

grace, enables us to progressively say “no” to what is wrong and “yes” to what is most pleasing in his sight.

### **A Passion for the Things of God**

We will struggle to choose what is best, however, if our heart passions do not *love* what is right. Deep in our heart there are strong passions, drives, desires and emotions. These can be so powerful they can overwhelm the mind, conscience and will. We are moved to do (with our will) what we know (in our minds) to be wrong—and what we feel guilty about in our consciences.

Such strong wrong passions need to be sanctified. The Holy Spirit alone can transform our affections so that we come to love what is good and hate what is evil. As we dwell on Christ, the Spirit increasingly moves us toward godly desires. We come to delight in what is good, to love God’s Word; to rejoice in the gospel, and find pleasure in pleasing God.

Awareness of these four faculties helps us pursue godliness at a heart level. Far from being a check box exercise, the pursuit of holiness becomes a quest for whole-hearted allegiance to God.

One helpful way to take up that pursuit is to pray often for a godly mind, a clear conscience, an obedient will, and for spiritual passion. Here are some prompts as you pray for heart holiness:

*Gracious God, I offer my heart to you today.*

*Help me to feed my mind on what is good, right and true, and to turn it away from untruth, from the trivial, the profane and the impure. Bring to my mind the truth of your Word. Enable me to dwell on Christ and to set my mind on things above not earthly things.*

*Awaken my conscience so that I am sensitive to sin. Help me to resist anything that would make me feel guilt or shame. Enable me to live with a clear conscience before you and other people. Assure me of your forgiving grace, so that I might know your peace.*

*Enable me to make good and right choices today. Help me to obey you willingly and readily. Help me to submit my will to yours. Give me wisdom to know how to speak and act so as to reflect your holiness.*

*Move me, by the power of your Spirit, to love what you love and hate what you hate. Make the gospel burn in my heart. Stir in me godly desires, and help me to put worldly passions to death. Increase my spiritual hunger and give me a heart that longs to be holy.*

*Please give me such a heart to live for you today. Amen.*



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*If you O Lord should mark iniquity, Lord who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, God of Israel. [Psalm 130.3-4].*

### **9<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 – Ordinary 28**

#### **Today**

**2 Kings 2**

Psalm 121

James 1:2-8

Luke 13:1-9

(p 570)

(p 965)

(p 1880)

(p 1619)

#### **16<sup>th</sup> October**

**2 Kings 3**

### **The Heart of Holiness - Part 2**

Murray Capill – TGC August, 2022.

To have a heart of holiness we need the gospel to shape our mind, conscience, will and passions. These are the four core faculties of the human heart. As the work of Christ is pressed on our hearts by the Holy Spirit, each faculty is progressively sanctified and we grow in godliness from the inside out. In part 2 we consider the role of our will and passions in shaping our hearts.

### **A Will to Please God**

With a renewed mind and a cleansed conscience, we want to do what is right in God’s sight. We desire to obey God and submit our will to his. As the Spirit sanctifies us, we begin to make different choices; to speak and act in different ways. We want to live for Christ, day by day.

Pursuing a holy life means taking these daily choices seriously. We often stand at the crossroads, with options of right and wrong, good and bad, obedient or disobedient, or simply, better or worse. The old nature calls out to us, trying to persuade us to give in to sin. But we are to count ourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ. We submit our wills to God’s, even as Jesus did at the moment of greatest temptation in his life. His victory then, and his inward

## A guide for our prayers during the week

### Monday

Our diocese and the gospel

- Bishop and Dean
- Other parishes
- Another Year of evangelism

### Tuesday

Our church and the gospel

- Children and youth
- Families
- Seniors

### Wednesday

Our community and the gospel

- Covid19
- SRE
- Youth Group

### Thursday

Our nation and the gospel

- Prime minister
- State and local government
- Religious Freedom legislation

### Friday

God's world and the gospel

- Islamisation
- War and poverty
- Barnabas Aid & Open Doors
- Compassion - Lillian

### Saturday

Ministry and the gospel

- Link missionaries – James & Steph
- Link parish – St Anne's Ryde
- Wardens and Parish Council
- Vicar

### Dates to Remember

9 October (today)

Bible Society in Barraba –  
**postponed until new year**  
Service at **Woodsreef at 11.00 am**  
Parish Council meet from 6 pm  
Working Bee & Shoebox packing  
Youth Muster  
Lay preacher training - zoom

11 October

15 October

11-13 November

28 November

	Today	16 October
<b>Greet</b>	Jenni	Trevor
<b>Lead</b>	Penny	Hugh
<b>Read</b>	Penny, Jenni, Barbara	Hugh, Jenni, Wendy
<b>Prayers</b>	Dean	Dale
<b>Counting</b>	Will & Hamilton	Dean & Steve
<b>Sunday Club</b>		Peter & Margaret
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Watkins & Evi	Wendy & Dale
<b>Church Cleaning</b>		Jenni/Evi
<b>Mowing</b>		Trevor & Daniel

### Bible Study Groups in the Parish

#### Monday morning from 10 am

Women's group. Contact Jenni Avenell for details (0475 417 979)

#### Monday nights from 6.30 pm

Mixed group. Contact Hamilton Trotter for details. (6782 1896 or 0427 821 896)

#### Tuesday nights from 7.30 pm

Mixed group. Contact Dean Blomfield for details (6782 1858 or 0447 821 850)

#### Friday morning from 10 am

Women's group. Contact Pam King for details (6782 1357 or 0429 798 738)

#### Friday morning from 10 am.

Mixed group. Contact Daniel Avenell for details (6782 1037 or 0439 735 942)

### Direct Debit Giving Information

**Account name:** Barraba Anglican Church

**BSB:** 932-000

**Account No.:** 11685 (add S3 if transferring from RAB. Omit if not)