

Events and Announcements



ASH
WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday Services

March 6th, 2019
10am at the Bible House (315 Lisgar St.)
with Communion

7pm at the Bible House (315 Lisgar St.)

7pm at the University of Ottawa (Agora)



LEARNER'S EXCHANGE

Learners Exchange

A series of TedTalk-style talks between services on Sunday mornings meant to equip confident disciples of Jesus! Join us in the lobby at 9:15am:

March 3 "The Bible and Allegory"
March 10 "Mindfulness, the Gospel, and the Medical community"
March 17 "Jesus and Horror Flicks"



Women's Art Event

March 30th at the Bible House

This time we will be working with chalk pastel!

Space is limited to 15 spots and the cost is \$15/person

Register at info@messiahchurch.ca



The parking garage next to the Ottawa Little Theatre is being managed by a new company. We need to negotiate a new parking arrangement with the new company. Note that this means our parking passes are no longer valid.

In the meantime, here are some suggestions. If you park in the lot behind the Theatre, we will pay for your parking if you ask (\$5). You can also park a block away at the Loblaws. If you make a small purchase, you get 2 hours of free parking. There is also lots of parking available on the road - parking is free on Sundays.

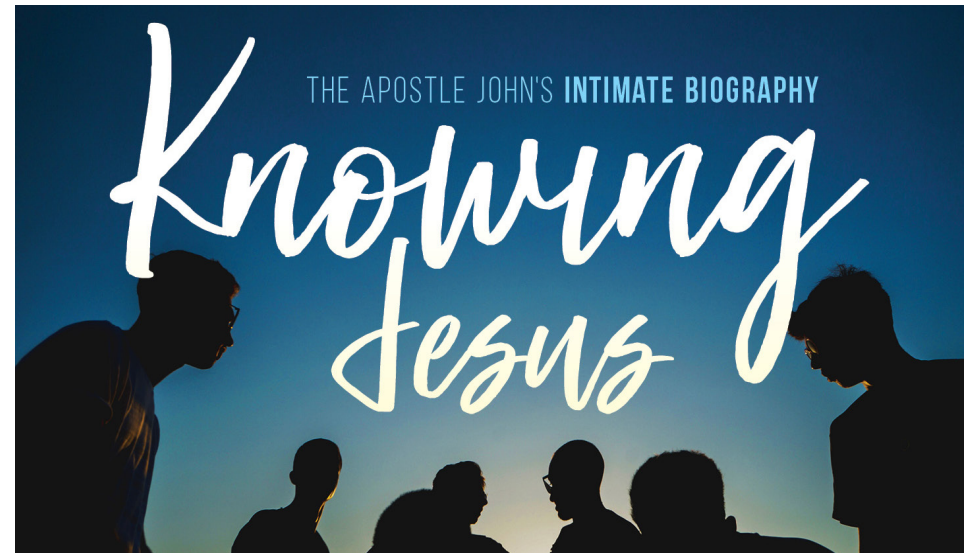


church of the
messiah

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

Sunday, March 3rd, 2019

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



John 17:6-19

Rev. George Sinclair - Rector



@messiah_church



Church of the Messiah, Ottawa



messiahchurch.ca



Today's service:
bible.com/events/574786



Messiah Church Ottawa Sermons



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Donate online: givings@messiahchurch.ca

Knowing Jesus - John 17:6-19

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. A holiness that flees joy is not holiness.
2. There is no holiness apart from truth.
3. Jesus did not start a Christian ghetto, He started a movement to every people groups.

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:

Holy Father, please keep me in the true knowledge of who You are, what You do, and why You do it. Sanctify me in the truth; Your word is truth. Keep me far from all evil and all demons. Please make me a disciple of Jesus gripped by the gospel, living for Your glory. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

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

"Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth."

John 17:17

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 _____."

Evangelicals, Ash Wednesday and Lent

Dear Friends,

In our normal life we do not do the same thing every day, 365 days a year. We have a work week, weekends, statutory holidays and vacation time. Our year is punctuated by birthdays, anniversaries, and special times like Christmas or Halloween. Organized people think of getting things done in different "seasons" of the year. Income tax and spring cleaning come to mind, but we also make plans to get other tasks done during some time period. Some of us might plan to lose a few pounds because a wedding is coming up and we want to look good. Given this is how we live our life, why is it that some Christians object to there being rhythm's and seasons in the Christian life? Why is it that to have a season where you commit to a deeper life of discipleship and holiness is considered "religious", "legalistic", "works righteousness"?

Granted lots of Christians abuse the Christian year. Granted some Christians explain seasons, like Lent, as if they have never heard of the Gospel. But just because some Christians mess this up does not mean there is something inherently wrong with the practice. Granted we should pray and read the Bible and be concerned with holiness all year round – but as I tried to show above, in our "normal" life we do not do the same thing every day, 365 days of the year. We understand the wisdom of seasons – sometimes setting aside times to work on something helps you all year long.

At its simplest, Lent is a season where you commit to a deeper holiness and more vibrant discipleship. The season of Lent is 40 days long – modeled on Jesus spending 40 days in the wilderness. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. Sundays do not count towards the 40 days – they are already the Lord's Day, a resurrection day, a feast day. The last day of lent is Holy Saturday – so Lent ends with Easter Sunday. During an Ash Wednesday service, you go forward to have the sign of the cross written in ash on your forehead. Ashes are a biblical symbol of mourning, repentance and an acknowledgement that we are frail and need God's grace.

Second Timothy 3:16-17 [ESV] is very helpful. "All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man and woman of God may be complete, equipped for every good word." We see Jesus saying the same thing time and time again in the Gospel of John. The word of God has a special role in helping us to live a more godly life. Lent should be a time where we take extra care to spend extra time reading and thinking upon God's word written. Consider reading the whole New Testament (you can do it if you read for 30 mins a day for 40 days – and still have a bit of time to spare!). Consider reading through all four Gospels. Consider memorizing 40 Bible passages. Consider making a 6 week commitment to meet with a couple of people and read and discuss the Bible together. Consider spending time meditating upon the "sin lists" in the Bible (Galatians 5 has an example). In this case you ask the Lord to convict you of sin, and then meditate upon the text, sin by sin. Conversely, you can read a virtue text like Galatians 5:22, spending time in prayer asking the Lord to grow these fruit in your life and/or show you how you are quenching the Holy Spirit, frustrating the growth of the fruit.

It is also good to consider spending extra time in prayer or humble service. Maybe you can "fast" from your phone and the internet for a day or week or a season. Maybe you can forsake some simple pleasure and take the money you would have spent on that pleasure and give it to support a missionary or a group that works with the poor.

Friends, please join me in having a Gospel-shaped Lent!

George+