

BECOMING A PEOPLE OF PRAYER: A SERMON FOR THE NEW YEAR

First Reading: Matthew 15: 21-28 *Free Bibles available on stage near Besserer door.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12

Lined area for notes.

- Mon / Jan 4 Church office reopens
Tue / Jan 5 Lowertown Home Group
Wed / Jan 6 Hintonburg Home Group
Thu / Jan 7 Old Ottawa South Home Group, King Edward Home Group
Fri / Jan 8 Revive Youth Group



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

January 3, 2016

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Follow us on twitter: @messiah_church
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Questions and/or comments about the sermon or scripture text? Email george@messiahchurch.ca

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

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!

Are you interested in learning more about Messiah and getting connected? Email info@messiahchurch.ca or call 613.235.0596. Also check out our website at messiahchurch.ca

Nursery & Sunday School

Nursery (0 - 24 months) and Sunday School (2 yrs - Grade 6) are available at the 10am Service. For Nursery, please bring children to the lobby before or during the service. For Sunday School, kids are invited to "follow the cross" during the last worship song.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Canon George Sinclair Rector	Daniel Gilman Pastor of Evangelism and Discipleship
Shirley Allan Administrator	Joey McNitt Worship Leader
Jonathan Camiré Ministry Intern	Wardens: Dick Butler, Gary Graber, John Rayson, Shannon Ripley, Karl Ruban, Dana Scherf

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Giving

If you are visiting, please feel free to let the basket go by. If you would like to donate, there are many ways to give:

- 1) Place cash or cheques payable to "Church of the Messiah" in the offering basket on Sunday, or mail to the church office. Please contact the office if you are interested in using offering envelopes.
- 2) Email your contribution to givings@messiahchurch.ca Please use the security question: "What is the pastor's first name?" and the answer: "George"
- 3) Pre-authorized debit – You can authorize the church to debit your bank account for a fixed amount on a recurring basis of your choice. To get started, please contact the office: info@messiahchurch.ca

The 2016 offering envelopes are available on the stage near the Besserer door. Please contact the office if you are interested in using offering envelopes.

PRAYING "DWBS" FOR MESSIAH

Dear friends,

I sometimes wish I was better at turning points into either an acronym or have all of the points begin with the same letter. My friend, Rick, is a real pro at this. His wife, Linda, jokes that if you give him an hour, he can find some way of turning points into one of these two easily memorable forms.

One of my successful attempts at this comes in the area of preaching and teaching. I tell people to remember FACES. They are to be FAITHFUL to the Biblical text; seek to come up with APT illustrations and explanations; seek to be CLEAR in what they say; seek to EXALT the Lord in their preaching/teaching; and they are to seek to be SIMPLE (but not simplistic!). Of course, they are also to think of the faces of the people they will be opening the Bible with.

I have had no such luck with DWBS - partly because I want to pray this in the right order. If anyone can turn these prayer areas into an acronym, please let me know!

DEEPER: Please pray for Messiah, that we will go deeper. Deeper in prayer, in discipleship, in worship. Deeper in knowing about the Lord and deeper in knowing Him - One God in Three Persons. Deeper in our walk with Jesus and deeper in our walk with others who are learning to walk with Jesus.

WIDER: Please pray for Messiah, that we will have a wider and wider influence for the good of people and the glory of God. We get wider in two ways. One way is through our working together in programs or ministries or events. This is important, but definitely not the only way or even the most important way that we have a wide influence. The second way is in the day-to-day lives of those of us who call Messiah their church home. Every one of us has a vocation and is to use our daily life for the good of people and for the glory of the Lord.

BIGGER: Please pray for Messiah, that we will grow numerically. People matter to God and people can be counted! So, please pray that God will use us in evangelism and that Christians moving to Ottawa will join us.

SMALLER: Please pray for Messiah, that we will grow smaller. By this I mean that small groups will multiply. Mentoring and discipling relationships will multiply. Friendships will multiply. We do not want Messiah to be a crowd that gathers, but a community gathered around Jesus by the Gospel.

Finally, friends, please pray. Thank you for praying.

George +