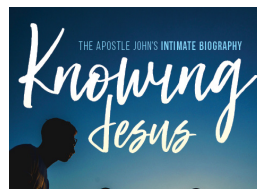


## When Jesus meets the “unworthy”

Reading: John 5: 1-18



### GROWING IN GRACE

#### I need to develop godly attitudes.

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

#### Attitudes.

- By grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, God adopted me so now God is my Father.
- God knows the history of my sickness and my sin.
- God adopted me when I was sick, helpless and unworthy.

#### 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:

*Lord, You are all-knowing, all-loving and sovereign. You know my truest, deepest need. I can be confused about my deepest need, but You know it perfectly. I hold nothing back. Please touch me at my point of deepest need and bring Your healing power and authority to bear, so that all that is within me will bless Your holy name. In Jesus' name. Amen!!*

#### 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

#### For this week:

Go to <http://messiahchurch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/John-Ch-1-529.pdf>

and follow pages 19 and 20

#### For next week:

Go to <http://messiahchurch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/John-Ch-1-529.pdf>

and follow pages 21 and 22

Next week's reading is John 5: 19-29



### WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

We are glad you are here! 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. Interested in learning more about Messiah and getting connected? See the contact info below.

#### Nursery & Sunday School

Nursery (0 - 24 months) and Sunday School (2 yrs - Grade 6) are available at the 10am service. Nursery children meet in the Green Room in the basement (ask a door host). Sunday school kids are invited to follow the cross after the last worship song.



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

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Rev Canon George Sinclair - Rector

Twitter: @messiah\_church

Facebook: Church of the Messiah, Ottawa

iTunes: Messiah Church Ottawa Sermons

[messiahchurch.ca](http://messiahchurch.ca)

613 235 0596

[info@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:info@messiahchurch.ca)



Today's service:  
[bible.com/  
events/368948](http://bible.com/events/368948)

office & mailing address: 315 Lisgar St. Ottawa ON K2P 0E1



Wednesdays -7:30pm  
@ 84 Fairmont Ave  
Thursdays - 7pm  
@ 267 Sunnyside Ave  
@ 110 Nelson St



Please contact the office by March 18 to include the names of loved ones you wish to remember in the Easter bulletin.

As is our custom, we will collect non-perishable food and gently-used clothing for St Joe's Supper Table until Easter Sunday, April 1.



Saturday, March 10  
5pm  
The Bible House

The Problem of Suffering, Pain and Evil

Dear friends,

Over the last couple of hundred years the problem of evil has been the main argument against the existence of the God Who is revealed and made known by Jesus Christ. The problem has several forms, but basically it is, "If God exists and He is all powerful, good and loving, then how come suffering, pain and evil exist?" Surely, such a God would have a world where pain, suffering and evil do not exist. Maybe He cannot stop pain, suffering and evil. If so, He is not all-powerful and, therefore, not God. Maybe He can stop pain, suffering and evil but He does not want to. If so, He is not good and loving and, therefore, not God. Either way, the existence of pain and suffering and evil proves that the God revealed by Jesus does not exist.

Before I briefly comment on this, I should mention several great books that deal with this subject. First is CS Lewis' "The Problem of Pain." The second is Tim Keller's "Walking with God through pain and suffering". You might also check out his two books, "Making Sense of God" and "The Reason for God". Finally, peter Kreeft and Ronald Tacelli's book, "Handbook of Christian Apologetics."

But back to our question at hand. "In a world with pain, suffering and evil, how can God exist?" The first step in answering this question is realizing that every religion or philosophy or spirituality also has to grapple with the intersection of the good, love, evil, suffering and God. It is *never* the case that only Christians have to answer the question. When we realize that every "world view" has to grapple with the question and provide an account, then we realize that, compared to the alternatives, the Christian answer is deep and wise and far more satisfying than the alternatives.

Most Canadians are "moral relativists", believing that there is no objective, absolute right and/or wrong for all people. Part of their very big dilemma is answering the question, "In a world of moral relativism, how can the problem of evil exist?" To our more Buddhistic friends the question is, "In a world where all is really One, how can the problem of evil exist?" To our atheist friends, the question is, "In a world where all exists as a result of blind chance and the survival of the fittest, how can the problem of evil exists?"

We will look at aspects of "the problem of evil" off and on over the next weeks as we look at the Gospel of John. Only the Gospel introduces a God Who has scars. Jesus is Immanuel, "God with us". He is a "man of sorrows acquainted with grief." He is "the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world." It is said of Him, "by His wounds we are healed." To the man by the pool at Bethesda, He knows his sickness and his history of sickness. Jesus walks with us in our suffering and walking with Jesus will lead us to walk towards evil and suffering to fight against evil, and comfort and heal those who suffer. In all things, consider Jesus!

George+