on its own. First a leaf blade pushes through, then the heads of wheat are formed, and finally the grain ripens.

²⁹ And as soon as the grain is ready, the farmer comes and harvests it with a sickle, for the harvest time has come."

Parable of the Mustard Seed

³⁰ Jesus said, "How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it?

³¹ It is like a mustard seed planted in the ground. It is the smallest of all seeds, ³² but it becomes the largest of all garden plants; it grows long branches, and birds can make nests in its shade."

³³ Jesus used many similar stories and illustrations to teach the people as much as they could understand.

³⁴ In fact, in his public ministry he never taught without using parables; but afterward, when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them.

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17 (NLT)

⁶ So we are always confident, even though we know that as long as we live in these bodies we are not at home with the Lord.

⁷ For we live by believing and not by seeing.

⁸ Yes, we are fully confident, and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for then we will be at home with the Lord.

⁹ So whether we are here in this body or away from this body, our goal is to please him.

¹⁰ For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body.

¹⁴ Either way, Christ's love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life.

¹⁵ He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶ So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now!

¹⁷ This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Other Lectionary Readings:

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 Psalms 20



Questions For Debate

1 What is God doing within and beyond your congregation in your local community?

2 How can Presbytery support your journey with God?

~ Tony Schumack

Learning how to be still,
to really be still and let
life happen - that
stillness becomes a
radiance.

Morgan Freeman



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We continue to pray for Beulah's grandson Ashley and his wife Claire, who has spent several weeks in hospital.
- Bruce Jarrett is out of hospital, and continues to appreciate our prayers.
- The people of the Middle East and Ukraine need our prayer support.
- It seems that world leaders need our prayer support more than ever, as they try to broker a peace agreement.
- We continue to uphold the Budden and Blanch families in our prayers.
- We give thanks for winter sunshine.

Meg's Musings

As I was dusting earlier this week, I picked up a photo album, and flipped through it.

Family photos from twelve years ago brought memories flooding back. Faces smiled back at me from the pages - faces which have changed so much over that time.

Photos of small grandchildren wearing clothes I had sewn for them, and playing with toy sail-boats which Laurie and I had made.

As the cold weather enveloped us, my thoughts turned to the warmers of times gone by - of home-made soups and casseroles.

My thoughts encouraged me to prepare some warming, nourishing soups.

My excursions down memory lane reminded me that God is the God of the past. He is also the God of the present, and the God of the future.

God is with us, every moment of our lives.

Blessings from Meg



Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville

Open 9:30 to 1:00pm

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.

Cuppa & chat always available.



CHURCH SERVICES

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*



Words from Rev Geoff

Discerning the Will of God

This weekend we welcome the Reverend Patty Lawrence to Tamworth. She will be conducting the Mandatory Ethics training for Ministers Pastors and Lay Leader in our resbytery on Saturday. On Sunday she is preaching at Tamworth Southside Uniting and talking about the formal process by which the UCA seeks to discern the gifts and ministries to which its members are called by God.

Without stealing her thunder the, a Period of Discernment (POD) is the process approved by the National Assembly in 1997 to enable the church and individuals together, to discern God's call on their life for future ministry and where our individual ministry lies. This program helps you articulate specific questions you are discerning about your call to ordained or specified ministry. The process is meant to be deeply personal and involves both your own sense of God's call and the Church's discernment of your gifts and graces. It's an invitation to encounter, grow, and practice within the context of God's ministry and mission in the church and the world.

The issue of discernment constantly confronts both the leaders of our Church Councils and each of us individually. How are we as a congregation to discriminate and make decisions that are faithful to God. Currently, the Joint Nominating Committee is seeking to discern whom God might be calling to be the second Minister in the Tamworth Regional Uniting Churches. Members of the congregation will have an opportunity to share in that discernment on 23 June at our various Congregation meetings. At an individual level you may be trying to discern whether you continue in a leadership role within the Church for another year or you may be trying to discern whether you put your name forward for a vacant leadership position.

The readings set down for Sunday warn about judging on the basis of outward appearances and declare that the people of God are given eyes that enable them to discern in new and different ways. The ways are not spelt out in detail but that is the way faith operates. It never functions without a level of risk.

When it comes to discerning God's presence in human history, Christians are not to be content with worldly symbols and outward appearances. The cross of Christ is the ultimate lens through which we are to look.

Reverend Geoff



Singing Group

West Tamworth 2nd & 4th Monday 10am

Beginning with morning tea

Commencing on 24th June



Acorn Tree

John had moved to a new house. He wanted to beautify his front yard, but couldn't think of a way to do so. While pondering his dilemma, he came upon an acorn, and decided to plant an oak tree. The acorn was planted, and John put all of his effort into tending the area. The first year turned up with little result, but John wasn't disheartened. He tended the oak sprout year after year, and it grew, little by little. In the best weather, he was proud of his little tree. In the worst storms and winters, he remained faithful, and the tree grew and grew. The time finally came for John to sell the house. He admired what was now a massive, strong oak, and looked back on all of the faith he had kept in years past. The oak served as a huge selling point for his house, and it proved so when a new family moved in. The new children loved the tree- it provided shade and a location for a treehouse; the parents loved it, too for its natural beauty.



As John drove away from his old house, he looked back on the tree and smiled, proud of his achievement and the new children who benefitted from the tree. ~ anon

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 Darvl Lush



From little things... Morgan Freeman

Honored with, the Screen Actors Guild Life Achievement Award in 2018, recognising his career achievement and humanitarian accomplishments.

Freeman is the force behind several humanitarian and charitable initiatives. He established the Tallahatchie River Foundation in his home state of Mississippi with his daughter, Morgana Freeman, to promote quality early childhood education for underserved youth. In response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Ivan in 2004, he formed the Grenada Relief Fund to help those affected. Since renamed PLANIT NOW, the organisation continues to provide resources needed to prepare for natural disasters.

He is a member of the Board of Directors of Earth Biofuels, a company whose mission is to promote the use of clean-burning fuels. He also supports Artists for a New South Africa and the Campaign for Female Education.

Freeman has been named on the Forbes "Most Trustworthy Celebrities" list each of the five times it has been published since 2006.

There is a theory that if bees were to become extinct then the entire population of humankind would be wiped out within four years. Upon hearing this potentially devastating fact, Morgan Freeman decided to do his bit to help. In 2014, he converted a 124-acre ranch he owns in Mississippi into a dedicated bee sanctuary. It's not known exactly how many bees live on the ranch, but it could be up to two million.

Freeman has promised that he has no intention of harvesting honey. In fact, the only time he visits the hives is to bring food. He also trusts the bees so much that he never wears a beekeeping suit or hat.

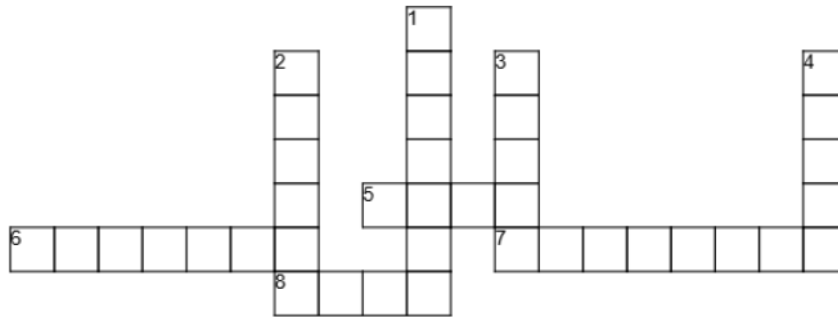
~ 2020.wish.org.qa



The Parables of Jesus

Jesus used many similar stories and illustrations to teach the people as much as they could understand. Mark 4:33 (NLT)

This puzzle is based on the Parable of the Mustard Seed. Mark 4:30-34 (NIV)



ACROSS

5. A small grain of a plant placed in the ground for growing another plant
6. A story told by Jesus to help explain his teachings
7. Not as big as any of the others
8. The place where birds lay eggs or give birth to their young

DOWN

1. Bigger than any of the others
2. An area where plants are grown
3. Animals that have wings and are covered with feathers
4. A living thing that grows in the ground, usually with leaves or flowers

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

GROUND	SEED	GARDEN	LARGEST	PLANTED
JESUS	KINGDOM	SHADE	NEST	MUSTARD
SMALLEST	BIRDS	PLANTS	STORY	BRANCHES