

TWO OLD LADIES

By Bill Pugh

They were two of a family of orchardists who had built our little church many years ago and now too old to come to Sunday worship, so I visited them.

I was in my best Sunday suit, white collar, Bible in hand, ready for a message and prayer time.

Afternoon tea was special. Silver teapot, cups and saucers and napkins. There were home-made scones and jam, and I left with a generous cheque for our church.

Luke tells the story of early missionaries sent out to establish the early church, labourers worthy of their hire, accepting local hospitality, then moving on to the next field of mission.

Our two old ladies were special representatives of that missionary call sent out to those orchards many years ago.

Hospitality and generosity are still important for kingdom building. Local beginnings then but spreading out via a community of labourers working for the Lord of the harvest. We are so called.

Reflection:

Read Luke 10:1-17. Note how in spite of challenges on the way, they returned with joy. When we leave the church door on Sundays we are out in the fields gathering the harvest. Small in number but contributing to a bumper harvest. We are not alone. The spirit guides and strengthens us as we go.

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