


# ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Tuesday*  
**PRAYER MEETING!**  
TUESDAYS | 12:12PM | THE BIBLE HOUSE



*Thursday*  
**PRAYER**  
THURSDAYS | 7-9PM | 267 SUNNYSIDE AVE



ST. JOE'S  
**SUPPER TABLE**  
*Donations*  
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD, TOILETRIES, PAPER TOWELS, KLEENEX & DIAPERS  
LAST DAY TO BRING ITEMS IS **OCTOBER 13**



*Memorial Names*  
If you would like to remeber a loved one in our  
Thanksgiving bulletin, please submit their name to Jen at  
**JEN@MESSIAHCHURCH.CA** by **OCTOBER 9TH**

**MESSIAH OFFICE** | 315 LISGAR ST. OTTAWA ON, K2POE1  
**SUNDAY SERVICE** | OTTAWA LITTLE THEATRE, 400 KING EDWARD AVE. OTTAWA, ON



CHURCH OF THE  
**MESSIAH**

*Welcome!*

LETTERS FROM A ROMAN JAIL  
*Ephesians*

**SEPTEMBER 22ND**

MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS GRIPPED BY THE GOSPEL,  
LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY.

**HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN**

Dear Friends,

When a couple exchanges their marriage vows, what is said is short and to the point, but the consequence is life changing. Before the words are said in the marriage ceremony, the couple has met, fallen in love, and considered what it means to be married – among other things. But saying the vows is important. If you have come to Messiah for awhile, you will have heard me preach on texts like Ephesians 2:1-10. This makes clear that we are saved by God’s grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Being made right with God is all His work. A miracle. Even you faith in Christ is a gift from God. By the power of the Holy Spirit, God the Father unites you with Jesus, so that you die with Him and rise with Him. In that uniting, a profound act of identification, substitution and exchange takes place. He dies the death you deserve and you receive His life. He suffers the doom you deserve, you receive the destiny He is worthy of. All this is from God. A free gift of grace. True regeneration. You become a new creation in Christ.

Because we live in time and do not really know ourselves, this work of God can correspond to our lived experience in several ways. Some people raised in Christian families become Christians so young that they never really know a time when they did not trust Jesus as their Saviour and Lord. Some people pass from no-faith to faith in Christ without knowing the moment. One day they realize that four months ago they would have said they were not a Christian, but now they would say they are, but they are not sure when the change happened. For others, there is a clear moment when they gave themselves to Him and trusted Him as their Saviour and Lord.

In all three cases, encouraging the person to pray “the Sinners Prayer” is important. Read Romans 10, especially verses 8 and 9. Here is where the marriage vows analogy is helpful. The desire for marriage and knowledge of marriage and what it entails is already there – but the vows matter. Please note, I am not saying that without the words there is no conversion. I am saying that praying in this way is biblical, so it is helpful and wise. So, how do you talk to the person and what do you pray? I still find the ABCD outline helpful.

*(Continued on next page)*

“A” stands for “acknowledge”. You need to acknowledge that you are far from God and you cannot fix this yourself. Of course there are many other spiritual ways to express your utter lostness.

“B” stands for “believe”. You have to come to know and trust that God has freely provided for your great need. Jesus, by His birth, life, death, and resurrection has done all that needed to be done so that you by faith in Him will be born-again; adopted as His child; saved; forgiven; made clean; filled with the Holy Spirit.

“C” stands for “consider”. You need to consider that if you call out to Him to come to you as Saviour and Lord, He will come and enter and your life will begin to change. He saves all of you by taking all of you – “all” means all.

“D” stands for “decide”. Now is the time to make the decision and to pray to Jesus, asking Him to come into your life as Saviour and Lord and never leave you. In the prayer, acknowledge your lostness and confess your belief in Him. Thank Him for what He has done and that He is now your Saviour and Lord. The words are few, but His grace is great and life changing.

George+

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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. It is foolish to boast in the presence of the Lord, but it is wise to boast in the Lord.
2. Apart from God's grace in Christ you are dead.
3. You can never force God to do a miracle, but you do not need to force Him to be wholly good.

## 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, thank You that out of the riches of Your mercy and love, when we were dead in our transgressions, You made us alive together with Christ. Lord, it is only by Your grace that we are saved in Christ, raised up with Christ, and seated with Christ in the Highest Heaven. Help me to be gripped by the Gospel and die to all boasting before You, and learn instead to boast in You. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

## I NEED TO GET GOD'S WORD IN MY MIND AND HEART.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

Ephesians 2:8-9

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

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