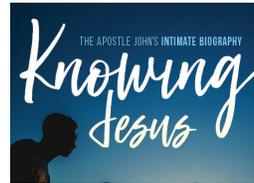


## Light and Life

Reading: John 8: 12-30



### 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 want to die to sin and live to please God.
- Christ warned of Hell, so if I never warn about Hell, I am not being Christ-like.
- Jesus leads me to know the light that brings life.

#### 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, I confess that I am blinded by rebellion against You, thinking that dying in my sin is life and hiding in the darkness is light. Lord, I confess that You are Light and Life. I thank You that Jesus came and died so that I would not die in my sin, but, by faith in Him, would instead receive true life and begin to walk in Your light. Please make me a disciple of Jesus, gripped by the Gospel who walks in Your light as I live for Your glory, not my own. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

#### 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 10 and 11

#### For next week:

Go to <http://messiahchurch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/John-Ch-530-Ch-9.pdf> and follow pages 12 and 13

Next week's Scripture is John 8: 31-59



### 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.

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

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Rev Canon George Sinclair - Rector

Twitter: @messiah\_church

Facebook: Church of the Messiah, Ottawa

iTunes: Messiah Church Ottawa Sermons

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

613 235 0596

[info@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:info@messiahchurch.ca)



Today's service:  
[bible.com/  
events/393978](http://bible.com/events/393978)

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

## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Wednesdays

7:30pm @ 84 Fairmont Ave

### Thursdays

10am - Moms & Tots (see Anna Hadwen)

7pm - @ 267 Sunnyside Ave  
@ 110 Nelson St



April 15, 2018

### Why did we skip a beloved Bible story?

Dear friends,

Yikes! George, how come you skipped one of my favourite Bible stories? The short and simple answer is because it should not be in the Bible because it was not part of John's original biography of Jesus. Since at Messiah we preach the Bible and since the story of Jesus and the woman caught in adultery is not really part of the Bible, I have skipped over the story.

Now, to many people, this is a bit of a disappointing answer; raising more problems than it solves. So, let's take a breath and think about matters.

I believe that the apostle John, the so-called "beloved disciple" completed a biography of Jesus in the late 60s. I should mention that I hold to a minority position on dating the New Testament documents that believes that all of the New Testament was written before the destruction of Jerusalem in the year 70AD. Of course, the original manuscript that John finished has been lost. However, the manuscript was copied by hand. Those copies were copied, on and on until the printing press made life easier. Many people find it worrisome that we do not have the original manuscript of John and that we have to depend upon hand-written copies. However, there is no cause for concern in the case of the New Testament.

First of all, each and every book written before the widespread use of the printing press was copied by hand. No one doubts that our copies of these texts are up in the air and cannot be trusted. We read Plato and Aristotle, for instance, with confidence. There was a craft and discipline around "copying". As well, if you think about it, the printing press does not mean there are no errors in the transmission of a text. Printing presses make mistakes! So then, as now, people compare the "copy" with the "original" and look for errors so that a true copy will go forward in time.

Second of all, there are vastly more ancient manuscripts of the New Testament than any other book in antiquity, and the manuscripts are vastly closer in time to the original than any book in antiquity. When you combine this with the rigorous discipline called textual criticism, it means we can have the highest confidence that we are reading an English translation of the original manuscript. Believe it or not, we can be more confident of this today because archaeologists keep finding more ancient manuscripts. As they do, textual critics examine the manuscripts to ensure that we are closer and closer to the original.

So the story of "the woman caught in adultery" illustrates several important points. First, no archaeological discovery has undermined or changed a single Christian doctrine. The mistakes in transmission are minor. The "woman caught in adultery" story is the biggest textual addition added centuries after John's manuscript was finished, but the story does not add to or subtract from anything already in the New Testament. Second, it shows the fundamental integrity of Christianity - we want to know the truth and read the truth and we are open to the critical examination of the transmission history of the Bible. Third, this search for the original means that, unlike readers of the Koran, we can have great confidence that what we are reading is extremely, extremely close to the original. Fourth, good modern translations of the New Testament, like the New International version and the English Standard version include small notes letting the reader know about changes! So, read the Bible with confidence!

George +