

1 SAMUEL 15:34 – 16:13

Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeath of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably: I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-10 (11-13) 14-17

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

MARK 4:26-34

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.



Merimbula Uniting Church

(PART OF SAPPHIRE COAST UNITING CHURCHES)

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The kingdom
is like this...
Mark 4:26

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Morning Worship: Roster

	16 th June 2024	23 rd June 2024
Leader	Rev Nigel Hawken	Dr John Williams
Music	Rosemary Akesson	Elizabeth Prosser
Entry of Bible	Ailsa Liffman	Iris Ballard
Acknowledgement of Country	Robyn Herdegen	Robyn Herdegen
Stewards	Anne Olinsky & Jeff Haynes	Tony & Anne Olinsky
Reader	Iris Ballard	Shirley Bazley
Pastoral Prayer	Ailsa Liffman	Iris Ballard
Morning Tea	Iris Ballard & Meryll Davey	Joan & Royce Lovett
Projection	Tony Olinsky	Jeff Haynes
Flowers	Shirley McLennan	Robyn Herdegen
Lectionary	1 Samuel 15: 34-16:13 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17 Mark 4: 26-34	1 Samuel 17: 4-11, 19-23, 32-49 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13 Mark 4: 35-41

Regular Activities

Morning Worship: 1st, 2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday/month: - 10am

Holy Communion: 3rd Sunday/month - 10am and 2:30pm at Wyndham

Imlay House Service: 2:00pm, 3rd Thursday of the month - helpers would be appreciated - see Rev Jean.

Tura Beach Op Shop: Open Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Uniting Church Tai Chi 108: Thursday 10-11am in the hall. Contact Shirley

Uniting Church Dance Group: Tuesday evenings at 7 pm and Friday mornings at 9 am Contact Pam Jordan 0475 191 923 for details.

'Blokes United' Coffee Morning - 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday each month - 10am at MorMors

Church Bring-and-Share Brunch - 1st Sunday/month (Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec.)

Iris Ballard - 18th



For those who would like to make their offering anonymously via regular direct bank transfer, our banking details for Giving Direct are: **Acc Name** Sapphire Coast Uniting Church **BSB** 634-634 **Acc No** 100037934

Checkout our website: merimbulaunitingchurch.com.au
Find us on Facebook @ Sapphire Coast Uniting Church

The regular 3rd Thursday of the month Imlay Services are continuing while Rev Jean is on leave. Pastor Bronson Symes will be leading the service, any helpers would be appreciated, as usual - Thursday 20th June, 2:00pm service

We are planning a church community lunch at Oaklands, Pambula, after our church service on Sunday 30th June. This will just be a social occasion as we come to the end of our 3 months of Rev Jean's leave. If you would like to join us, please add your name to the list on the noticeboard.

DISCIPLESHIP THOUGHT

Jesus wants us to know that the reign of God, which we might call the government of God, the commonwealth of God, or the world of God, begins small and hidden. Perhaps this is why we have so many stories of Jesus healing the blind in the gospels - if we don't see and pay attention, we might miss what God is doing in the world. The world of God is not only small but also very often hidden - hidden from the 'wise' and revealed to 'infants' (Matthew 11:25). Because the Church is an organisation, we think like organisations and expect our churches to grow like organisations. Jesus uses small seeds to speak of the reign of God. Seeds must disappear to do their work. What can we learn about the Church's life from Jesus's insistence on smallness and hiddenness?

I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forgo their use.
Galileo Galilei