Events and Announcements



Alpha Pre-Marriage Course

A series of five sessions to help engaged couples or those exploring the possibility of marriage, to build strong foundations for their future together!

Register for free at *info@messiahchurch.ca* Space is limited!



WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

Sunday, January 20th, 2019

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



Welcome Breakfast!

If you are new to Messiah in the last year, Welcome! We are happy that you have decided to make Church of the Messiah your church home. We'd like to welcome you to the Messiah family by having you and your family join us for an informal breakfast on Saturday, February 9th. Join us at The Bible House (315 Lisgar St) at 9:30am.

Please let us know by February 3rd if you will attend and if there are any particular food issues. *info@messiahchurch.ca*



Church on Wednesday Hospitality

Church on Wednesday needs volunteers to provide food for the students after the service. Sign up for one of the following Wednesday's: January 30, March 6, April 3, or April 17

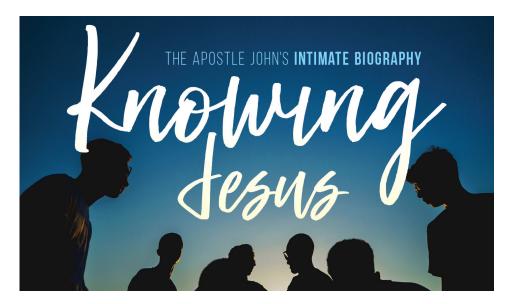
Contact Daniel Avitan to sign-up or for more information *davitan@messiahchurch.ca*



The parking garage next to the Ottawa Little Theatre is being managed by a new company. We need to negotiate a new parking arrangement with the new company. Note that this means our parking passes are no longer valid.

We have begun conversations with the new management group. Unfortunately, the earliest that we will have a new arrangement is Jan. 20. We will keep you informed. Please pray!

In the meantime, here are some suggestions. If you park in the lot behind the Theatre, we will pay for your parking if you ask (\$5). You can also park a block away at the Loblaws. If you make a small purchase, you get 2 hours of free parking. There is also lots of parking available on the road - parking is free on Sundays.



John 12:31-50

Rev. George Sinclair - Rector



Knowing Jesus - John 12:31-50

GROWING IN GRACE

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. The more I seek people's approval, the more I will have a fear of people.

2. The more I value being thought well of, the harder it will be to trust in Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

3. The more I seek my own glory, the more I seek darkness.

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts; the whole earth is full of Your glory. Woe is me. For I am lost; for I am a person of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; I cannot see the King, the Lord of Hosts! Thank you Lord for the sending of Jesus, and Your power that led me to receive Him as my Saviour and Lord. He alone has taken away my guilt, and atoned for my sin, that may live free in Your presence, seeking Your glory and praise. In Jesus' name. Amen

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

"And Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me."

John 12:44

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 _____."

In Praise of Catechisms

Dear Friends,

I grew up in Baptist churches. I became a Christian through the Jesus people movement. I never heard of Catechisms. It was only in 3rd of 4th year university that I started to become aware of their existence. The only one I read from time to time was the Westminster shorter Catechism. That is the one with the famous opening question and answer, "What is the chief end of man?" answer, "Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever."

In the last few years the use of Catechisms have been making a come back and spreading beyond "old fashion" Presbyterian and Christian Reformed Churches. I heartily commend using a catechism. I especially commend the use of a Catechism to parents. It is a great way to teach and learn the Christian faith. It gives "thickness", depth and breath to our knowledge of the faith.

Every Catechism uses a question and answer format. So a question is asked and then a concise answer is given. Usually, there is a list of Bible passages referenced in brackets after the question and answer. The Bible passages show that the answer is a biblical answer and allows you to follow up, if you wish, in reading what the Bible itself says. Note, the question and answer can be asked and answered several times in a row. You can also punctuate the question and answer by asking your child, (or yourself) if you understand the answer. The Catechism is for adults as well as children. Several adults could go through it together, or an adult and child, or you can read it by yourself.

In the case of children, the intent is that the Catechism will be used early on in the child's life and continue on until as long as they will listen (teenagers? their 20's?). The long term use helps the child memorize/learn/internalize a rich understanding of the faith. Catechisms always includes at least three sections; one on the Apostles Creed (what to believe), one on the Ten Commandments (how to live), one on the Lord's Prayer (how to pray).

Messiah is part of the Anglican Church in North America. They have recently completed a Catechism. It is available as a PDF, or as a very nicely bound book. Check it out at http://anglicanchurch.net/?/main/catechism

Tim Keller's church, with the help of other like-minded churches, has also produced a new catechism. It is called "The New City Catechism". It is designed around 52 questions, one per week. It is available for free as an App. It also includes suggested Bible Readings, short prayers, and a devotional commentary. There is also an App for the kids version of the Catechism - with each Q and A put to music. You can play this as you drive to help your kids learn the faith. To learn more, go to: newcitycatechism.com

Finally, you might want to check out the Heidelberg Catechism (just google it, there are lots of cites). This was written in 1563 and is still widely used. It has more than 52 questions, but it pioneered the approach of having a new question, or set of questions, every week for 52 weeks. In other words, you can go through the whole Catechism week-by-week, finish it in a year, then begin again.

Friends, Catechisms should not replace personal Bible reading and prayer. However, that are a great and simple compliment to your daily and weekly habits of Bible reading and prayer.

George+