
READING

We believe that regular Bible reading is the most important step we can take to grow spiritually. If you need a tool to help you be consistent, check out the options at the Resource table in the foyer.

PRAYING

This information is intended to help you pray for specific needs in our congregation and the world. Updates to prayer requests for individuals will be added as information is provided.

In his Institutes Calvin calls prayer “the chief exercise of faith...by which we daily receive God’s benefits”. Prayer is our response to grace, receiving what God gives us, and then responding with deep gratitude, so that our petitions grow out of thanksgiving. The result, he says, is pietas, an attitude of reverence and love for God, and caritas, service to neighbor.

For Our Mission

Worship – Serve – Grow

Pray that our worship would be more than a song. Nevertheless, pray that the words of our songs will stick in our memories and support our daily devotion. As we worship, may the love of God move us to resolve and to action.

For Our World

- Pray for students and teachers who are enjoying a break from the work routine this summer. May God refresh and refocus.
- Pray that compassion will move people to support an increase in palliative care availability across the country.

For Our Congregation

- For the following people who continue to struggle with a variety of health issues: Dennis Salhani; Pat Dermenjian; Lynda Weber (Dave Weber’s wife);
- Jim Warren is recovering from recent bypass surgery
- Dorothy Meyer broke a bone in her leg and cannot put any weight on it for 8 weeks
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WORSHIP GUIDE

Summerside Community Church

August 13, 2017

Speaker: Dr. Deven K. MacDonald

GRACE

GOOD NEWS FOR MESSY PEOPLE

HEARING:

God, in his grace, welcomes the unworthy to be his children so that he can be with them.

1. **We are his child by** _____
 - God gives us a new name: Isaiah 56:5; Revelation 2:17
 - God gives us a new family: Matthew 12:46-50; Hebrews 2:11
 - God gives us a new future: John 3:16
 - God gives us a new heart: Ezekiel 36:26
 - God gives us a new nature: 2 Peter 1:4
 - God gives us new life: 2 Corinthians 5:17

2. **We are his child by** _____
 - 📖 Ephesians 1:5 - he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will

 - 📖 Galatians 4:5 - to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

 - 📖 Romans 8:15 - The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.”

3. We are his children and are called to act like it

Good Fathers are loved:
Good Fathers are obeyed:
Good Fathers are trusted:

1 John 3:1-2 - See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

APPLYING

It's one thing to hear God's Word, it's another to apply it! Answering the questions on your own before your group meets will help you be fully engaged in the discussion.

Community Group Questions

1. How would you explain the difference between God's universal fatherhood over creation and his special, gospel-given fatherhood of his sons and daughters?
2. Take some time to read through the verses listed under Point 1 ("God gives us a new...", etc.) from the sermon notes. Spend some time talking about the good things that God gives us and how our lives would be impacted if we remember these each day.
3. Have you ever prayed and asked God if he is calling you to adopt or foster? How does adoption and fostering reflect and mirror the gospel?
4. Take a look, one more time, at Hebrews 2:11. Jesus isn't ashamed of you. He's not embarrassed to be called your brother. How does this truth encourage you today?
5. Read through 1 John 3:1-3. Are you looking forward to the day when our big family reunion occurs?

DEEPENING

To hear today's message again, or any of our archived sermons, please visit our website or subscribe to our iTunes channel.

For questions, or further discussion, connect with us:

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 office@summersidechurch.ca



REMEMBERING

Memorizing is one of the best ways of making truth stick. You can memorize something if you repeat it enough times. Try reading the verse 5 times a day until it sticks! Choose a part of it for your kids if needed.

" See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! "
1 John 3:1^(NM)