

# The Vine

10<sup>th</sup> October 2021



**Series:** Advent Conspiracy

**Message:** Spend Less - Receive More

**Scripture:** John 14. 1-7. Acts 1.1-5. Philippians 1. 1-11. 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 1.1-11. NIV

This Sunday we conclude the second of four foundations on which the Advent Conspiracy is based: 'Spend-Less'.

Our goal over the past four weeks has been to inspire you to spend less and receive more!

The world encourages squirreling, squandering, loving and pursuing money and material things. Money claims that unless you can put a price on something or somebody, it doesn't really 'count'.

In sharp contrast, Jesus calls us to seek and invest all our resources in His Kingdom as our priority.

This Sunday we will be exploring the last and most important capital of all: 'Spiritual Capital'. How much spiritual equity do we have to invest?

The currency is wisdom, power, and authority.

**Paul's prayer to the church in Ephesus is very appropriate....**

*<sup>17</sup> I pray to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is the glorious Father. I keep asking Him to give you the wisdom and understanding that come from the Holy Spirit. I want you to know God better.*

*<sup>18</sup> I pray that you may understand more clearly. Then you will know the hope God has chosen you to receive. You will know that what God will give His holy people is rich and glorious.*

*<sup>19</sup> And you will know God's great power. It can't be compared with anything else. His power works for us who believe. It is the same mighty strength*

*<sup>20</sup> God showed. He showed this when He raised Christ from the dead." (Ephesians 1. 17 - 20).*

Much Grace,  
Orrell



“God’s kingdom is like a treasure hidden in a field for years and then accidentally found by a trespasser. The finder is ecstatic - what a find! - And proceeds to sell everything he owns to raise money and buy that field.” (Matthew 13.44. Message).

**SPIRITUAL CAPITAL:** This is the ‘spiritual equity’ we have available to invest, measured in *wisdom and power*. We see people astonished at Jesus’ teaching, because it was filled with authority and wisdom, and at His miracles, because they expressed a degree of God’s power that they had never seen before. Jesus was ‘rich’ in spiritual capital. That’s what He had that gave Him the resources necessary to carry out His mission - which was to open the doors of the kingdom of God to everyone.

We see Jesus constantly urging people to trade in other forms of capital to gain this one. For Jesus this is the ultimate ‘payoff’ of living as His disciple: you grow your spiritual capital, which is of the highest value of all the capitals.

When Jesus talked about life in the kingdom of God and how it was worth cashing everything else in for, He was talking about a life rich in spiritual capital. When Jesus talked about eternal life, He wasn’t just talking about long-lasting life - He was talking about a life rich in spiritual capital that lasts forever. The kingdom of God and eternal life are like code words, referring to a life filled with spiritual capital.

In fact, you could say that Jesus’ whole mission was to help people prosper in spiritual capital (and through spiritual capital, all the other capitals). His message was that, through relationship with Him, anyone could become ‘wealthy’ in spiritual capital.

Isn’t that an interesting way to think about it? That was the gospel, or ‘good news’ that Jesus announced to people, that the true wealth of a life with God in His kingdom was the most valuable thing anyone could hope to obtain, so it was, therefore, worth every sacrifice required to obtain it. It’s like a treasure a man found in a field. In his joy, he sold everything he had and bought the field!

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## **SAMARITAN’S PURSE SHOEBOX PACKING → TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

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Thank you for your very generous support again this year, both in gifts to be included in the boxes and for covering the cost of postage. The shoeboxes will be packed on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 1:30pm in the Imbil Church Hall. If you’d like to help, phone Helen on 5484 3143. We’re planning to take a small group from Gympie - please contact Cherylie if you can to join us.

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**FROM OUR BOOK OF LIFE** ♦ This week please pray by name for ...

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Marilla, Richard, Brian, Richie, Rhonda, Ritchie, Elliott,  
Lachlan, Mack, Lorelei

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## KIDS CHURCH

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We're excited! It's so good to be reintroducing Kids Church for children 2 years & older. We'll kick off today with the children worshipping with their parents until the start of the message when they'll go to the CE Room with Sophie leading and Jim and Cherylie providing support.

We'll be developing our Kids Church Ministry as we move forward and we're asking you to be on board:

- We would like prayers and volunteers for children's church.
- People can contribute by offering crafts/skills- preparing special snacks/treats.
- Above all, we contribute by welcoming and receiving this ministry and accepting the mess and chaos associated with it. 😊

~~REMINDER TO PARENTS:~~ Your children will need to be signed in and out as we comply with 'Safe Ministry with Children' practice.

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## CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS → 2022

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Nominations are open for Church Council 2022 - forms are available from Imbil's Church foyer and Gympie's information table in the CE Room. Details of the process were included with the last Congregational Meeting information package (paper copies are available). Nominations close on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Please continue to pray that God guides this process.

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## GYMPIE HEARING LOOP



If you wear slightly less modern style hearing aids, the best place for you to sit in church is in the 4th, 5th or 6th rows (counted from the front). The blue arrows on the side walls are your guide. The latest aids will clearly pick up sound from any row.

## What Is My True Worth?

"Your net worth is not the same thing as your self-worth. Your value is not based on your valuables." Rick Warren

The Bible says your true value is found in Jesus Christ. You have value in the fact that God made you ([Psalm 139:13](#)).

He made you in His image ([Genesis 1:27](#)) and He has plans for you ([Jeremiah 29:11](#)).

Whether you have spent time in prison, held a public office or won a Nobel prize, you have inherent value because Jesus paid a tremendous price for you ([1 Corinthians 6:20](#)).

God sent his Son to die for you so you can be with Him forever.

*But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. – Romans 5:8 NIV*

**So, Take Heart!**

