



BANORA POINTER

Sunday 24 September 2023



A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



"God's Grace and Care for All: Lessons from Matthew 20:1-16"

Dear Beloved Church Family,

Jesus tells us a parable about the kingdom of heaven In Matthew 20:1-16, it's a story of workers hired to work in a vineyard, a passage that can be interpreted in various meaningful ways, shedding light on different aspects of our Christian journey. At first glance, this parable may appear straightforward. However, upon closer examination, we realise that this story holds deeper layers of wisdom that resonate with our lives as followers of Christ.

One interpretation suggests that the different times the workers are hired represent the different stages of life when individuals choose to become followers of Christ. Just as the landowner seeks out workers at different hours, our Heavenly Father extends His call to us at different points in our journey. Some may accept His invitation in the bloom of youth, while others may come to faith in the twilight of their years. No matter when we respond to His call, God's grace and love are equally available to all, regardless of the timing of our decision.

Another interpretation of this parable relates to the workers themselves. The early workers hired could represent the younger, more able-bodied workers, while the later workers hired represent the older or less able-bodied individuals. As the day progresses, the landowner's care for the vulnerable becomes evident. This illustrates God's care for the vulnerable and marginalized in our society and is a reminder of His boundless love. Just as the

landowner's generosity transcends human expectations, God's grace reaches out to those who may be overlooked or disadvantaged in the eyes of the world. This interpretation underscores the importance of compassion, empathy, and inclusivity in our Christian walk.

In both interpretations, Matthew 20:1-16 highlights the concept of God's kingdom as a place where divine fairness, love and grace reign. Our Heavenly Father's love is not limited by human standards of merit or worthiness. It extends freely and abundantly to all who respond to His call. This parable challenges us to examine our own hearts and consider how we extend God's grace and care to those around us.

Jesus reminds us as a community of faith, to continue to embody the principles of this parable in our lives. We need to continue being open to welcoming new followers of Christ, regardless of their age or life circumstances. We need to continue actively seeking out and caring for the vulnerable and marginalised around us. We need to be willing to embrace God's vision of a just and loving kingdom where His grace knows no boundaries.

Matthew 20:1-16 is a powerful reminder of God's boundless grace and His care for all His children. It challenges us to examine our own attitudes and actions, encouraging us to live out the values of compassion, inclusivity, and love in our Christian journey. As we continue to grow in faith and service, may we always remember that our Heavenly Father's love knows no bounds and His care extends to every corner of His vineyard.

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Acknowledgement of country

Banora Point Uniting Church acknowledges the Bundjalung people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, we pay respect to their Elders, past, present and future.

Today's Bible Readings

Isaiah 55:1-9

Matthew 20:1-16

What's Happening This Week

Wednesday	Prayer Meeting 8am Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 9.30am
Thursday	Men's Bible Study group 8.30am KYB (CWC) 10am
Saturday	Men's Breakfast 8am

Missing tablecloths

We are still missing 2 tablecloths— one is a blue check and the other a blue one. Please check to see if you have them at home, and return them.

Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Duty Elders	Robyn & Neil	Neil & Elizabeth
Organist	Audrey	Jill
Greeters	Lorraine S & Daphne	Jan & Mary B
Bible Readers	Dudley & Barbara	Nigel & Sylvia
Morning Tea	Mary & Pat	Shirley T & Dorothy M
Hall Set Up	Nigel	Nigel
Cleaning	Aaron & Jane	Lorraine & Helene

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

There Is Support Available

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

- Rev. Aaron: 0411 325 527
- Your Pastoral Carer

Other upcoming events for your diary

Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 4 October 9.30am
Elders/Council Meeting 10 October 7pm
Fellowship Lunch 11 October 11.45am
Craft Club 13 October 9am
Sunday School 15 October during Sunday Service
Mainly Music 17 October 9.30am
Men's Breakfast 28 October 8am
Church Fete 18 November 8am
Messy Church December 4pm TBC

Book Swap, Coffee & Chat

Just a little reminder that there is a **book swap, coffee & chat** event held every Wednesday from 9.30-11am in the church hall. Everyone is welcome, so please come and bring your friends and neighbours. Even if your not an avid book reader, this is wonderful fellowship event, and well worth coming along to. If you have any queries, please talk to Robyn.

Sunday School

Our Sunday School will be commencing on 15 October. It is planned to take place during our normal worship service, and will be held in the hall. If you know of any kids who could benefit from our Sunday School, please do spread the message!

Men's Breakfast

Meeting for breakfast at 8am on Saturday 30 September at the Twisted Fig Café (near Bunnings in Tweed Heads South), then on to our church hall for Carpet Bowls.

All men are welcome.

Quick reminder that Daylight Savings Time starts on Sunday 1 October, with clocks going forward 1 hour

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child

It is that time of year again, and this year's supply of Christmas Shoeboxes are sitting on the table in the foyer. This is a wonderful project, and we encourage you to be a part of it. Please take a box (or more) plus the leaflets which explains the project and gives very good gift ideas. A donation to cover project costs per shoebox is detailed on the leaflet and is strongly encouraged please.

Offerings

As the Body of Christ here at Banora Point, there are many ways we can contribute to Christ's ongoing mission. Volunteering in local community groups is one way we can be the presence of Christ sharing the Gospel in action in our community.

Another important way we can contribute to the mission of Christ at Banora Point Uniting Church is financially. The offering enables the Uniting Church to have a continued presence in Banora Point, it allows us to run our current outreach programs and will help us meet the changing needs of our local community in the future. Our offerings are received physically during the Worship Service every week or if you prefer you can choose to give electronically, directly into our account. You can do this by direct debit or at your local Commonwealth Bank branch. Please contact Neil Rackham if you need any assistance.

Banora Point Uniting Church 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