



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

29 September 2024

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James 5:13-20 (NLT)

The Prayer of Faith

¹³ Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.

¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.

¹⁵ And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

¹⁷ Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.

¹⁸ Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

¹⁹ My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, ²⁰ remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

"Prayer is a surge of the heart,
it is a simple look turned toward heaven,
it is a cry of recognition and of love,
embracing both trial and joy."

~ St. Therese of Lisieux

Other Lectionary Readings:

Ester 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 Psalm 124



By the time you're eighty years old
you've learned everything. You only have
to remember it. ~ George Burns

Mark 9:38-50 (NLT)

Whoever Is Not Against Us Is for Us

³⁸ "Teacher," said John, "we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us."

³⁹ "Do not stop him," Jesus said. "For no one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, ⁴⁰ for whoever is not against us is for us."

⁴¹ Truly I tell you, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not lose their reward.

Causing to Stumble

⁴² "If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea."

⁴³ If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out.

⁴⁴⁻⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell.

⁴⁶⁻⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ where "the worms that eat them do not die, and the fire is not quenched."

⁴⁹ Everyone will be salted with fire.

⁵⁰ "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other."

"The flavour of life is love. The salt of
life is also love." ~ Mariama Bâ, So Long a Letter



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Lynn Hatfield who has a broken pelvis.
- We pray for Graham Barwick who has severe laryngitis.
- We pray for our friends and our neighbours.
- We pray for the people, and nations, of the Middle East.
- We give thanks to God for all of the people whose company we enjoy.

Meg's Musings

It's grand-final week in many sporting codes. People are asked which team - or side - they support.

Psalm 124 is one of the lectionary readings for this week. It begins,

"What if the Lord had not been on our side?"

However, for me it asks the wrong question. I suggest that we should ask ourselves,

"What if we are not on the Lord's side?"

God is always on the side of love and justice. That makes it relatively easy for us to know which side God is on.

It seems important to me that we choose God - in all times and circumstances.

Blessings from Meg



"Pray without ceasing" ~ *Thessalonians 5:17*

*"If the ocean can
calm itself, so can
you. We are both
salt water mixed
with air"*

-NAYYIRAH WAHEED

The only thing you can do about awful people is not to be one of them. ~ Morgan Freeman



Words from Rev Sam Sadrata

We continue our journey on the road passing through Galilee where Jesus tells the disciples for a second time his future - his death. They still did not quite understand what Christ was telling them. As mentioned in last week's weekly bulletin, one of the most amazing things about the gospels, especially Mark, is that they do not hesitate to present the disciples as clueless. These men are later to be apostles, sent out by Jesus to proclaim the gospel. They held places of honour and respect, and several of them died as martyrs.

One among them - John, tells Jesus that they had seen people doing miracles in Jesus' name. 'Instead of asking who these people were?' 'How do they know to drive out demons in

Christ's name' Christ simply tells the disciples to 'Let Them Be'. Let them do miracles in 'my' name.

Literally whoever is for Christ, can never be against Christ in the same breath.

Sometimes we get caught up with 'who is for us' that we miss 'who we are all for' - that we are all for Christ.

Doctrines/teachings might be different from one denomination to another, but at the core of it, we are all for Christ.

I don't know what that meant for John and the others, but I know that today it often means that if the other does not look or dress like us, if the other does not speak or act like us, if the other does not think or believe like us, if the other does not do it our way. He or she is not following us. Whatever it was for John and the disciples, they felt threatened by this group of people. They were casting out demons, alleviating oppression, offering a new life, all in the name of Jesus. Jesus is once again asking us to look at ourselves, to be self-reflective. It's as if he is saying to John, "Don't you worry about that other people. You worry about yourself."

Christ invites us to look within. The greatest stumbling blocks are not outside us but within us: anger and revenge, the judgments we make of others, prejudice, our desire to get ahead and be number one, the need to be right, our unwillingness to listen, the assumption that we know more and better than another, living as if our way is the only and right way, pride, fear, being exclusionary, our busyness, lies, gossip, our desire for power and control. These, and a thousand other things like them, are what cause others and us to fall.

Reverend Samuela Sadrata



CHANGE THE WAY YOU SEE YOU

I don't have crow's feet,
I have happy memories of laughing with
friends until the tears flowed.

I don't have frown lines,
I have the marks of my frustration and
confusion, which I battled through,
smiling in the end.



I am not going grey,
I have shimmering highlights of wisdom,
dashed throughout my silver hair.

I don't have scars,
I have symbols of the strength I was
able to find, when life got tough.

I don't have stretch marks,
I have the marks of growth and the
marks of motherhood.

I am not fat,
I bear the evidence of a life filled with
abundance, blessings and good times.

I am not just forgetful,
I have a mind so full of stories, memories
and moments there is scarce room to
hold much else.

I am not old,
I am blessed, with a life of great length,
something not everyone can say.

Don't change the way you look my friend,
change the way you see,
change the way you see ~ Donna Ashworth

"Salt is born of the purest parents: the
sun and the sea." ~ Pythagoras

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"When an old, tired dog
wandered into a man's
yard, he quickly realised
this pup wasn't lost—



just in need of a peaceful nap. Each day,
the dog would come in, curl up on the
couch, sleep for an hour, and then head
home. Curious, the man left a note for
the dog's owner, only to receive a
hilarious reply:

'He lives with four kids—he's
catching up on sleep. Can I come
with him tomorrow?'

*Sometimes, all we need is a little break
from the chaos, even if it means
borrowing someone else's quiet corner.* 🐾



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

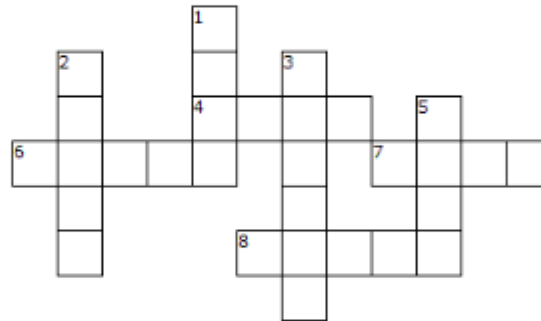
Daryl Lush



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

Pass the Salt, Please!

Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again?" Mark 9:50a (NIV)



ACROSS

4. A white mineral compound used on food as a seasoning
6. Sweet, sour, salty, or bitter qualities of food and drink
7. Not bad
8. The earth and all of its inhabitants

DOWN

1. To no longer have something
2. Freedom from arguments and disagreements
3. The way a food or drink is recognized from its taste
5. What we eat to get the nutrients that our body needs

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

FOOD	SHIRT	BETTER	TASTE	PLASTIC
SHAKER	CHEMICAL	FLAVOR	SALT	PEACE
WORLD	TOYS	GOOD	DYE	LEATHER

~ Sermons 4 Kids

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