



BANORA POINTER



Sunday 3 August 2025

A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



True treasure – rich toward God

In this week's readings—**Luke 12:13–21** and **1 Timothy 6:6–10, 17–19**—we're invited to take a hard look at something most of us think about every day: **money**. Jesus tells a parable about a man who builds bigger barns to store his wealth, only to die that very night. Paul, writing to Timothy, warns about the dangers of craving riches and offers a better way: being "rich toward God." These passages are not about guilt—they're about freedom. They ask us: *What is your treasure? And what do you put your trust in?*

Here are three honest, grace-filled invitations from these scriptures:

1. Wealth isn't wrong—but worshiping it is.

Jesus doesn't condemn the rich man because he had a good harvest being wealthy isn't a problem. The problem was what he did with it—and what he believed about it. He placed his wealth above his relationship with God. He thought money could guarantee his future, his comfort, and even his soul's security: "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." He didn't even think about God, he didn't consider God's plan.

It's a dangerous illusion. Paul echoes this when he says, "*The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.*" Money itself doesn't corrupt, money in itself isn't evil, but the love of it—the misplaced trust, the obsession, the belief that if we just have a little more, we'll finally be okay is the issue.

The truth is, money can become an idol, but money can't love us back but God does. It can't truly bring peace, but God does. It can't truly save us, but God does. and we can't take it with us, but God is always with us.

2. Contentment is a holy practice.

It seems that the more we have the more we want. We're never truly satisfied with what we have. But contentment doesn't come from having and gathering more stuff. Paul writes, "*There is great gain in Godliness combined with contentment.*" In a world that

constantly tells us to upgrade, more is better, accumulate, and compete, contentment is a quiet act of resistance. It says: *I have enough because God is enough.*

That doesn't mean we stop working hard or stop caring about finances. But it does mean we learn to hold what we have with open hands. We shift from hoarding to gratitude, from fear to trust.

And here's the beautiful irony: when we stop chasing more, we actually find peace.

3. Be rich toward God.

Jesus ends his parable with a challenge: "*So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.*" Paul picks up the same theme: "*command the rich not ... to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God... to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share.*" In God's economy, real wealth is measured not by what we keep, but by what we give. Not by the size of our savings, but by the depth of our trust. Generosity becomes a way of worship, a way of anchoring our hearts in the Kingdom of God.

So what now?

Maybe money has been a source of stress for you. Maybe it's been a source of pride. Maybe you're just trying to keep your head above water. Wherever you are, Jesus meets you there—not to shame you, but to invite you into something better. He says, "*Life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.*" Paul says, "*Take hold of the life that really is life.*" That's not just good advice. That's the gospel.

Because in the end, we don't trust in barns or bank accounts. We trust in a generous God who has already given us everything in Christ.

Grace and peace,

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

1 Timothy 6:6-10; 17-19 & Luke 12:13-21

What's Happening This Week

Tuesday	Mainly Music 9.30am
Wednesday	Prayer Meeting 8am Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 9.30am
Thursday	Men's Bible Study 8.30am KYB (CWCJ) 10am Evening Bible Study 6.30pm
Friday	Craft Club 9am

Church Roster

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Duty Elder	Audrey	Robyn
Organist/Pianist	Jill	Audrey
Greeters	Terryll	Joyce & Robyn
Bible Readers	Terryll & Nigel	Joyce & Lena
Prayers for Others	Elizabeth	Joyce
Morning Tea	Steph & Dorothy M	Sylvia & Hazel
Hall Set Up	Ross	Craft Club
Sound Room	Nathan	Nigel
Cleaning	Terryll	Craft Club

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

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 or Your Pastoral Carer

Other upcoming events for your diary

Mainly Music 12 August 9.30am
Church Council Meeting 12 August 7pm
Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 13 August 9.30am
Fellowship Lunch 13 August 12 noon
Chaira Companions 17 August 1.30pm
Craft Club 22 August 9am
Pastoral Care Meeting 29 August 10.15am
Men's Breakfast 30 August 8am
Elders' Meeting 9 September 4pm
Fashion Parade 17 September - 10.30am

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. If you have any queries, please talk to Robyn.



Craft Club

Craft Club is on again this Friday. There are flyers in the foyer that explain what goes on. If you need any more information please talk to Hazel or Audrey.

Fellowship Lunch

Everybody is welcome to join the 'Happy Lunchers' at 12 noon on Wednesday 13 August in the "Secret Garden" South Tweed Sports Club for fellowship and lunch. RSVP to Janice by 11 August.

Fred's Place & You Have a Friend

We are still requesting warm clothing, especially jackets, plus warm blankets. Also non-perishable foods and toiletries items. All donations can be left in the church foyer. Please contact Marshall or Jill, for more detailed information. Many thanks to all for your donations to date.

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