

A Wesleyan July – Sermons & Hymns by John & Charles Wesley

“The Means of Grace”

John Wesley Standard Sermon #16

Malachi 3:6-12

How can one grow in God’s grace?

The means of grace are the “outward symbols, words, and actions that God ordained to be the ordinary channels through which he might convey to us his prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying grace.” – John Wesley (contemporized by Dr. Ken Kinghorn)

The means of grace are concrete spiritual disciplines set apart by God as the most reliable way we receive prevenient, justifying, or sanctifying grace. – Dr. Kevin Watson

By Prayer

⁷“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.” – Matthew 7:7-8

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray” – Luke 11:1

“You do not have because you do not ask God.” – James 4:2

By Searching the Scriptures

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ. – Romans 10:17

¹¹Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. ¹²As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men. – Acts 17:11-12

¹⁵and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. – 2 Timothy 3:15-17

By Partaking of the Lord’s Supper

Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

– 1 Corinthians 10:16

The “ordinary channel” or regular path

Remember!

- **Seek God alone – increase in the knowledge and love of God**
- **Follow the Spirit’s leading – God at work in us**

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

– Acts 2:42-47

Summer Sermons

A Wesleyan July – Sermons & Hymns by John & Charles Wesley, our denominational founders

July 7 “Salvation by Faith” based on Ephesians 2:8-10

July 14 “On Sin in Believers” based on 2 Corinthians 5:17 and 1 John 1:5 – 2:2

July 21 “The Means of Grace” based on Malachi 3:6-12

July 28 “Christian Perfection” based on Philippians 3:12