



BANORA POINTER

Sunday 1 October 2023



A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



Good morning

In our reading from Matthew 21:23-32, we find a thought-provoking conversation between Jesus and the religious leaders of His time. This passage, known as the Parable of the Two Sons, provides us with valuable insights into the nature of true obedience and repentance.

Let's set the scene: Jesus has entered Jerusalem and is teaching in the temple courts. The religious leaders, the chief priests, and elders approach Him with a question: "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"

Jesus responds by telling them a parable about two sons, one who initially refuses his father's request but later obeys, and the other who agrees to obey but doesn't follow through. Jesus then poses a question to these religious leaders, asking them which of the two sons did the will of his father. They correctly respond that it was the one who, despite his initial refusal, eventually obeyed.

The parable emphasises that actions speak louder than words. It's not enough to say we will obey; true obedience is demonstrated through our deeds. The son who repented and obeyed, even after his initial refusal, exemplifies genuine obedience.

The parable also underscores the theme of repentance and transformation. The son's change of heart and willingness to obey illustrate that God values a repentant heart more than a self-righteous one. It reminds us that it's never too late to turn back to God and embrace a life of obedience.

By telling this parable Jesus confronts the hypocrisy of the religious leaders. They may have appeared righteous on the outside, but their hearts were concerned with material things and power and were far from God. This challenges us to examine our own lives, ensuring our actions match with our faith.

The parable highlights God's grace for sinners. Just as the son who initially refused was still given the opportunity to repent and obey, God offers forgiveness and transformation to all who turn to Him in humility.

Instead of hollow piety let's strive for true obedience to God, not merely going through the motions of faith. It's not about empty rituals or self-righteousness; it's about a heart transformed by love and humility.

We are human and we all make mistakes and fall short, but God's amazing grace provides us with second chances. Through repentance we can turn our lives back to God.

The Parable of the Two Sons reminds us that our faith should be lived out in genuine obedience, characterized by repentance, humility, and love. It challenges us to look beyond appearances and focus on the transformation of our hearts.

Blessings

Rev. Aaron

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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 1:11-20

Matthew 21:23-32

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

Clothes Rails

If anyone has access to movable clothes rails that we can use to display pre-loved clothes at the Fete, please let Nigel or Sylvia know.

Church Roster

Today Next Sunday

Duty Elders	Neil & Elizabeth	Robyn & Elizabeth
Organist	Jill	Audrey
Greeters	Jan & Mary B	Jane & Ellie
Bible Readers	Nigel & Sylvia	Joyce & Noah
Morning Tea	Shirley T & Dorothy M	Sylvia & Pat
Hall Set Up	Nigel	Walter
Cleaning	Lorraine & Helene	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

Elders/Council Meeting 10 October 7pm
Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 11 October 9.30am
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
Pastoral Care Meeting 3 November
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 you are not an avid book reader, this is a 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!

Fellowship Lunch

Everybody is welcome to join the 'Happy Lunchers' at 11.45am on Wednesday October 11th in the "Secret Garden" South Tweed Sports Club for fellowship and lunch. RSVP to Janice by 9 October.

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 explain the project and give very good gift ideas. A donation to cover project costs per shoebox is detailed on the leaflet and is strongly encouraged please. **Boxes to be returned by 23 October.**

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