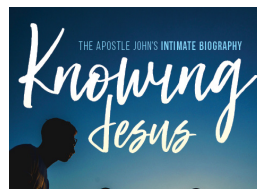


Can life have true meaning?

Reading: John 4:31-45



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.

- To merely flee sin is not enough for a Christian - I must also seek to do God's will.
- The biblical story is the true Big Story of the world.
- My heart will be restless until it rests in the Lord and His will for me.

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:

Heavenly Father, please make me a disciple of Jesus, gripped by the Gospel who is learning to seek Your will, do Your will and accomplishing Your will for Your glory and the good of Your world. In Jesus' name. Amen!!

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

Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work." John 4:34

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 15 and 16

For next week:

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

and follow pages 17 and 18

Next week's reading is John 4: 46 - 54



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/360646](http://bible.com/events/360646)

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

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 18, 2018



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



Saturday, March 10
5pm
The Bible House

Looking Back and Praying Forward: After the vote

Dear friends,

February 16 is sort of a big deal for Messiah. This the last of five blogs to mark this date. The blogs are entitled, "Looking back and praying forward."

On 16 February 2008, at an official meeting of the church, 98% of the church voted to separate from the Diocese of Ottawa (and The Anglican Church of Canada, hereafter referred to as ACoC) and connected to a faithful Anglican body, in this case, The Anglican Province of the Southern Cone - that is Anglican congregations in the southern part of South America. We had our vote on a Saturday evening. This meant two things. First, it made us the second church in Canada to leave the ACoC. Second, it meant we did not know whether we'd be able to enter our building to worship the next morning. Why was this?

The ACoC had made it clear that it would not act graciously and allow churches who wanted to maintain historic, biblical Christianity and stay Anglican to "leave" with their buildings and assets. The ACoC *could* have said, "we have changed our doctrine and our practice, so, those who desire to continue in the old-fashioned ways are welcome to leave in peace. We hope one day we'll be together again." Instead, the ACoC had pledged to a "scorched-earth" policy of seeking all property and assets - every last penny. Furthermore, even though their actions were not canonically valid, they stripped all clergy who left of their status as an ordained presbyter. I received an official letter from the chancellor that I was de-frocked - despite the fact that I was under a new Anglican bishop and my old diocese had no authority to "strip" me of anything.

So, we voted as we did, knowing that, from an earthly perspective, we could lose everything. The next morning we did worship in our building. We've always believed that the Ottawa Diocese canons and Canadian law did not give the diocese the authority to seize the property. By the way, we used to own the building on the corner of King Edward and Daly - St Alban's Church.

Some other time I will blog about the rest of the story. For now, I will say that eight months after we voted, the church now called St Peter and St Paul's also voted to separate from the ACoC and come into the Anglican Network in Canada. We were both sued and in the spring of 2011 we reached an out-of-court settlement with our former diocese. This meant all legal proceedings would stop. We agreed to walk away from our building on the condition the other church would be able to keep their building. Our vote on this matter was 100% in favour.

On July 1, 2011 we change our name to Church of the Messiah and we began Sunday morning worship in The Ottawa Little Theatre. The whole congregation left.

The Lord has been faithful. We are still learning to be a church without owning a building - a church re-plant. Pray we will look forward with hope, seeking to know the Lord's will for us and then walk in His will to bring Him glory and praise. Pray we will life Jesus high in Ottawa and to the ends of the earth. Pray He will build us into a prayerful, Bible-teaching evangelical church in the heart of the city with a heart for the city and the world.

George+