

GRACE TRAINED LIFE: THE ONE AND ONLY TRUSTWORTHY GOSPEL

First Reading: Titus 3

\*Free Bibles available on stage near Besserer door.

Gospel: Luke 5: 1-11

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Making disciples of Jesus gripped by the gospel, living for God's glory.

June 26, 2016

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Questions and/or comments about the sermon or scripture text? Email [george@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:george@messiahchurch.ca)

## WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

We are a prayerful, Bible-teaching, evangelical church in the heart of the city with a heart for the city and the world. We are a member of the Anglican Network in Canada and part of the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans. We seek to be a biblically faithful and orthodox church within the Anglican Way of following Jesus.

### Are you new? Get connected!

Is this your first visit to Church of the Messiah? Thank you for being with us. We are glad you're here. Interested in learning more about Messiah and getting connected? Contact us: [info@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:info@messiahchurch.ca) or 613.235.0596. Check out our website at [messiahchurch.ca](http://messiahchurch.ca)

### Nursery & Sunday School

Nursery (0 - 24 months) and Sunday School (2 yrs - Grade 6) are available at the 10am Service. For Nursery, please bring children to the lobby before or during the service. For Sunday School, kids are invited to "follow the cross" during the last worship song.

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

<b>Rev. Canon George Sinclair</b> Rector	<b>Daniel Gilman</b> Pastor of Evangelism and Discipleship
<b>Shirley Allan</b> Administrator	<b>Wardens:</b> Dick Butler Jeremiah Hadwen Earl Maynard Shannon Ripley
<b>Jonathan Camiré</b> Ministry Intern	Karl Ruban Dana Scherf

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

If you are visiting, please feel free to let the basket go by. If you would like to donate, there are many ways to give:

- 1) Place cash or cheques payable to "Church of the Messiah" in the offering basket on Sunday, or mail to the church office. Please contact the office if you are interested in using offering envelopes.
- 2) Email your contribution to [givings@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:givings@messiahchurch.ca). Please use the security question: "What is the pastor's first name?" and the answer: "George"
- 3) You can use PayPal to donate to the church. Click on the "Give" tab (far right side) on our website ([messiahchurch.ca](http://messiahchurch.ca))
- 4) Pre-authorized debit – You can authorize the church to debit your bank account for a fixed amount on a recurring basis of your choice. To get started, please contact the office: [info@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:info@messiahchurch.ca)

FINANCIAL UPDATE AT MAY 31, 2016

Target Offering: \$ 125, 590

Actual Offering: \$ 114, 054

## Can experience correct the Bible?

Dear friends,

Over the last three Sundays the Bible has talked about tough matters for present day Christians in Ottawa. Men and women in leadership, trans-gender issues, husbands and wives, slaves in a slave society. The problem for Canadian Christians is that some of what the Bible says is deeply counter-cultural. In fact, offensive to Canadian cultural values.

A very common way to handle this "problem" is to say that the Bible is wrong. Actually, I should re-state this. We usually say that this part of the Bible is merely cultural, reflecting the limited cultural knowledge and experience of that time and situation. Our time and situation is different, so we need to interpret the Bible in light of our experience and knowledge.

John Wesley famously said that the Bible always has more truth to teach us. He meant several good things by this, but he did not mean that we can dismiss parts of the Bible, when properly read, disagrees with culture. The Bible keeps teaching because as we keep reading we notice new connections between its parts. The Bible keeps teaching because the Holy Spirit will bring a previously unnoticed Bible text to bear on our life. The Bible keeps teaching us when our mind becomes less clouded - our mind becomes more conformed to God's word - so we can receive more from the Word written.

But sometimes cultural and intellectual experience helps us to see new things in God's word. We do not realize how our culture puts blinders on us as we read God's word. We do not look carefully and deeply into the Word because we casually assume that a Bible word / sentence / idea corresponds to a cultural belief. So sometimes, intellectual and cultural challenges help us to understand the Bible more truly. The "challenge" forces us into a closer reading of the whole Bible to see what it does and does not say. But note. This is important. The cultural challenge forces us to a deeper consistent and holistic reading of the Bible.

When we say that we now have new knowledge and experience and the Biblical texts are culture bound, we are not reading the Bible with a holistic and deeper consistency. We are saying the Bible is wrong; that we do not need to listen / learn / wrestle with its truth. Once "experience" "shares" authority with the Bible, the Bible ceases to be an authority at all. We might not always use "experience" as a way to dismiss the Bible, but there is no longer a check on us using "experience" to dismiss inconvenient, counter-cultural texts. But for God's grace, we have entered a hall of mirrors, not into the mind of God as revealed by His Word written.

George +

## GROWING IN GRACE

### I need to develop godly attitudes.

- A) Pray for godly attitudes in general & certain attitudes in particular.
- B) Ask others to pray the same thing for you.
- C) Repeat the attitude to help it sink in. Do this in conjunction with A & B!

### Attitudes.

- 1) Basing my life on anything other than the Gospel is futile.
- 2) As I am gripped by the Gospel, I can begin to look at the hold evil has on me.
- 3) As I am gripped by the Gospel, I can do good things for God's glory rather than for my own glory.

### I need to grow in prayer.

A great way to do this is to learn to pray the Bible. Pray this prayer until you can pray without reading: Dear Lord, I confess to You that in my nature I am foolish, disobedient, led astray, a slave to various passions and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hated and hating. I thank You that Jesus Christ crucified is Your power for salvation for all who believe. I praise You that You alone saved me because of Your love, mercy and kindness. I thank You for adopting me as Your child forever. Please help me to be gripped by the Gospel and live for Your glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### I need to get God's Word in my mind and heart.

*But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3: 4-7*

### I need to do something or start to do something.

Complete the following sentence: "In light of God's word, the Holy Spirit is leading me to \_\_\_\_\_."

## GOING DEEPER

### Getting to know me.

Are you a "glass-half-full" type of person or a "glass-half-empty" type of person?

### Getting into the Bible.

Remember to pray - asking the Lord to lead you and guide you into all truth.

- 1) Read Titus 3.
- 2) Read Titus 3: 3. Then read Romans 1: 16-32.
- 3) Read Titus 3: 4-7. Then read John 1: 1-18.

### Getting real.

Has the Lord touched your heart as you have read and thought upon His Word written? Can you share something of this so others can pray for you?

## UPCOMING EVENTS + ANNOUNCEMENTS

MON / JUNE 27

Monday Night in the Park  
6:30pm @ Strathcona Park

TUE / JUNE 28

Lowertown Home Group  
7pm @ 110 Nelson St.

MON / JULY 4

Brian C Information evening  
7 - 9pm @ 205 Bolton St. - Apt 308 (The Allan's). Come out to hear about Brian's mission work with Wycliffe Associates and how you might be able to support him in his ministry.

**BETWEEN-SERVICE PRAYER** continues each Sunday @ 9:30am in the OLT lobby. Join us as we pray for the world, the church and one another.

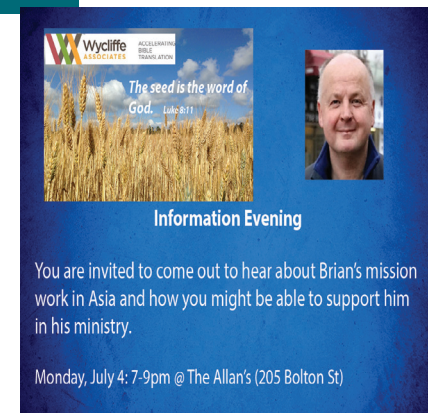
Plan to join together for a **CHURCH PICNIC TODAY!** Head over to Strathcona Park after the 10am worship service and be prepared to have fun!



**Church picnic!**  
Sunday, June 26

**Strathcona Park**  
Range Rd (eastern end of Laurier Ave.)

Head over to the park after the service. Bring your own lunch, drinks, chairs, balls, frisbees etc. Be prepared to have fun!



**Wycliffe ASSOCIATES** ACCELERATING BIBLE TRANSLATION

The seed is the word of God. Luke 8:11

**Information Evening**

You are invited to come out to hear about Brian's mission work in Asia and how you might be able to support him in his ministry.

Monday, July 4: 7-9pm @ The Allan's (205 Bolton St)