



BANORA POINTER

Sunday 17 October 2021 | Pentecost 21



Message from Rev. Aaron Moad

Our reading this week is about leadership. It begins with the sort of question that we might think...but that

we usually know better than to ask. James and John think about leadership as a positional issue. They think about leadership coming from the "top down." Very common. Very human. Very much in line with the ways of the world.

Only seeing it in print reveals how inappropriate their request is and we can sit back and judge them for being power hungry opportunists. But let's cut them a bit of slack, they're caught up in a whirlwind following the most powerful person the world has ever seen and will ever see.

Not surprisingly, the other disciples weren't too impressed with James' and John's approach to Jesus nor was Jesus himself. Neither did the author of the Gospel according to Matthew, he records this event a little differently.

Matthew says, the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. She asked Jesus to, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.' (Matthew 20:20-21)

Do you notice what Matthew did? Not only did he



Being a Servant
Mark 10:35 - 45

turn the mother of James and John into a domineering stage mother, he took the heat off the impertinence of James and John. Matthew never wanted the disciples to look bad. But I think that this version misses the point. It isn't the impoliteness or brash ambition of the request that Jesus responds to, it is their assumption about how leadership works.

Jesus – who knows that he too serves under another authority, that of the Father – it is not mine to grant Jesus says – and he helps James and John and the other disciples understand that true leadership comes from the bottom up. It comes from a place of loving our neighbour. It comes from a place of servanthood. It is different than the "my way or the highway", "do what I say, or else!" leadership styles so common in life.

Jesus leads by example. He walks his talk. He links leadership to humility before honour, serving before being served. He sees leadership as paying the price rather than rising in place, or getting a raise or seeking some praise. He is willing to pay that price – giving his life as a ransom for many.

Jesus knows, as one day James and John would find out, that God's mission in the world will always be driven forward by the selflessness, the self-giving love, embodied in the lives of those who choose to follow Jesus.

As the song says, "They will know we are Christians by our love."



If you or someone you know is in need of help or support during these difficult times, please let us know and how we can help by calling either;

* The office: (07) 5524 9035 * Rev. Aaron: 0411 325 527 * Your Pastoral Carer

"We are all in this together"

Banora Point Uniting Church

MINISTER: Rev. Aaron Moad | Phone: 0411 325 527

Church Office:

63 Darlington Drive, Banora Point, NSW 2486
Postal: PO Box 577 Banora Point, NSW 2486
Phone: 07 5524 9035
Email: bpuchurch@optusnet.com.au

Acknowledgement To Country

The Banora Point Uniting Church acknowledge the indigenous traditional owners and custodians of this land, the Goori people and their Elders, past, present and future.

Our Mission: To love God and love our neighbours

What's Happening This Week

Wednesday	Prayer Meeting 8am
Thursday	Men's Bible Study group 9am CWCI Bible Study 10am Evening Bible Study group 6:30pm
Next Sunday	Worship Service 9am

Tithes

Please continue to direct debit/credit directly into your nearest Commonwealth Bank Branch or Please contact Neil Rackham if you need any assistance. Bank details are:

Account Name: The Uniting Church in Australia Banora Point Church
(Note: Your Bank website may limit the number of characters you can put into the account name box so "The Uniting Church in Aust" is OK)
BSB No: 062 611
Account No: 10120762

Church Roster

	<u>TODAY</u>	<u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>
Organist	Jill	Audrey
Pianist	— — — —	— — — —
Greeter	Terryll & Audrey	Neil & Nellie
Bible Reader	Lynn & Robyn	Sylvia & Nigel
Prayer	Neil	Georgina
Morning Tea	Sylvia & Dorothy	Stephanie & Vai
Hall Set Up	Terryll & Neil	Nigel & Neil
Cleaning	Neil & Nellie	Stephanie & Alan

If you are unable to do your roster, please organise a swap AND let Janice know ASAP.

A Message From Elizabeth

"A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you, that you love one another as I have loved you. by this shall all people know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another; by this shall all people know that you are my disciples: if you have love one for another." ~ TIS 699

Monday 11 October 2021 was deemed "freedom" day in NSW. As I think about the new challenges with COVID restrictions, in particular the requirements for only the double vaccinated to access various venues etc (including churches), I thought now more than ever is a time we need to follow God's great commandment.

This too was a recent theme of the Thursday evening bible study. During last term (due to lockdowns) although not able to meet, members of the bible study turned their creative minds and hands to how best to use our gifts to represent God's great love for all. For some this was in writing prayers, for Robyn it was making beanies for the homeless, for Cilla it was designing a graphical representation of her family (He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, Love your neighbour as yourself. Luke 10:27), for Abby it was writing a poem (**G**reat life, **O**asis in times of trouble, **D**ied on the cross, **L**et your **S**oul be free, **L**oving father God, **O**pen your heart to God, **V**aluable to your heart, **E**ver powerful). And for Leslie it was baking yummy jam donuts with the ingredients representing ~ Cake mix (Flour) – God is our foundation in life, just as the cake mix is for this recipe, Soda water – We seek Jesus the water of life, Strawberry Jam – The colour red for the blood Jesus shed for our eternal life, Cinnamon sugar – Gods sweet love for us, Butter – Jesus is the binding agent as our advocate to God, just as the butter is for the cinnamon sugar and the cake.

How will you be a disciple of God and show His great love to all people during these challenging times?

May God's love surround you now and always

Elizabeth Wells,

BPUC Church Council Chairperson



Robyn's beanies for the homeless



He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind" and, "Love your neighbor as yourself."
Luke 10:27

Cilla's graphical representation of her family



Leslie's Jam Donut

Great life
Oasis in times of trouble
Died on the cross
Let your Soul be free

Loving father God
Open your heart to God
Valuable to your heart
Ever powerful



Abby's Poem