



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

27 October 2024

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

## Mark 10:46-52 (NLT)

### Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus

<sup>46</sup> Then they reached Jericho, and as Jesus and his disciples left town, a large crowd followed him. A blind beggar named Bartimaeus (son of Timaeus) was sitting beside the road.

<sup>47</sup> When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus of Nazareth was nearby, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

<sup>48</sup> "Be quiet!" many of the people yelled at him.

But he only shouted louder, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

<sup>49</sup> When Jesus heard him, he stopped and said, "Tell him to come here."

So they called the blind man. "Cheer up," they said. "Come on, he's calling you!"

<sup>50</sup> Bartimaeus threw aside his coat, jumped up, and came to Jesus.

<sup>51</sup> "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked.

"My Rabbi," the blind man said, "I want to see!"

<sup>52</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Go, for your faith has healed you." Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus down the road.

### Other Lectionary Readings:

JOb 42:1-6,10-17 Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22)  
Hebrews 7:23-28



### Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville

Open 9:30 to 1:00pm

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.



Cup of tea and a chat always available.

We pray for healing and for health;  
for all who suffer in this world,  
with minds that cannot bear its strains,  
with bodies aching, full of pain.  
Restoring God, we look to you,  
bring healing to all people here.

We pray for healing and for health  
for all the world and for ourselves;  
we need your blessing on our lives,  
remould, re-make, and heal us now.  
Restoring God, we look to you,  
bring healing to us gathered here.

~ Andrew Brown

### CHURCH SERVICES

**3 November 11am West**

~ Rev Geoff Flynn HC

*Followed by Lunch*

**10 November 11am West**

~ Rev Sam Sadrata

**17 November 8.30am Gowrie**

~ Meg Mangan

11am West

~ Meg Mangan

**24 November 11am West**

~ Jennifer Battle



4th Sunday Monthly Hallsville Markets

7:30am

24 November



### 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



### IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray We pray for the children who will receive the Operation Christmas Child boxes. We also pray for their families and their communities.
- We pray for the people of the Middle East who have been injured, or who have lost loved ones.
- We give thanks for our families.
- We pray for our members unable to worship with us at the moment.
- We thank God for the bounty of spring. The efforts spent tending vegies and berries are being rewarded.

### Meg's Musings

Spring is moving along, and the plaintive calls of baby birds can be easily heard. Their demand for food is insatiable.

The baby magpies probably have the noisiest squawk. Now that they are able to leave the nest, the baby birds follow their parents around, begging for food.

If they feel ignored for more than a few moments, they then move to put themselves, beak to beak, with the parent bird, demanding food NOW.

They are absolutely focussed on receiving the food they need to grow and to develop.

There are times when each of us gets overly focussed on what we want right now. We can be a bit like those baby birds, demanding that God gives us what we want.

But God has a much more complete picture of life than we do. He can see that what we want now may lead to problems for us later on.

We can always trust God to meet our needs in his perfect timing.

*Blessings from Meg*



A distraught man sought the advice of his wise pastor. "I was born blind," he exclaimed, "But some people tell me that if I had more faith I could be healed." The pastor paused a moment before speaking. "I see you carry a cane," he said. "Whenever people say that, hit them over the head with the cane. Then tell them if they had more faith it wouldn't hurt!" ~ Everyday Faith, Sherard Edington



### Words from Rev Geoff

#### Seeing More Clearly

Blindness can be more than physical. In this Sunday's gospel reading (Mark 10:46-52), a blind person named Bartimaeus sought Jesus out for a cure, because he could "see" in Jesus what his followers could not, a chance for change.

Sometimes life just looks grey. The outlook of our world and our situations can be the colour of gloom when we take an honest view. For instance, when you visit a loved one or a member of the congregation in ICU it can feel so harsh and hopeless. Especially if you see only the grey, drab, cold metallic surroundings. I was feeling like that when I visited a woman who had sought refuge in Australia from an African genocide. When I asked how she was feeling, she shared with me how she saw so many signs of God's merciful provision through the metal contraptions that beep and buzz and God's beauty in every caregiver.

When our eyes are grateful, we see grace. Life can look ugly or beautiful. Our world can appear like dark clouds will swallow it or like the morning sun is just about to break through. We can perceive the world as out-of-control or under God's control. We can look at our lives –at our circumstances — as draining, depressing and desperate or we can look a little deeper and see mercy, provision and hope. That's what Bartimaeus saw in Jesus. Mercy, provision and hope.

When Jesus heals people who are blind. He's giving them more than just physical sight; he's opening their eyes so that that can see more deeply. We ask for sight don't be surprised if your eyes shift from seeing through familiarity to wonder, through paranoia and self-protection to metanoia (repentance) and nurture, through envy to admiration and, through anger to forgiveness.

As soon as Bartimaeus' sight was restored, he "followed Jesus on the way." In other words, he became a disciple. He joined that group of disciples on their way to Jerusalem. This Sunday we rejoice as a family who have come to us all the way from Northern China to be baptised into the faith and family of Jesus Christ.

*Reverend Geoff*



**None is so blind as those that will not see.**

~ John Heywood

In the 1960s and 70s, when he was perhaps the biggest movie star in the world, **Steve McQueen** would demand free items in bulk from studios as a condition of appearing in their films, usually regular, day-to-day items like blue jeans, electric razors, and other common hygiene products. McQueen would then donate the items to the California Junior Boys' (a reform school in Chino Hills, California).

As a troubled youth who had endured a tumultuous, abusive childhood, and had numerous brushes with the law beginning as early as age 9, McQueen had been remanded to the school by his mother and stepfather as a teen, and credited it with helping him turn his life around.

He was also known to visit the school periodically to spend time talking to the boys and playing pool with them, even after becoming a star.

McQueen was not a saint — he absolutely had his vices and his unlovely character traits — but he wasn't all bad.

EDIT: To the people asking why he didn't use "his own money" for charity, um, he did. The items were part of his negotiated salary, and none of the studios had to provide them if they didn't really want to.

More importantly, McQueen also donated his time to the boys at the school, which to me is more valuable than money.

Any rich person can throw money at a cause, they do it every day. They don't all actually hang out with troubled kids and try to make a personal, positive impact on them. ~ Amy Christa Erano

"There are moments when troubles enter our lives and we can do nothing to avoid them. But they are there for a reason. Only when we have overcome them will we understand why they were there."

~ Paulo Coelho

As Christians, we aren't immune from life's problems and difficulties. But I find that they are easier to face because we don't have to face them alone. We have God by our side, through it all.

It can be the problems and difficulties which we face which stretch us, and help us to grow, and to mature.

We are better able to reach out to others because we, too, have faced problems, and have come through them with God's help.

~ Listen Learn Live

#### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES



We have put together 20 boxes this year. We have completed boxes for boys and girls 3-5, and 6-9 years.

Each box contains hand-made soft toys - each with it's own bag; a library bag; toothbrush, a complete outfit, and pencil case with coloured pencils, rubber and sharpener, a notebook and a card.

The boxes also contain an assortment of things such as small dolls, cars, marbles, soap and face-washers.

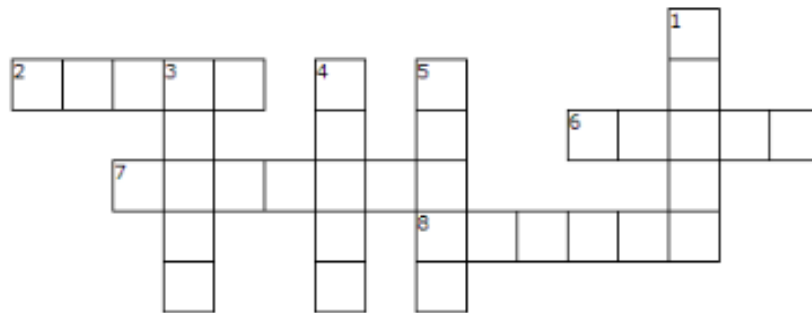
The boxes will go to Sydney, where they will be checked, and then forwarded on to children in 3rd world countries, who would never otherwise receive a Christmas present.

Thank-you to everyone who has contributed towards the boxes. You are helping to make God's love real to children in need.

# Speak Up!

When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus of Nazareth was nearby, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Mark 10:47 (NLT)

Based on Mark 10:46-52



## ACROSS

- 2. Kind or compassionate treatment
- 6. Confident belief in the truth
- 7. Making an urgent plea; asking for charity
- 8. To be restored to health; cured

## DOWN

- 1. Unable to see
- 3. To make happier or more joyful; a shout of encouragement
- 4. Making little or no noise
- 5. The ability to see

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

BLIND	BARTIMAEUS	ROADSIDE	FAITH	CHEER
HEALED	JERICO	MERCY	FEET	JESUS
SIGHT	FOLLOWED	CROWD	DISCIPLES	CITY
BEGGING	JUMPED	QUIET	RABBI	SHOUT

~ Sermons 4 Kids

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