**John Wesley sermon: The Means of Grace (16)**

Gracious and Loving God,

You seek us all and meet us in so many ways because you long to share your

love with everything and everyone you have created.

You give us the gift of your Word as a revelation of your love.

In this gift you offer yourself to us anew.

All who desire your grace are to wait for it

by immersing themselves in this well of wisdom

graciously offered to us.

Lord, help us to wait for you in searching the scriptures.

As we hear, read, and meditate upon your Word,

confirm your truth, increase our wisdom,

empower us to share the fulness of Christ.

Establish in our lives a consistent pattern that moves

from hearing, reading, and meditating upon your Word,

to putting your Word to work in our lives. Amen.

Chilcote, Praying in the Wesleyan Spirit, 16

**Charles Wesley hymn:**

While now thine oracles we read,

With earnest prayer and strong desire,

O let thy Spirit from thee proceed,

Our souls to waken and inspire,

Our weakness help, our darkness chase,

And guide us by the light of grace.

The secret lessons of thy grace,

Transmitted through the word, repeat,

To train us up in all thy ways,

To make us in thy will complete;

O lift us to the joys above,

And raise us up to perfect love.

*Scripture Hymns* (1762), 2:337-38, Hymn 664 on 2 Tim 3:16-17, Stanzas 3, 5