



Greystanes Grapevine

The weekly newsletter of Greystanes Uniting Church



24 OCTOBER 2021

Please join us online via our Facebook page to worship with us this weekend. This week's service will be led by Adrian and next week's service will be led by Lola.

Lectionary Readings

This week 24 October, 2021

Job 42:1-6,10-17
Psalm 34:1-8,(19-22)
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

Next week 31 October, 2021

Ruth 1:1-18
Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:11-14
Mark 12:28-34

COVID Update

The Craft Group is returning to meeting in person from this Wednesday 27th October at 7pm.

Ladies' Bible Study will return on Tuesday 9 November at 3pm.

Men's group will return on Monday 1 November at 7.30pm

All attendees will need to be double-vaccinated.

The Op Shop will remain closed until Wednesday 1st December to protect the volunteer staff from issues that may arise from having to deny access to those who are not double vaccinated.

Church will return to worship in person on Sunday 5 December.

Christmas Appeal

Our Child Care Centre is supporting the Aboriginal Children's Service in Redfern with gifts for Christmas and some gift ideas are below. If you would like to help, please drop your gift in to the office or the child care centre by Wednesday 1st December. If you have any questions please contact Sue in the office.



This year we will be collecting for children aged between 0-15 years, Elders and Food Hampers for families.

Due to COVID-19, **GIFT CARDS ARE PREFERRED**, this is to reduce handling and the need for supporters to head out into the community. Gift cards can be purchased at Woolworths, Coles, IGA, Post Office in a variety of denominations.

If you would prefer to donate goods - back to school items, festive food hamper items, new toys and books would be appreciated. No second hand items please.

We ask that all donations be delivered to the Aboriginal Children's Service (18 George St Redfern) on Friday the 3rd December between 10am - 3pm. If you need an alternative drop off time please reach out to Nat on 0407066288.

Gifts and hampers will be distributed to families supported by the weekly Aboriginal Children's Service Food Drive & Bidy's Joy Playgroup.

BIDDY'S JOY



ACS



GIFT CARDS IDEAS:

- Essentials/Simply groceries cards from Woolworths
- Coles/Myer
- Hoyts
- Dymocks
- JB HI-FI
- Ultimate Kids gift cards
- Ultimate Teens gift cards
- Smiggle
- Rebel
- Target/Kmart

contact@acsredfern.org

Call Nat - 0407 066 288

www.acsredfern.org



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Jesus & Bartimeus Mark 10:46-52

Many had heard about Jesus. Many had heard and witnessed all that Jesus had been doing from place to place. But not many had the spiritual sense to put two and two together. They had seen Jesus heal the sick, and preach the message of life. But even though they had seen what Jesus was doing and heard what Jesus was saying, they still had no spiritual sense to figure out what they should do.

But this blind beggar— though he was helpless was different! He had spiritual sense. When he heard what Jesus had been doing and what Jesus had been saying, he thought to himself: "This is the voice of God. This is the one who had come to heal me and to bless me and to forgive me. I may be just a cursed beggar but from what I hear about Jesus, I am a precious child of God. And this very day God is visiting me. And he wants to make me well again." He shouted "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

What's going on here? What's going on is that his faith was at work— his faith came to life— he believed that Jesus was the Messiah— the Son of God. And that he had finally come to bless him and to change his life.

He was convinced that God loved him. And when he knew this truth in his heart not even a crowd of a thousand could stop him from reaching out to Jesus. Nothing could hinder his faith. His faith was stronger than a crowd of ignorant people. And his pleas finally reached Jesus' ears.

Jesus asked him, "**What do you want me to do for you?**" Why would Jesus ask such a question? To see what's in his heart!

The blind beggar's answer is remarkable. Read verse **51b. "The blind man said, 'Rabbi, I want to see.'"** He could have asked for anything he wanted, but Bartimeus simply voiced what was on his heart. He wanted to see.

Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road. Jesus saw his faith. And Jesus honoured his prayer. He gave him what he wanted the most. He healed his eyes **and** his soul.

What do you pray for? What do you want Jesus to do for you today? If your heart's desire is in this world, you pray greedily for selfish things. And when your heart's desire is noble, you pray according to the noble desire of your hearts.

Be noble in your heart's desire. Let your prayer reflect the will of God! And persist— until your prayer is answered.

"Lord, make me a servant. Make me humble like you. Use me in the gospel work to reflect your love and mercy to everyone, until they too come to know you and love you and serve you."

Adrian