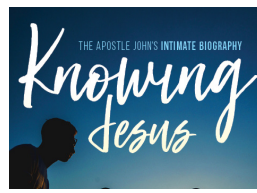


# God and Pleasure

Reading: John 2: 1-22



## 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) Don't say God's "no" about people - He is still drawing the unlikely to Himself.
- 2) God is still big - big enough to change the course of a life and big enough to change the course of human affairs.
- 3) God invented pleasure and joy.

### 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:

*Almighty God, You have created all things and sustain all things by Your power and Your love. Please forgive me. I live as if You are small and almost everything else is big - far bigger and more powerful than You. Please grow in me a humble, trusting, knowing that You are good and loving, the source of all pleasure and joy and that You are bigger and more powerful than every problem or sin that I face. I ask this in the name of Jesus Messiah, my Saviour and my Lord. Amen!!*

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

*You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.* Psalm 16: 11

### 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 7 and 8

### For next week:

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

and follow pages 9 and 10

Next week's reading is John 2: 23-3:21



## 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/341345](http://bible.com/events/341345)

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

## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



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



January 21, 2018

Looking Back and Praying Forward: The Museum Temptation

Dear friends,

February 16 is sort of a big deal for Messiah. This is the first of five blogs to mark this date. The blogs are entitled, "Looking Back and Praying Forward".

Up until the middle of 2011, Church of the Messiah was called "St Albans". It was in 2011 that we changed our name. (I'll talk more about this in the coming weeks). This means that we are, actually, a very old church by Ottawa standards.

St Albans started as a church plant in the fall of 1865. An Anglican minister named Thomas Bedford-Jones came from Ireland to plant a church in the Sandy Hill area of Ottawa. The first services of the new congregation took place in the early fall of 1865. It is a great irony that Messiah, an evangelical Anglican church, was planted by the Reverend Bedford-Jones. He was an Anglo-Catholic and planted St Albans to be an Anglo-Catholic church!

This is controversial today - some would say it is at best a dubious honour, but Sir John A MacDonald was part of the founding congregation of St Albans. In fact, several of the Fathers of Confederation also helped to found and establish St Albans. More on this in a moment.

St Albans was founded to be a place where the poor, the working class and the handicapped could attend, as well as the rich and the powerful. Unlike many, many churches of that time, Rev Bedford-Jones was adamant that there be no pew rentals. (People of means would "rent" their pew every year and no one else could sit there without their permission.) As well, unlike virtually all church buildings of the time, the church was built without stairs. This was to allow those in wheelchairs to attend. Sir John A MacDonald had a physically handicapped daughter.

Within about two years of the congregation's founding they had bought land and built a building to worship together in. I will talk more of this in the weeks to come.

So Church of the Messiah has a 152-year-old heritage. Like any church so old, we have a mixed heritage. Some things to thank God for; some things to grieve. I will mention one important thing about our illustrious political and historical heritage. At some point in time it contributed to a backward-looking focus and a museum mindset.

It is pretty heady stuff to have had several Fathers of Confederation also found your church. I am not an historian and I am not 152 -years-old, so I do not know when this backward-looking, museum mindset developed; but by the time I arrived it was definitely a part of the church's "culture" and mindset. Obviously not everyone embraced this, but it was part of the air the congregation breathed. Look at our glorious past! Remember our glorious past! Preserve our glorious past!

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the church is not to look back to its past all the time. We are not a museum. God made us to be part of a movement in Ottawa and to the ends of the earth. Pray that this will be so! More to come!

George+

### Winter 2018 courses

begin January 29, 2018:

Prayer Book Theology  
Pastoral Ministry  
Introductory Greek (January 17)  
Theology: Christ and Salvation

**RYLE**  
SEMINARY

info@ryleseminary.ca  
ryleseminary.ca



Interested in being part of  
the Messiah team? Contact the office

The Big Give - June 2