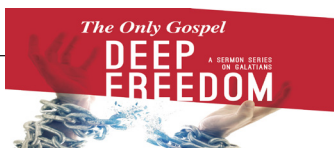


Walk by the Holy Spirit

Reading: Galatians 5: 16-25



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.

- The Holy Spirit is not tame - He is untamed and good.
- The Holy Spirit does not remove my desires - He will heal, restore and reorder my desires.
- Sanctification is not quick; it is slow.

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, You know my heart. You know my desires. Please help me to walk by the Holy Spirit; be led by the Holy Spirit; live by the Holy Spirit; and keep in step with the Holy Spirit so that I will put to death all that is within me that desires to be god. Instead, Lord, may my life bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control as I live for Your glory. I ask this in the name of my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen!!*

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

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.
Galatians 5: 22-23

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

Getting to know me

Do you often wear a cross? Do you have a tattoo of a cross?

Getting into the Bible

Ask the Lord to pour the Holy Spirit into your mind and heart as you read His word written and think about His word written.

- Read Galatians 5: 16-25
- Read Galatians 5: 16-18, 22-25. Then read Galatians 3: 1-3; John 3: 5-16; Romans 8: 1-11; Ephesians 1: 13-14.
- Read Galatians 5: 24. Then read Galatians 2: 20; 6: 14; Luke 9: 23-26

Getting Real

Has the Lord prompted or convicted you in some way as you read? Please pray about next steps - what they are and the courage to carry through.



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/317512](http://bible.com/events/317512)

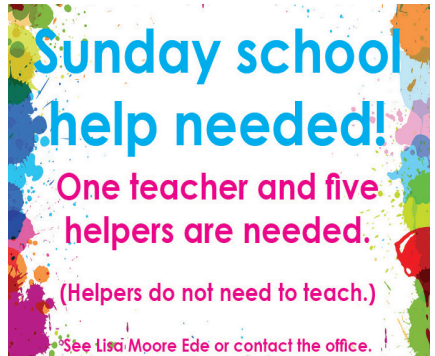
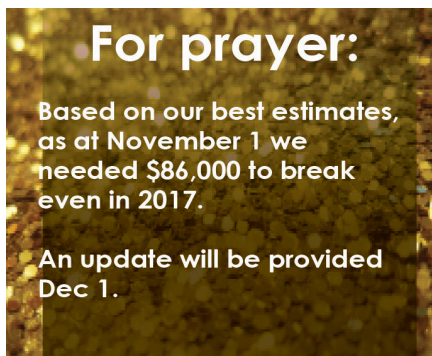
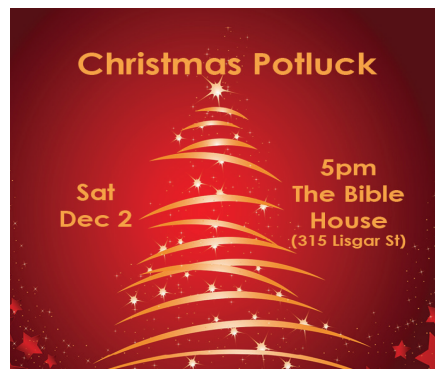
office & mailing address: 315 Lisgar St. Ottawa ON K2P 0E1

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Messiah Home Groups

Wednesdays @7:30pm
Hintonburg @ 84 Fairmont

Thursdays @ 7pm
Old Ottawa South @ 267 Sunnyside
Lowertown @ 110 Nelson



November 26, 2017

Reason, Tradition and the Bible

Dear friends,

Many modern Canadian Anglicans reject the doctrine that the Bible alone is God's definitive revelation by God of God Himself and His ways. Instead, they talk about the "three legged stool" of the Bible, tradition and reason to know God and His ways. Last week I showed that this belief, while common among Canadian Anglicans in the Anglican Church of Canada, is not Anglican in an historical, global and formal sense. But regardless of whether or not the three-legged-stool is Anglican, is it true?

First of all, it is problematic. People talking this way usually do not research **all** of Christian tradition, from all over the globe, from all of Christian history. Instead, they consciously or unconsciously cherry-pick a handful of traditions they like. Similarly, reason usually ends up meaning a current culturally-popular ideology. Notice that in both cases, that we human beings are in control. We pick a human ideology or set of ideologies, and we pick some practices and beliefs from the past and then we declare that this is how we know God and His ways. And, oh yes, in light of these declarations we can now declare what bits and pieces of the Bible contribute to our knowledge of God and His ways.

Second of all, we see that the three-legged-stool is merely, then, a fancy way of believing that our thoughts can encompass and understand God - and it has no defense against the withering criticisms of atheists and skeptics that I talked about several blogs ago. Ironically, it has no defense against the critiques of Jesus about human attempts to know and understand God!

So, do we dispense with reason and tradition in reading and understanding the Bible? Not at all. Both have a proper place in helping us to correctly understand what the Bible says.

Now, by reason, I do not mean "ideology". I mean reason! The ability to note consistencies and inconsistencies; coherence and incoherence; contradiction and harmony; mystery and clarity. Understood this way, we need to grow in our reasoning skills to read the Bible carefully.

What about tradition? God did not intend us to read the Bible alone, but to read it with others. We enter the Jesus Way one-by-one, but we walk the Jesus Way with Jesus and others. We become a Christian and we find a (local) church home. So, people have been faithfully reading and praying and living the Bible for centuries, in cultures and locales very different from our own. So we read the Bible with our brothers and our sisters in our local church. We read the Bible with Christians from all over the world. We read the Bible with our brothers and sisters who lived in the past. In other words, we read the Bible with the Body of Christ. The Bible is authoritative in our reading. It judges tradition understood in this way. But we are born into a history of reading and take our place - and this will continue till Christ returns!

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

George +