

PASTOR'S BLOG : Devastated by Jesus

Dear Friends,

For some people in Canada, becoming a follower of Jesus is devastating. This simple decision ruins life as they knew it. For long time Christians, especially those who also have Christian families, becoming a Christian can be easy and relatively trouble free. However, for an increasing number of Canadians, to become a follower of Jesus - to trust Him as Saviour and learn to follow Him as Lord - can mean a loss of all friends and family and threaten their career.

Over the last couple of months I have read two very good recent auto biographies by people whose lives were devastated by Jesus. I highly recommend them.

The first book is by Rosaria Champagne Butterfield and is entitled *The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert*. She also has a website: rosariabutterfield.com. She was a tenured English professor at Syracuse University. She was a lesbian in a lesbian relationship and the faculty advisor to the give main LGBT groups on campus. Her book describes the process that led to her conversion and, as you can imagine, the huge consequences on her life.

The second book is by Nabeel Qureshi. The book is called *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus*. He does not seem to have his own website, but you can go to www.rzim.org/bio/nabeel-qureshi for more info. Nabeel grew up as a devout Muslim, the grandson of Muslim evangelists. This moving biography has an extended opening section on what it is like to grow up in a devout, loving Muslim family. This book then traces the process that led to Nabeel's conversion and briefly touches on the profound consequences this had on his family and his life. Both books are very good at talking about the worries they had as they were being drawn to Jesus. They anticipated problems. The surprise was that the problems were worse than they had anticipated and that the trouble was so worth it.

So, please pray for your friends and family and co-workers. Be sensitive to the cost of following Jesus. As you become more sensitive to the cost your friend will bear to follow Jesus, pray for a humble, compassionate confidence to continue bearing witness of Jesus to them. Remember, He really did die on the cross. He really did rise. He really is the Saviour. Alleluia!

George +

THE EASTER FLOWERS ARE IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Vera & Gerald Allen	Leslie Barnes	Lawrence McPhail
Margery & Robert Dean	Joy Brisley	Ned Meredith
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WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

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!

Are you interested in learning more about Messiah and getting connected? Email info@messiahchurch.ca or call **613.235.0596**. Also check out our website at messiahchurch.ca.

Nursery & Sunday School

Nursery (0 - 24 months) and Sunday School (2 yrs - Grade 6) are available at the 10am Service. For Nursery, you are welcome to bring children to the north side of the lobby before or during the service. For Sunday School, children are invited to "follow the cross" during the third worship song.

The Offering Plate

If you are visiting, please feel free to let the plate go by. If you would like to donate, please make cheques out to "Church of the Messiah." If you prefer to donate online, go to www.canadahelps.org, then search "Church of the Messiah Ottawa."

UPCOMING EVENTS + ANNOUNCEMENTS

TUE/ APR 22 Lowertown Home Group
7:00pm @ Ian Murray's

Messiah Prayer Meeting
7:00pm @ Messiah Office

WED/ APR 23 Men's Bible Study
5:30pm @ Rideau Centre

The Wurtemberg Home Group
7:30pm @ The van Hemmen's

THU/ APR 24 The House
6:30pm @ The Giles'

SAT/ APR 26 William Ndiokubwayo's Baptism
2:00pm @ St. Peter & St. Paul's (152 Metcalfe)

SAT/ MAY 3 Keep Holding On
11:00am @ Messiah Office
Amy Belder shares the story of a new mother, a premature daughter and God's faithfulness.

For more info, visit messiahchurch.ca, call **613.235.0596**, or email Amy at amy@messiahchurch.ca.

SERMON NOTES : The Realistic Resurrection

GOSPEL: MARK 16:1-8

EPISTLE: COLOSSIANS 3:1-11

*Free Bibles are available at the Besserer door.

1) Jesus _____ cross.

2) The Gospel of Mark is an _____ and _____ account of Jesus based on _____.

3) The Bible teaches two complementary truths: the tomb _____: _____ Because Jesus, in the _____ was resurrected.

4) The death and resurrection of Jesus is a _____.



Questions and/or comments about the sermon or scripture text? Email George at george@messiahchurch.ca

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rector
Rev. Canon George Sinclair

Worship Leader & Young Adults Leader
Jeremiah Smith

Administrative & Communications Manager
Amy van Hemmen

Ministry Interns
Jeremy Giles & Daniel Gilman

Wardens: Dick Butler, Gary Graber, John Rayson
Shannon Ripley, Karl Ruban, Natasha Wallace