

The Shaper

Reading: John 12: 1-19

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.

- I will honor Christ in public.
- There will always be poor people.
- My Lord Jesus Christ will soften my heart for the poor.

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, Who alone is sovereign over the world and who alone will bring in the new Heaven and Earth, thank You for sending Jesus Christ to save all who trust in Him as Saviour and Lord. Thank You that He saves me to make me NEW. Please make me a disciple of Jesus who is confident and joyful in the Gospel as it shapes me to live for Your glory in the power of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:5

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:

<http://messiahchurch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/John-Ch-12-17.pdf>



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? Please complete a *Connect Card* (available from a door host) and place it in the offering basket.



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

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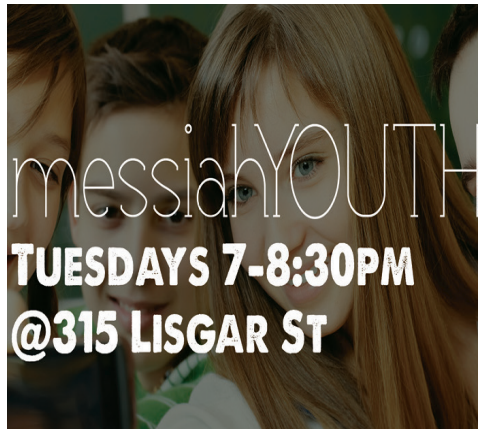
info@messiahchurch.ca



Today's service:
[bible.com/
events/425542](http://bible.com/events/425542)

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

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Wednesday
7:30pm - @ 84 Fairmont

Thursday
10am - Moms & Tots (see Anna Hadwen)
7pm - @ 267 Sunnyside Ave @ 110 Nelson St

Electoral Vestry
MONDAY, JUNE 11
7pm
The Bible House
315 Lisgar St.
Everyone is welcome.

GAFCON Fund update:
Total received to date: \$6715
Estimated total expenses: \$8000
GAFCON takes place June 17-22 in Jerusalem

June 10th, 2018

Clarity Or Contradiction

Dear Friends,

George in your sermon this morning are you going to deal with the serious contradictions between the gospel accounts of the Mary and Jesus story? The answer is no, but I will briefly deal with the questions here.

So what is the issue? Well some will point out how the times and details don't agree. Did the event happen early in Jesus ministry, the day before Palm Sunday, or the Thursday in Holy week? Did the event happen in Bethany or somewhere else? Was the ointment poured on Jesus' head or his feet? Who's house did the event happen in? Some would say there is no way to reconcile these contradictory details. For the record, here are the four texts: Matthew 26:6-13, Mark 14:3-9, Luke 7:36-50, and John 12:1-8. Feel free to read these texts for yourself. Here are a couple of comments on the question.

First, this is not a new problem. The church fathers, early Christian writers, were aware of the situation and wrote about it. Take heart that if you are talking to someone and they raise an objection to the Christian faith, it is unlikely that this is the first time the question has been raised. Wise Christian writers have written about this in the past.

Second, the Gospel writers were concerned to write the truth, the truth does include what actually happened. However they are most concerned with telling the story of Jesus in such a way that the reader will want to trust Jesus to be their Saviour and Lord. This does not disqualify them from telling the truth, but it does mean that they are not concerned with locking down a chronology for Jesus' life and ministry. They want us to get to know Him rather than mere facts of a chronology about him. In the original language, the Gospel writers often use language that in connective by similarity, rather than connecting by chronology.

Third, and this is the key idea, are the Gospel writers talking about different incidents with some similarities or are they talking of one incident, with either complementary or contradictory elements? I think in this case they are talking of three different incidents, not one incident. In Luke's story the incident happens in the house of Simon the Pharisee, somewhere other than Bethany. The woman is a former prostitute, she wets Jesus' feet with her tears, dries his feet with her hair and then puts ointment on his feet. In the incident John reports, the woman is Mary the sister of Lazarus and the action happens in Lazarus' house in Bethany. The Event happens a week before Jesus' crucifixion on a Saturday, and Mary pours ointment on Jesus' feet and wipes the ointment with her hair. Matthew and Mark report a different incident. This one also happens in Bethany, but it happens in a different house (Simon the Leper) and on a different day, the Thursday before Jesus' crucifixion. In this incident, the ointment is put on Jesus' head and there is no reference to the woman's hair.

As you can see, there is sometimes a similar detail in two stories, but a straight forward reading of the four Gospels leads me to the conclusions that the four biographies (Gospels) of Jesus are talking about three different incidents, not the one incident with inconsistent details. Why did each Gospel writer pick the story they picked? Well, that is another blog, but the simple answer is that you have to read each Gospels as a whole to see how that particular story helps the gospel writer tell us the story Jesus - Gods provision for our great need!

George+