



BANORA POINTER

Sunday 23 October 2022 | Pentecost 20



The parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector (Luke 18:9-14)

Message from Rev. Aaron Moad

The parable that Jesus tells his disciples in Luke 18:9-14 is the familiar parable of the two men who went up to the temple to pray.

One man was a

Pharisee and the other man was a tax collector. The Pharisee began to pray and he gave thanks that he was not like the rest of humanity. He especially was pleased that he was not like the tax collector who also had come to the temple to pray. The Pharisee truly believed that he was better than the tax collector.

The prayer of the tax collector was the complete opposite of the Pharisee's prayer. This man wouldn't even look up to heaven when he prayed. He humbly begged God to be merciful to him, because he knew he was a sinner. The tax collector truly was repentant. He wanted to turn his life around and to do what was right in the eyes of God.

We have two completely different ways of approaching God. The Pharisee truly believed that he was above everyone else, especially the sinners, the poor and the outcast. The tax collector however, was deeply repentant for the many wrongs he had done and he begged for God's mercy. The Pharisee considered himself entitled to a reward for all his "goodness" while the tax collector hoped and prayed that God, who was merciful, would forgive him.

How do we approach God? Do we approach God like the Pharisee, perhaps actually believing that we

have earned a reward? Or are we more like the tax collector, coming to God with a humble, remorseful heart and hoping that God will be merciful to us and forgive us? Being human we have both characters within us. At times, we may be more like the Pharisee, almost demanding something from God because we believe we deserve it. And at other times, we come humbly to God, remorseful, and repentant for what we have done, but we come, trusting in God's mercy and love.

Most likely, all of us have approached God in both ways at various times in our lives. At times, we have been the Pharisee. And at other times, we have been the tax collector. In some circumstances, we truly may believe that we are better and more righteous than others and, we may feel entitled. In other circumstances, we may identify with the tax collector who truly may not believe that he basically is a good man and may feel unworthy of God's love.

What we do know is that Jesus wants us to be humble in the best meaning of the word. It doesn't mean that we are to demean ourselves or believe that we are not as good as others. The word "humility" derives from the word "humus," which is the dirt of the earth. People who are humble are modest and tend to have an unassuming nature. The humble believe that, the position they hold, or the power and money they have is insignificant, because they know that the real reward is being loved by God.

Is being loved by God enough for us? What more could we ask for?



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

Monday	Pastoral Care Meeting 10am TCCEA Prayer Meeting 4pm
Tuesday	Mainly Music 9am
Wednesday	Prayer Meeting 8am Worship Singers 2pm
Thursday	Men's Bible Study group 9am CWCI Bible Study 10am Thursday Night Bible Study 6:30pm
Friday	Craft Group 9am
Saturday	SRE Breakfast 8:30am

Upcoming events for your diary

Pastoral Care Meeting	24 October @ 10am
TCCEA Prayer Meeting	24 October @ 4pm
Craft Group	28 October @ 9am
SRE Breakfast	29 October @ 8:30am
BPUC Fete	5 November @ 8am
Fellowship Lunch	9 November @ 11:45am
Messy Church	12 November @ 4pm
Church Elders Meeting	14 November @ 4:30pm
Chaira Companions	20 November @ 1:30pm
Men's Breakfast	26 November @ 8am
Church Council Meeting	13 December @ 7pm

Church Roster

	Today	Next Sunday
Duty Elders	Elizabeth & Jill	Audrey & Neil
Organist	Jill	Audrey
Greeters	Judy & Peter	Sylvia & Nigel
Bible Reader	Yesha & Judy	Lynn & Nigel
Children's Message	Aaron	Aaron
Prayer For Others	Aaron	Joyce
Morning Tea	Patricia & Kristine	Mary & Chris
Hall Set Up	Neil	Brian & Peter
Cleaning	Stephanie	Lorraine & Lumiere

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

TCCEA Prayer Meeting

Everyone is invited to come along to our next prayer meeting will be held on:

**Monday 24 October 2022 at 4pm,
Tweed Heads Presbyterian Church,
18 Florence St, Tweed Heads**

Join with other Christians from our member churches in a time of prayer for our SRE teachers, the schools and their teachers as well as the students and their families.

Pastoral Care Meeting

NEXT PASTORAL CARE MEETING will be held on Monday 24th October 2022, in the hall beginning with a cuppa at 9.30am and meeting beginning at 10am. Georgina Stanton.

Offerings

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

Breakfast & Hear From SRE Teachers

Everyone is invited to breakfast on **Saturday 29 October 2022 at 8.30am**. Come and enjoy breakfast and hear from our SRE teachers Jemma and Kirsten about their work in our local high schools. **Cost is \$15 per head**. Please place your name on the list in the front foyer.

All welcome.

Administration Help Wanted

Banora Point Uniting Church Council is reaching out to the congregation due to the resignation of Les Goodman as our Administration Officer.

We are asking if we have several volunteers who would be willing to produce the weekly Pointer and help put together the Sunday service slides with Aaron. All templates are provided plus training of course. This would be a great service to our church community.

You may know a family member or friend that would like to help if you are unable.

Please contact Rev Aaron or Terryll Morrissey if you are interested in helping or would like further information.

