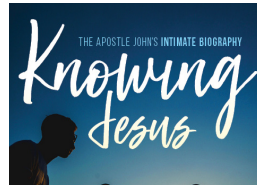


“...was blind but now I see.”

Reading: John 9: 1-41



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) Every human being is born blind.
- 2) Lord, please keep me teachable.
- 3) Lord, please help me to seize the opportunities You give me today.

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:

Lord, I am born blind and I love blindness. Jesus Messiah, You are the Light of the world. You alone can make the blind to see. Please come into my life as the Light of the world; deliver me from blindness as You make me Your disciple learning to live for the true good of people and Your glory and fame. Amen.

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

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 1 John 1: 5-6

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-530-Ch-9.pdf> and follow pages 14 and 15

For next week:

Go to <http://messiahchurch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/John-10.pdf>

Next week's Scripture is John 10: 1-21



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.

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/401447](http://bible.com/events/401447)

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

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 29, 2018



Wednesday

7:30pm - @ 84 Fairmont

Thursday

10am - Moms & Tots (see Anna Hadwen)

7pm - @ 267 Sunnyside Ave
@ 110 Nelson St



Available at
the coffee
station.



We are looking for people to help count the offering on Sunday. You would serve once every 4 to 5 weeks. Will you serve? info@messiahchurch.ca

Lord, make me FAT

Dear all,

Some of you are reading this blog before my Sunday sermon. If so, please take a moment to pray for me. I will be preaching on John 9 and I find the text so deep, powerful and multi-faceted that I am having problems developing a sermon. Some of you are reading this after the sermon - maybe without having heard the sermon. That is great. Thank you for reading. Please take a moment to pray that I will preach and write well for the glory of God.

One aspect of John 9 which is important to Christians is that it teaches us to pray that the Lord will make us FAT. By that I mean that He will make us Faithful, Available, Teachable.

Faithful. The story is a wonderful example of the man born blind acting with faith in Jesus' word that he will be healed when he washes off the mud from his eyes in the pool of Siloam. It is a snapshot of a man growing in faith until he confesses Jesus as the promised Son of Man and then he worships Jesus. It is a story that encourages us to be open to Jesus as the light of the world and, that by faith in Him, we will be delivered from blindness as Jesus opens our eyes so we can see. It is a story of maintaining faith in Jesus in the face of hostility and exclusion so we are encouraged to pray for greater and greater faith in Jesus - who He is, what He has done, what He is doing and will do.

Available. In verse 4 Jesus says, "**we** must work the works of Him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work." This is the Christ-centred, grace-empowered, selfless God-glorifying version of the famous saying, "Seize the day". The text is telling us that God will give us opportunities to make a difference in the lives of people for the glory of God. We are to make ourselves available to the Lord so that we will seize these opportunities when they arrive. Note how, in the verse I have quoted, Jesus says "**we** must work the works of Him who sent "me". Jesus wants to include you and me in doing God's works for God's glory. So, our days are not one "dang" thing after another. God will give us opportunities. Pray that we will make ourselves available to Him, recognizing the opportunities as they arise and, by grace, walk into the opportunities with Jesus.

Teachable - in the story the man is teachable; the experts and elite are not. So, as the story develops, the man learns more and more that the elite refuse to anything at all. The man knows what he knows and knows he needs to know more. The elite only know they are the elite. Their conversation reveals that what they know is foolish and fashionable and empty. So the Lord is warning us about becoming like or remaining like the elite, impervious to learning. The Lord blesses and deepens the man who is teachable.

So friends, please pray for me, that I will desire to be FAT! Please pray that the Lord will grow in you the desire and the habits of the FAT person. Please pray that we, as a congregation, will always desire to be FAT; that being FAT is part of our DNA. Lord, keep us humbly FAT.

George +