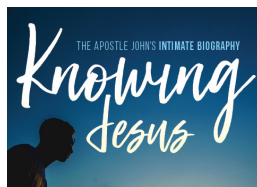


Following Jesus as Saviour and Lord

Reading: John 3:22-36



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.

- God is true, so He wants His redeemed children to be people of the truth.
- God has not spoken so I know I am right, but so that I know He is true.
- God never gives too little of His Holy Spirit.

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:

O Lord, You alone are eternal. You alone are good and true. I praise You that when I loved the lie and I brought Your just judgment upon myself; still You loved me. I thank You that You have been true to Your promises to send a Saviour. I thank You for Jesus and how He lovingly bore the judgment I deserved. I thank You that, by faith in Him, You have given me eternal life and the promise of heaven. In Jesus' name. Amen!!

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

He must increase, but I must decrease.... Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him. John 3:30 and 3:36

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-1-529.pdf>

and follow pages 11 and 12

For next week:

Go to <http://messiahchurch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/John-Ch-1-529.pdf>

and follow pages 13 and 14

Next week's reading is John 4: 1-30



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/353362](http://bible.com/events/353362)

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

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Wednesdays - 7:30pm
@ 84 Fairmont Ave
Thursdays - 7pm
@ 267 Sunnyside Ave
@ 110 Nelson St



Ash Wednesday services - February 14
10am @ The Bible House (ground floor)
7pm @ The Bible House (ground floor)
7pm @ The Agora uOttawa



February 4, 2018

Looking Back and Praying Forward: The Crisis Begins

Dear friends,

February 16 is sort of a big deal for Messiah. This the third of five blogs to mark this date. The blogs are entitled, "Looking back and praying forward."

I once went to a conference with lots of well-educated philosophers and theologians. Someone would read a learned paper, then someone would respond, then anyone could ask a question or make a comment. For the life of me, I cannot remember what "the problem" was that one paper was addressing, but I believe it put the source of "the problem" in the mid-1800s. What followed was unintentionally funny: the different speakers all got up, objecting to the source of the problem, pushing it back further and further in time - eventually, I think, to some obscure pre-Socratic philosopher (500-600 years before Jesus!) If anyone who attended that conference happens to read this blog, they will not agree with me on when "the problem" began.

For many decades, all of the bishops in the world-wide Anglican Communion have been invited to a gathering at Lambeth in England. These gatherings happen every 10 years. The bishops build relationships through Bible-study, prayer and worship. They also discuss issues, seeking to bring a world-wide Christian perspective on the issue. In 1998 one of the matters discussed was human sexuality. At the end of the conference, a remarkably strong and wise motion explaining and upholding the historic biblical and Christian understanding was passed by a vote of 88%. It was, in that moment of victory, that the crisis began.

Almost immediately, bishops in the First World who reject the historic, consensual biblical teaching began to act in opposition to the Lambeth decision. Bishops in Canada, in fact, led the way, followed closely by those from the US. Please note, not every bishop in Canada rejected the teaching and began to undermine it. But over the years those few bishops in Canada who embrace the biblical teaching have proven to be far too few in number to stem the changes which continue to transform the Anglican Church of Canada.

In 1999, the Diocese of New Westminster (basically Vancouver and the lower mainland of British Columbia) voted very strongly to "bless same-sex unions". The bishop of the diocese, who was in favour of the motion, did not act on this right away. A similar vote with similar results took place in 2000. In 2001 there was a "hold" on having the vote. In 2002 the vote again passed strongly and this time the bishop agreed to move forward, allowing and encouraging the blessing of same-sex unions. No real discipline was brought to bear on the bishop or diocese or on the Anglican Church of Canada which had now "officially" allowed this teaching and practice into the structures of the church.

Today, over 85% of Canadians are in dioceses which bless same-sex union and/or marriages. In the case of Messiah, at the beginning of the new millennium in light of Canadian developments, we passed a series of motions affirming our adherence to Biblical teaching. On February 16, 2008 we were led by the Holy Spirit to leave the Anglican Church of Canada's Diocese of Ottawa and, remaining Anglican, come into a faithful Anglican body.
George+