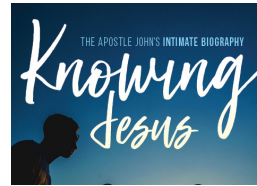


The Good Shepherd

Reading: John 10: 1-21



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.

- Being part of a good local church is not an option for a Christian.
- There is a great wall that separates me from God and only He can provide a doorway to Himself.
- I need my Good Shepherd everyday and all the time.

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 Jesus Christ, You are The Door to God Himself. You are The Door to being part of God's forever family. You are The Good Shepherd. You laid down Your life for me, to make me Your own and to know You and to be known by You. Thank You. Please grow my remembrance and my gratitude for Who You are and what You have done for me. Please help me to follow You as You lead me into abundant life. Amen.

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

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.
John 10: 14-15

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 and next week:

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

Next week's Scripture is John 10: 22-42



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

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iTunes: Messiah Church Ottawa Sermons

messiahchurch.ca

613 235 0596

info@messiahchurch.ca



Today's service:
[bible.com/
events/405995](http://bible.com/events/405995)

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



Available at the coffee station.



Complete yours today, please!

May 6, 2018

The Church is not a doughnut shop

Dear friends,

A local church is not a doughnut shop so it cannot be set up or run the same way. A good church is mindful of what the Bible says about the church and its structure and seeks to have its purposes, structure and offices congruent with what the Bible teaches.

The first part of John 10 gives one of the main New Testament words to describe a leader in a local church. The word for "shepherd" is where we get the word "pastor" from. In fact, John 10: 1-5 gives an image of the local church - a flock of sheep, with a sheepfold and a shepherd who is under the Good Shepherd. So, a godly pastor is to be like a shepherd who leads, guards, protects, feeds and cares for the sheep under his care.

The following are some other key New Testament words used to describe offices / roles in the church. Note, the church is a New Testament reality. So churches should not be going back to the Old Testament to get its understanding of its officers and purposes. I will come back to this in a moment.

Elder/Presbyter/Priest. Anglicans, I think, are the only ones who use "priest" in this sense. The use of "priest" for "presbyter" developed as the English language developed. But an Anglican priest is not like an Old Testament "priest" - for Anglicans, it is a New Testament office and corresponds to Elder/Presbyter. It implies a role of authoritative leadership. Many Protestant churches make a distinction between a teaching/leading Elder and a non-teaching/leading Elder. Anglicans do not. For Anglicans, the Elder/Presbyter is to have an authoritative teaching, leading role in the church.

Overseer/Bishop. This role is seen as being, in a sense, "the Elder of the Elders". The image of Overseer/Bishop implies more authority and oversight.

Deacon is a role closely connected with leading in serving the practical, individual and community needs of the congregation.

Minister. As we all know, one "word" can have different meanings. In the New Testament, the word we get "deacon" from is also the word we get "minister" from. In its first sense (deacon), it describes a particular office. In its second sense (minister), it describes all Christian leaders/office holders in general. A Christian office holder is to be a servant of Christ and a servant-leader in Christ's church.

Several other New Testament words have sometimes been used in Christian history for office holders. They are: Apostle, Evangelist, Teacher and Prophet. Note, that in practice, most good local churches put all of this New Testament material together in different ways - there is often some Biblical warrant for mixing and matching! I do not believe that the New Testament teaches there is only one church order. However, we are to keep returning to the New Testament to be taught and reminded about how we are to understand the church, its purposes and its officers, whether in an ordained or non-ordained form - (ordination is a separate blog!), These words point to important roles and tasks which a good church is to undertake and fulfill.

George+