

Sunday 26 July 2026

A message from
Rev. Aaron Moad



Ask, Grow, Treasure

1 Kings 3:5-12 and Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Imagine God appeared to you in a dream and said, "Ask whatever you want. It's yours." What would you ask for? Money, success, an easier life? That is exactly the offer given to a young King Solomon, newly crowned and facing the weight of leading a nation. What he asked for, and what he didn't ask for, tells us something enormous about what actually matters. Centuries later, Jesus tells a handful of short parables describing what the kingdom of heaven is like, and what it is worth. A king's blank check and a string of tiny stories may seem worlds apart, but together they teach us how God gives, how His kingdom grows, and what it costs to have it.

Today these readings invite us to reflect on three areas of faith.

I. Asking God for what really matters

Solomon could have asked for long life, riches, or victory over his enemies. Instead he asks for "an understanding mind... that I may discern between good and evil." He didn't ask for things, but for wisdom to serve others well. God is delighted, and grants him wisdom, along with the riches and honour he never requested. The lesson is clear: when our priorities align with God's, everything else tends to fall into place. When we chase the extra temporary things first, we often end up without the one thing that really mattered.

II. Trusting small beginnings to become something great

Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a mustard seed, the smallest of seeds that grows into a tree large enough for birds to nest in, and to yeast, a small amount that transforms an entire batch of dough. We often assume

real impact requires something big and dramatic. But the kingdom usually grows through small, hidden things: a kind word, a quiet prayer, faithful service, one seed of faith planted in someone's life. It rarely looks impressive at first. Given time and given to God, it becomes more than we could have imagined.

III. Recognising the kingdom is worth everything we have

Jesus tells another parable about a man who finds treasure hidden in a field, and another about merchant who finds one pearl of great value. Both sell everything they own to have it, and both do so "in joy." Not reluctantly, not with gritted teeth, but with joy, because what they found is worth infinitely more than what they gave up. That is what the kingdom of heaven is like. It isn't a burden we trade our life for; it's a treasure so good that giving up everything else becomes the best decision we'll ever make.

Conclusion

These readings draw us into a fuller picture of faith: one where we ask God for wisdom before we ask for things, where we trust that small, faithful acts are never wasted, and where we recognise that the kingdom is worth holding onto more tightly than anything else we have.

The same God who answered Solomon's prayer, and who scattered these small parables among the crowds, is still at work today, still offering wisdom, still growing small seeds into something great, still holding out a treasure worth everything we have.

The question for each of us is simple, yet profound: what will we ask for? And what will we treasure?

Grace and peace

Rev. Aaron

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 Kings 3:5-12 & Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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What's Happening This Week

Tuesday	Mainly Music 9.30am Book Club 1.30pm
Wednesday	Prayer Meeting 8am Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 9.30am
Thursday	Men's Bible Study 9am CWCI (KYB) 10am Evening Bible Study 6.30pm
Friday	Craft Club 9am

Church Roster

	Today	Next Sunday
Duty Elder	Neil	Dorothy
Organist/Pianist	Audrey	Mel
Greeters	Robyn & Nigel	Joan & Stephanie
Bible Readers	Terryll & Neil	Joyce & Terryll
Prayers for Others	Aaron	Elizabeth
Morning Tea	Chris & Sylvia	Shirley T & Dorothy Mc
Hall Set Up	Nigel	Ross
Sound Room	Nathan	Nigel
Cleaning	Aaron & Jane	Aaron & Jane

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 or Your Pastoral Carer

Other upcoming events for your diary

Mainly Music 4 August 9.30am
Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 5 August 9.30am
Church Council Meeting 11 August 7pm
Fellowship Lunch 12 August 12 Noon
Craft Club 14 August 9am
Chaira Companions 16 August 1.30pm
TCCEA Prayer Meeting 18 August 4pm
Pastoral Care Meeting 21 August 9.30am
Mini Market 22 August 8.30am
Men's Breakfast 29 August 8am
Elders' Meeting 8 September 4pm
Fashion Parade 16 September 10.30am



Mainly Music

The new term starts this coming Tuesday. More volunteers are always welcome for this very popular outreach programme. If you would like more details, please talk to Lynn or Lorraine.

Fellowship Lunch

Everybody is welcome to join the "Happy Lunchers" at 12 noon on Wednesday 12 August in the "Secret Garden" South Tweed Sports Club for fellowship and lunch. RSVP to Janice by 10 August.

Mini Market

We have a number of people making jams, chutneys and relishes for the Mini Market. **They have asked if members of our congregation can please donate used clean 250gm to 295gm jars.** If you can help, please leave them on the table in the foyer as soon as possible.

Fred's Place

Many thanks to everyone who has so generously donated to this appeal – it is very much appreciated by Fred's Place. This Winter **they are welcoming donations of blankets, jackets and socks. Canned and packaged foodstuffs would also be appreciated.** Please talk to Marshall if you have any queries.

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 Shane Hambling 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