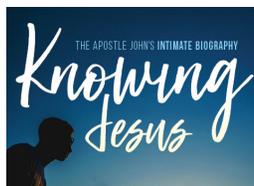


The Baby born, the darkness doomed

Reading: John 1: 1-5



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) My mind was made to know the truth and to adore the true God.
- 2) Light to see without light to save leads only to pride and despair.
- 3) The darkness is doomed.

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 and eternal God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, three Persons, one God, I praise You that You have created all things and sustain all things. I praise You that You are life and light with no darkness at all. I praise You that the Word, the second Person of the Trinity, would enter into Your creation, being born in Bethlehem on the way to calvary where He died to save us and deliver us from darkness. Grip me with these truths so that with a grateful heart I will adore you. In Jesus' name. Amen!!

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

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
John 20: 30-31

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 real Christmas tree or an artificial Christmas tree kind of person?

Getting into the Bible

Ask the Lord to know and remember His word, leading and guiding you into all truth.

- Read John 1: 1-18. Then read John 20: 30-31
- Read John 1: 1-5. Then read Acts 17: 22-25; Romans 1: 18-25; 11:36; Ephesians 3:9; Colossians 1: 15-17; Hebrews 1: 1-4; 11: 3; Revelation 4:11

Getting Real

Has God's Word provoked or convicted you in some way? Pray into this and consider sharing with someone else so they too will pray for you.



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.



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

Rev Canon George Sinclair - Rector

Twitter: @messiah_church

Facebook: Church of the Messiah, Ottawa

iTunes: Messiah Church Ottawa Sermons

messiahchurch.ca

613 235 0596

info@messiahchurch.ca



Today's service:
[bible.com/
events/328507](http://bible.com/events/328507)

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

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 17, 2017

OH COME
LET US *adore* HIM

Christmas Eve Services
Sunday, December 24 @ 10am and @7pm
Both services are family-friendly.

Christmas Day Service
Monday, December 25 @ 10am
(family-friendly)

New Year's Eve Services
Sunday, December 31:
8am - quiet, traditional service
10am - family-friendly worship

*We are looking for
co-tenants!*

We are looking for someone to share the upstairs space with us at The Bible House. (315 Lisgar - at Bank)

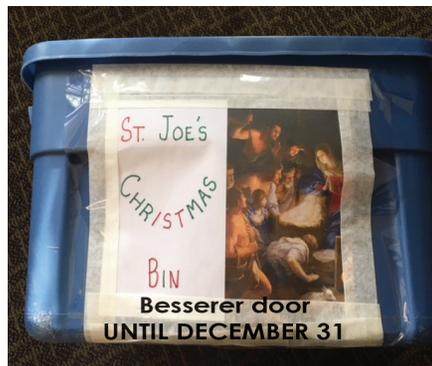
Want details? Have a suggested tenant? Please contact the office.

For prayer:

Based on our best estimates, as at December 1, we need \$48,000 to break even in 2017.

Please contact the office by December 20 to include the names of loved ones you wish to remember in the Christmas bulletins.

2018 offering envelopes are available on the stage.



The Word made flesh

Dear friends,

A month or two ago a minister friend of mine offered to tell me the real, behind-the-scenes story about what happened in his church. This was a church that had stirred up some controversy locally by letting go a long-time staff member. So my friend, who knew the story first-hand, offered to tell me. I thanked him, but I declined. I said that I did not need to know what happened.

I tell you this because it helps to illustrate an important Biblical truth that often puzzles Christians and non-Christians alike. The question is often put like this: "How can Jesus be fully God and still ask questions? If He is God, doesn't He know all things? But doesn't the incarnation mean that Jesus did not know all things? Didn't He have to learn how to speak after He was born? So, is He God or not?"

The outline of an answer can be seen in the story I told at the beginning. In my story, I could have easily known what happened, the knowledge was readily at hand, but I chose not to know. So it is with Jesus. As God, Jesus chose not to know, but only to know what the father revealed to Him.

This can be seen most simply in several texts in John's Gospel. In John 5: 18-20, Jesus says he "can do nothing on His own accord, but only what He sees the Father doing." In John 8:28, Jesus says, "...that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the father taught me." One more, in John 12:49, Jesus is recorded as saying, "For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has Himself given me a commandment - what to say and what to speak."

The Bible teaches that God the Son of God did not cease to be God when He took on flesh, becoming incarnate in the womb of Mary and being born in Bethlehem. God the Son of God took into Himself our human nature. He "emptied" Himself of His glory and appearance as God and lived a human life in perfect dependence and obedience to God the Father.

So Jesus did have to learn and ask questions. He was human. But sometimes the Father would reveal to Jesus what Jesus could not know by mere human means. He knew the life history of the woman by the well, even though He did not know if she would give Him water when He asked for a drink because He was thirsty. I do not become less human by declining to know a secret. Jesus did not stop being God because He waited until He learned by "natural" means, or until His Father revealed the truth.

George +