

## *Good News Daily*

**Volume XVIII**

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**Number 44**

### **Sunday, November 4**

Matthew 18:21-35 “*This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.*” (v.35 NIV)

Usually, I find the parables of Jesus hard to understand. But this parable was crystal clear to me. The first time I read it, I was convicted to the heart. I remember asking myself, “How many times have I acted like this unmerciful servant?” The answer was: far too many times. I saw a picture of myself in this parable.

Forgiveness is not any easy thing. I often think if I forgive someone I am just letting them “off the hook” with no consequences for their actions. But the fact is I am indebted to many other people for things I have done against them. And my desire is for them to forgive me. But this parable says it has to go both ways.

If I had to pay God back for all the sins I have committed, I could never do it. He freely and willingly and continually forgives me. In turn, I am required to do the same for other people. May I remember to show mercy and not have an unforgiving heart. Are you willing to forgive others like God has forgiven you?

Ezekiel 20:18-26; Psalms 24, 29; 1 Corinthians 12:27—13:13

*ANGLICAN CYCLE:* PRAY for The Church of Ceylon (Extra Provincial to Canterbury)

Colombo - (Ceylon) [The Rt Revd Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabey](#); Kurunegala - [The Rt Revd Keerthisiri Fernando](#)

*DIOCESAN CYCLE:* St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Carlinville, The Rev. John R. Henry, Rector; Tura Mission, Tanzania, Rev. Ernest Lugenzi, Vicar; The Mission of Santiago Apóstol, Selva Alegre, Peru, Rev'd Victor Condori, Vicar.  
*ST. MATTHEW'S:* Wedding anniversary of Valerie & Rex Schaeffer.

### **Monday, November 5**

Psalm 56 *Record my misery; list my tears on your scroll—are they not in your record?* (v.8)

I just love this verse. It amazes me that the God of the universe records my misery and tears. He actually keeps a record. A personal record of the trials and sufferings I am experiencing.

I know this may not be a literal interpretation, but the idea is there. The message is clear. God hears and is concerned with what is keeping me awake at night and when I cry. There is a record in heaven on my account. God is intimately acquainted with my pain.

May I remember to thank and praise Him for His concern for me. He is keeping track. He hears. He sees. He will act.

Ezekiel 20:27-44; Psalms 57, 58; Revelation 14:1-13; Luke 12:49-59  
*ANGLICAN CYCLE:* Kabba - (Lokoja, Nigeria) [The Rt Revd Steven Akobe](#)  
*DIOCESAN CYCLE:* Grant, O Lord, that from the written word, and by our spoken word, men and women may catch a vision of the Incarnate Word, through the power of the Holy Spirit. - *D.Coggan.*

## **Tuesday, November 6**

Ezekiel 24:1-14 “*I the LORD have spoken. The time has come for me to act. I will not hold back; I will have no pity, nor will I relent. You will be judged according to your conduct and your actions, declares the Sovereign LORD.*” (v.14)

We live in troubled times. Like most generations, I think the end of time and the return of Jesus could be very close at hand. It is a sobering thought. I don't like to think of God's judgement and wrath. But this is part of God's sovereignty. He will call all humankind to account.

This makes me ask two questions: “Am I ready for God's judgement? Are there those I know who are not ready for God's judgement?” I am responsible for myself. I am also responsible to be sharing the news of salvation to others. Then there is also the call to intercessory prayer for those who are not God followers. Again, sobering thoughts.

I am challenged as I read the whole of God's Word. I prefer to stick with the gospel accounts and the good news of Christ rather than the final judgement that will come to pass. My prayer is that God will help me be ready and get others ready through my words and prayers. Will you pray for someone who does not know Jesus today? I will.

Psalms 61, 62; Revelation 14:14—15:8; Luke 13:1-9  
*ANGLICAN CYCLE:* Kadugli & Nuba Mountains - (Sudan) [The Rt Revd Andudu Adam Elnail](#);  
[The Rt Revd Hassan Osman](#), Assistant Bishop  
*DIOCESAN CYCLE:* Lord Jesus, in our weakness you are strength; in our darkness you are light.

## **Wednesday, November 7**

Luke 13:10-17 *When he had said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.* (v.17)

Jesus was not afraid of confrontation. He speaks clearly and has a purpose with the words he chooses. Jesus speaks directly against the leaders showing their disregard for people and their need to have rules and regulations followed above all else. He shows them that this is an error, and not what God intends.

People, not rules, were important to Jesus. He took the initiative in this healing encounter. He sought the woman out, not the other way around. God is not confined by the rules of human beings. Jesus showed the religious leaders that God's work was not limited to certain days or times. He is at work all the time.

My prayer is that I would not put God in a box. I ask that God would grant me the ability to see Him as He really is, not what I think He is in human terms. Jesus said, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working" (John 5:17). Praise be to God who is constantly at work on our behalf.

Ezekiel 26:1-14; Psalm 72; Revelation 16:1-11

*ANGLICAN CYCLE:* Kaduna - (Kaduna, Nigeria) [Vacant](#); Kafanchan - ( Abuja, Nigeria) [The Rt Revd Marcus Dogo](#)

*DIOCESAN CYCLE:* Eternal God, take from us pride and vanity, boasting and forwardness, and give us true courage that shows itself by gentleness.

### **Thursday, November 8**

Psalm 71 *Do not cast me away when I am old; do not forsake me when my strength is gone. As for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more.* (vv.9, 14)

My parents are in their eighties. My dad has had heart trouble from the time he was fifty years old. To live into his eighties is quite remarkable. But now there are signs of his heart failing. His lungs are also compromised. His health is fragile. Yet, my dad shows no signs of his faith failing him.

After knowing Christ for many years, my dad is even more confident now that God is with him. He has the assurance that whatever health crisis he goes through, God is present. He also knows and looks forward to the day he goes home to heaven to be with Jesus. Like the psalmist, my dad is secure in God's ability to care for him until the very end.

As I myself age, I sometimes feel fearful. My dad's faith is an example to me. My dad continues to give thanks for the health he does have and praises God for it. He shows no sign of discouragement or fear. My dad tells me I do not have to fear the aging process. I will trust my earthly father and heavenly Father that this is true. God's promises to me are good for a lifetime—from the beginning to the end.

Ezekiel 29:17-21; Psalm 70; Revelation 16:12-21; Luke 14:18-30

*ANGLICAN CYCLE:* Kagera - (Tanzania) [The Rt Revd Aaron Kijanjali](#)

Biharamulo - (Tanzania) [The Rt Revd Vithalis Yusuph](#)

*DIOCESAN CYCLE:* Pray for God's guidance and wisdom on this National Day.

## **Friday, November 9**

Ezekiel 12:12-28 *“Say to them, ‘The days are near when every vision will be fulfilled.’”* (v.23b)

People and society haven’t changed much over time. Even when reading the Old Testament, we can see that the culture back then was much as it is today. In the reading of Ezekiel, people were saying that the prophet’s warnings were for a time in the future and nothing to be worried about in the present. People of today say the same thing about the return of Christ.

Our culture today places an emphasis on doing what makes us feel good in the present. Yet God is very clear that Jesus will return soon. We are reminded that he will come as a “thief in the night” (1 Thessalonians 5:2). We don’t know the day or the hour. We are to be ready for his return at any moment.

Sometimes it seems as if God’s promise for this to happen is taking a long time. I am reminded by this passage that the time could be very close at hand. The question is not when, but am I ready. Are you ready?

Psalm 69; Revelation 17:1-18; Luke 13:31-35

*ANGLICAN CYCLE:* Kajiado - (Kenya) [The Rt Revd Gadiel Katanga Lenini](#)

*DIOCESAN CYCLE:* Church of the Redeemer, Cairo, Consecration of present church building.

*ST. MATTHEW’S:* Sandy Kohlhase’ birthday.

## **Saturday, November 10**

Psalm 75 *We praise you, God, we praise you, for your Name is near; people tell of your wonderful deeds. When the earth and all its people quake, it is I who hold its pillars firm.* (vv.1, 3)

When Peter began to sink after walking on the water to Jesus, he cried out for Jesus to help him. The verse in Matthew 14:29 says, “Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him.” It’s the same way for me. Like this psalm says, God is very near. He only waits for me to call out upon His name.

Verse 3 reminds me about the world I live in. I tend to worry after seeing news reports on television and reading the newspaper. The world around me seems to be out of control. It is unsettling to hear about so much political turmoil, war, and violence. Lately, it makes me want to ignore the news altogether. I’m thankful I have the choice to use the remote and tune out the negative voice of the world.

I try to concentrate on the fact that God is the one who holds the world together. Despite the world being chaotic, God is still in charge. When everything around me can seem like it’s falling apart, God has me firm in His grip. When I focus on God and not the unrest around me, I find the peace only He can give. God alone is my firm foundation.

Ezekiel 13:1-16; Psalm 76; Revelation 18:1-14; Luke 14:1-11

*ANGLICAN CYCLE:* Kajo Keji - (Loryko, South Sudan) [The Rt Revd Emmanuel Murye](#)

*DIOCESAN CYCLE:* Lord God, Prince of Peace, let there be peace and truth in our days; let all that believe in you be of one heart and one soul

*by Pamela Newton*

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**Pray for** the sick and those in distress: Charlie, Jenna A., Mary, James T., Julie C., Valerie R., Barbara A., Bill B., Ms. Shayne, Diane B., Steve J., Carol D., Debbie T.

**Pray for** the Faithful Departed:

**Pray for** those living in nursing homes and other shut-ins: Dale B., Barb W., Daniel T., and Margaret P.

**Pray for:** The Diocese of Tabora, Anglican Church of Tanzania, The Rt. Rev. Elias Chakupewa, the clergy and people. The Missionary Diocese of Peru, The Rt. Rev. Alejandro Mesco. Fr. Kari Marcelle, the clergy and people of Holy Trinity St. Vincent. Fr. Dave and all clergy, for whom we light the candle on the west side of the Altar