

## Events and Announcements

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### 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 24 "Basics of Christian Discipleship"



### Palm Sunday Potluck

Sunday, April 7th

Join us for a church potluck after the service in the lobby!



### Women's High Tea

Join Messiah women for a tea party and music by Amy Usherwood. Please feel free to dress for the occasion! Hats and fascinators are all the rage at this party!

Saturday, April 13th | 2:30-4:00PM



### Date Night

Parents at Church of the Messiah are encouraged to go out on a date! Drop your children off at the Bible House for play time dinner and a short kid-friendly meal.

Saturday, April 24th | 4:30 - 7PM

Sign up by emailing [jen@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:jen@messiahchurch.ca)



church of the  
messiah

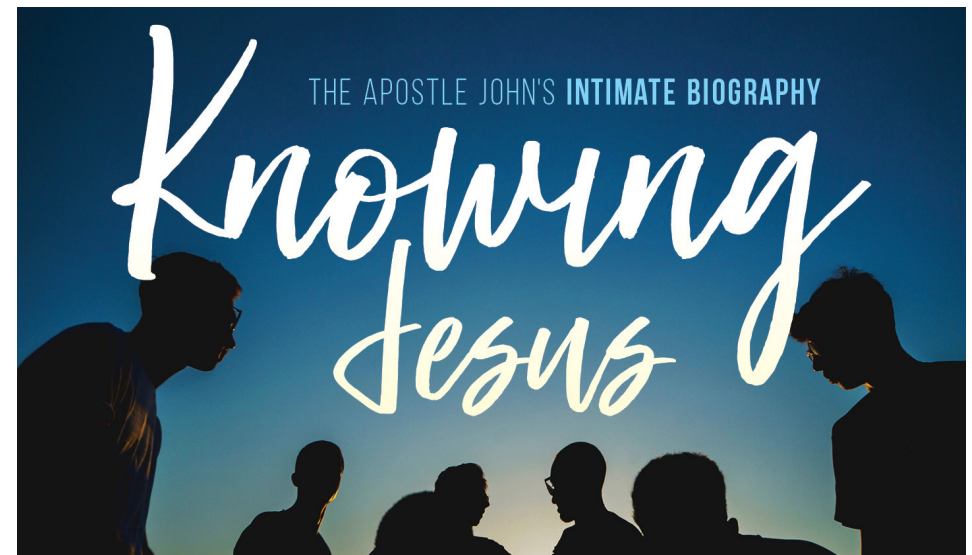
WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

*Sunday, March 24th, 2019*

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

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**John 18:28-40**

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Rev. George Sinclair - Rector

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@messiah\_church



Church of the Messiah, Ottawa



[messiahchurch.ca](http://messiahchurch.ca)



Today's service:  
[bible.com/events/587475](http://bible.com/events/587475)



Messiah Church Ottawa Sermons



[info@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:info@messiahchurch.ca)  
315 Lisgar St., Ottawa, ON, K2P 0E1



613-235-0596



Donate online: [givings@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:givings@messiahchurch.ca)

## Knowing Jesus - John 18:28-40

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### GROWING IN GRACE

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#### 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. You are in a position of authority to act justly under God.
2. God's word written is to rule your life. You are not to pretend you can rule over God's word written.
3. God's word, truly loved, will truly form you, to love truth.

#### 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, You always speak what is true and never lie. You are always just and never support injustice. You are only good and do no wrong. Your mercy is never-failing and Your grace has saving power. Please make me a disciple of Jesus gripped by the Gospel who is learning to live with justice, mercy, goodness and truth, all to Your glory. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

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

"God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?"

Numbers 23:19

#### 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 \_\_\_\_\_."

## Are Written Prayers Even Christian?

Dear friends,

I grew up in a Jewish neighbourhood. Within a short walk from my house were (at least) three synagogues and no churches. There was a YMHA, not a YMCA. In other words, a Young Man's Hebrew Association. My family drove several miles to a small Baptist church. My experience of Christianity was limited to that little church. When I was 12 (?) I started going to Boy Scouts. Later my "troop" (please pardon me if I do not remember the right terminology) went to a large scout gathering with many troops for a long weekend camping experience. We had a "chapel" service on Sunday morning. We all marched in to the clearing. The scout leader, who was off to the side, put out the cigarette that he was smoking and walked to the centre and began "the service." I put "the service" in quotes because, as a young 13-year-old Baptist I felt everything about the service was not Christian. The "service" consisted of the man reading a few Bible quotes and reading other stuff and reading prayers. I still remember thinking to myself, "Real Christians do not read prayers, they pray in their own words from their heart." To my shame, I looked down my 13-year-old nose at the scout leader.

It obviously is a proof of God's sense of humour that eleven years later I stumbled into an Anglican church and felt like "I had come home." It is also proof of God's sense of humour and justice that I have now been an ordained Anglican presbyter for over 30 years, praying written prayers, and I regularly have to defend the practice to people who have grown up in the faith in churches that do not have written prayers.

Can real Christians use written prayers? Yes. The Bible teaches this. First, the Bible records many written prayers - surely they were written to teach us how to pray - surely they were written so we could "pray along" with them. Second, the Book of Psalms are to be prayed and sung. The psalms are prayers (to be sung and/or read) that God Himself wrote for us. Pause on this. No one complains about a hymn or praise song that is not Christian because we are all singing the same written words. Very few people (if any) would say real Christians each sing whatever words and tunes spring to mind when everyone is singing.

Finally, Jesus Himself is responsible for a written prayer which He tells us to pray. Jesus said, "Pray then like this: Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your name." (Matthew 6:9) "And Jesus said to them, "When you pray, SAY: "Father, hallowed be Your name Your kingdom come." (Luke 11:2)

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