

**Theme:** Choice

**Series:** You Choose

**Message:** 'Gotta Serve Somebody'

**Scripture:** Joshua 24. 13 - 18 MSG. Proverbs 3. 5 - 12 & 21 - 26 MSG.



28th January 2024

The VIBE

*"But you're gonna have to serve somebody, yes indeed  
You're gonna have to serve somebody  
Well, it may be the Devil, or it may be the Lord  
But you're gonna have to serve somebody."  
Bob Dylan*

### **Serving God Is a Personal Choice.**

Not everything in life is a choice.

We don't choose who our parents are.

Where we are born.

The circumstances of our upbringing.

Our natural physical features.

Even, our name was given to us by someone else.

However, there is a point in life when we make the most important choice anyone can ever make.

To either serve God or reject Him.

No one can make this choice for us.

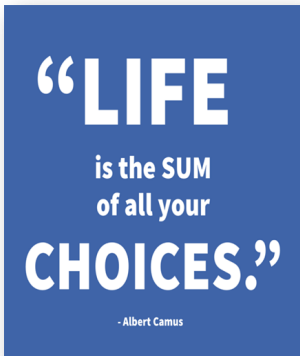
It's personal.

Individual.

It's really a 'yes' or 'no' decision.

There is no middle ground.

## Your Choices Can Affect Your Family and Even Generations to Come



The choices made by Mums and Dads influence and impact the attitudes, and actions of their children and their children's children.

Our choices send a signal, even to small children, regarding our beliefs, our values, our priorities and the depth of our faith.

Stewardship, discipleship, church attendance and prayer, all contribute to our spiritual wellbeing, as well as influencing our children, grandchildren, and even great grandchildren.

Remember, little eyes are watching.  
Little ears are hearing.

In His famous 'mountain message' Jesus offered this warning....

*"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other.*

*You cannot serve God and mammon." (Matt. 6;244)*

John R. W. Stott wrote reminding us to see this choice for what it is....

*"a choice between Creator and creature, between the glorious personal God and a miserable thing called money, between worship and idolatry - it seems inconceivable that anyone could make the wrong choice."*

Yet, many people have, and still do.

Choose Wisely,  
Orrell



### **The following is taken from 'Uniting News' 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**

In this new year, as we look forward with faith for a new season, we remain energised by the possibilities of RENEWAL.

We seek a deep and powerful renewal that encompasses reflection, recognition and restoration, one that challenges us to resurrection and re-affirmation, that may ask us to repent or to reconcile, and that calls us to re-align, reimagine and rejoice.

A new year can bring a sense of obligation to hurry onwards, but there is also a wonderful opportunity to take a moment. Let us pause to reflect, to look around and look within. Let us be still and know...





*(Dorothy) June McLintock passed away last Monday, 22nd January, 2024. June's life will be celebrated at Gympie Funeral Home, 10am on Friday, 2nd February 2024, in a service conducted by Rev. Gary McLintock.  
~ Please keep June's family in your prayers ~*

### **Grand Friends 2024**

The Grand Friends who visit the Uniting Early Learning Centre are ready to start another year of connecting with the educators & kindy kids! The date to start has now been changed to Wednesday the 14th February. This gives an extra week for those who may be thinking of joining us to decide if it would be something they would like to do. The only requirement is to be over 60yrs old. Creaky joints & the inability to sit on the floor can all be accommodated! You can ring the Church Office if you want to be added to the roster and Cherylie will let me know.

Judy Brown.

### **Uniting 4570 Prayer**

Let's pick up where we may have left off last year - keeping in our personal prayers the smooth and timely passage of our building plan and also for the activities and fellowship of our church family as we enter a new year.

We would love to see you at 8am on Tuesdays, in the CE Room, where we PRAY together and share COMMUNION ... it's a very friendly space.

## **What's Happening**

- \* **Kidz Church**  
resumes today
- \* **Gympie's Livestreamed Message**  
from today on facebook & youtube
- \* **Prayer & Communion**  
Tuesdays, 8am, CE Room
- \* **Grand Friends**  
from Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February
- \* **Joy Circle**  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 9.30 to 11.30am

**Marriage is hard. Divorce is hard.**

*Choose your hard.*

**Obesity is hard. Being fit is hard.**

*Choose your hard.*

**Being in debt is hard.**

**Being financially disciplined is hard.**

*Choose your hard.*

**Communication is hard.**

**Not communicating is hard.**

*Choose your hard.*

**Life will never be easy.**

**It will always be hard.**

*But we can choose our hard.*

***Choose Wisely!***

## Our Church

Our primary purpose is to fulfil our calling - the calling of exhibiting the character of Jesus, a spirit of humility, love, and unity, coupled with resurrection power, proving that the church is truly 'The Body of Christ' inhabited by God Himself!



**UNITING 4570**  
**Better Together**

## God's Goal

"God's overarching goal is to produce men and women who demonstrate the character qualities of Jesus Christ.

God does not want a church filled with white robed saints.

He does not want a church filled with theological authorities or cultured clergy.

He wants a church filled with ordinary men and women who exemplify the extraordinary integrity, temperament, wholeness, compassion, individuality, boldness, righteousness, earnestness, love, forgiveness, selflessness, and faithfulness of Jesus Christ!" *Ray Steadman*

### Worship

**Worship Services...** **Gympie:** 15 Red Hill Road - 9am + Kidz Church (school term)

**Imbil:** 3 Elizabeth Street - 9am

**Live-streaming...** Sunday messages are usually livestreamed to facebook & YouTube; look up 'Gympie Regional Uniting Church'

### Contact Us

**Church Office...** M: 0493 442 250 P: (07) 5482 2985 E: [cherylie@gruc.org](mailto:cherylie@gruc.org)

[www.gruc.org.au](http://www.gruc.org.au) F: [www.facebook.com/guchurch](http://www.facebook.com/guchurch)

**Office Hours...** Mon & Wed 8.30am-12pm; Tue 9.30am-3pm; Thu 8.30am-3pm

**Rev Orrell Battersby..** 0423 985 200 [orrell@gruc.org](mailto:orrell@gruc.org)

**Pastoral Care...** Please contact the office by phone or email

- Need the services of a Justice of The Peace? ... Call Glenda 0418 187 698
- Need help with your computer? ... Call Mike 0403 271 413
- Need a lift to church? ... Call Jill 0421 333 538
- Need prayer? ... Call the office 0493 442 250

## Offering & Attendance Last Sunday

Attendance: Adults 65 ♦ Children 9 ♦ No livestreamed message last week

Total Week's Offering: \$1,999.15 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,270.00.

Tithes & Offerings by Bank Transfer: Westpac BSB 034 127 Acct: 29 4101

(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)