

Announcements and Information:

Pastor: Rev. Todd Ruddell
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Elders: Carl Betsch, Tom Dillard

Pastor's email: pastor@christcovenantreformedpc.org

Denomination: Reformed Pres. Church, General Assembly: www.rpcga.org

CCRPC Website: <http://www.christcovenantrpc.org>

Pray with fervency and strength for the following:

- Whitefield Seminary, and other seminaries, and those studying for Church Office: That seminaries would train according to the pure doctrines of Scripture, standing in the stream of our Reformation and Biblical heritage. **Pray** for the presbyteries that have men under care, that they might know their fitness not only doctrinally, but as men of honor and integrity as well. **Pray** that the Lord of the harvest would raise up and send laborers into His field in the next generation.

- Officers and Members of Reformed Presbyterian Churches, & of the RPCGA **Pray** for the ministries of our churches, that the Lord would give clear understanding to our elders as to the forms and structure of the ministry of the Church, and that her work in this world would not be influenced by the spirit of the age, the paradigms of this world, or other knowledge falsely so called. **Pray** for a renewed understanding of the sufficiency and supremacy of Scripture to guide all of our ministry, and that our churches would magnify the teaching of Scripture in the way she ministers to her people, and to the world.

CCRPC: **Pray for one another! Pray for your Pastor and your Elders!** **Pray** that the Lord would bring others to CCRPC, and that as a congregation we would invite others to Church. **Pray** for our homes, and the homes of our fellow church-fellows in our denomination and among other like-minded folk, that they would be places where the Word of God is foundational, such that it oozes out in every conversation, in the direction and guidance of our homes, and as it informs all of our lives—labor, recreation, leisure, etc. **Pray** for Godly households, lights in their neighborhoods, “known in the gates” as it were, by the patient and winsome example of living lives ordered by the Scripture, and not by the passing trends of the culture.

CCRPC
702 Business Way
Wylie, TX 75098
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CHRIST COVENANT REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



But ye are come unto mount Sion... And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant (Hebrews 12.22, 24)

**SCRIPTURE ALONE—GRACE ALONE—FAITH ALONE—BY
CHRIST ALONE—TO GOD ALONE BE GLORY
REFORMED, AND ALWAYS REFORMING**

21 May 2017

Lord's Day Morning Worship: 10:00 A
Afternoon Fellowship Meal (all are welcome) 12.30 P
Lord's Day Early Evening Worship: 2:00 P

Catechism and Memory Class shortly following evening worship.

Open Ended fellowship and Lord's Day conversation afterward. Pastor and Mrs. Ruddell's home is open after services each Lord's Day to all for refreshments, Sabbath Day conversation, and good fellowship. Theological reading class is held every Wednesday evening at the Church. All interested folks are welcome, class begins at 7:30. We also host a monthly men's prayer breakfast at the Church for our men and boys. Speak to one of our men for details. We also gather to sing the Psalms the first Lord's Day of every month at the Church, 4:45 or so.

We are pleased to have you join with us as we worship the Triune God. If you are visiting with us, please allow us to extend our warmest welcome. If you are a member in good standing of a Confessional, Reformed Church, and desire to commune with us at the Lord's Table, please contact the Pastor prior to the morning worship service.

Our Name:

Christ: Our only Surety and Mediator, Sacrifice and Substitute, Righteousness and Sanctification; the Wisdom of God, the Logos of God, triumphing as the Second Adam where the first Adam fell, God, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity

Covenant: The means whereby the Triune God has brought His people into everlasting and gracious communion with Himself, unilaterally, uniting them to Christ, the only Mediator of the Covenant of Grace

Reformed: Teaching the Biblical Doctrines of God's Sovereignty, of Divine Monergism in our redemption, of His initiating and sovereign Grace and Salvation as the only hope of man to escape eternal judgment; the sufficiency of the Scriptures, and the “righteousness of God which is by the faith of Jesus Christ” alone, preached and restored to the Church at large during the Protestant Reformation

Presbyterian: Confessing and practicing the Biblical doctrines of Church government, of a broader authority than that of the local congregation, held in a plurality of elders, and those as distinctively taught in the Westminster Standards, 1647.

Church: The Visible people of God, Called out of the world as His people, under Christ's government, discipline, and instruction; administered by Elders, called as saints to serve Him together with their children regardless of age; and testifying to His invisible Church, the whole number of the elect that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one under Christ the Head.

Deaconal/Mercy/Service/Giving Opportunities:

- Rev. Victor Atallah and the ministry of MERF: Prayer, Monetary gifts.
- Rev. Justin Stodghill and the ministry of CRPC San Marcos: Prayer.
- Rockie Simbajon: Prayer, Monetary Gifts for Church work in the Philippines

Question #87: What is Repentance Unto Life?

Answer: Repentance Unto Life is a Saving Grace,^a whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin,^b and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ,^c doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God,^d with full purpose of, and endeavour after, new obedience.^e **a.** Acts 11:18. **b.** Acts 2:37–38. **c.** Joel 2:12; Jer. 3:22. **d.** Jer. 31:18–19; Ezek. 36:31. **e.** 2 Cor. 7:11; Isa.

1:16–17.

Thomas Vincent: QUESTION 1: Why is repentance called repentance unto life? **ANSWER:** Repentance is called repentance unto life, because it is a saving grace and a necessary means for the attaining life and salvation. It might be distinguished from the sorrow of the world which works death. (Acts 11:18, Ezek. 18:21, 2 Cor. 7:10).

QUESTION 2: Can any repent of the sins by the power of nature? **ANSWER:** None can repent of their sins by the power of nature, because the hearts of all men and women by nature are like a stone, insensible of sin, and inflexible unto God's will. Therefore there is need of the Spirit of God to work this grace in the heart, which he has promised to do in the new covenant. (Ezek. 36:26, 27).

QUESTION 3: What is repentance unto life? **ANSWER:** Repentance unto life chiefly consists in two things: **1.** In turning from sin, and forsaking it. (Ezek. 18:30). (Prov. 28:13). **2.** In turning to God. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon" (Isa. 55:7).

QUESTION 4: What is requirement for turning from sin in repentance? **ANSWER:** It is requirement for turning from sin in repentance that there be: **1.** A true sight of sin. **2.** An apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ. **3.** A grief for sin. **4.** A hatred of sin.

QUESTION 5: What is the true sense of sin which is requisite in repentance? **ANSWER:** The true sense of sin, which is requisite in repentance, does consist in such an inward feeling of our miserable and low estate, by reason of the wrath and curse of God, and that eternal vengeance of hell, which for our sins we are exposed to, as putteth us into great perplexity and trouble of spirit; so that our consciences being hereby pricked and wounded, can find no quiet, and take no rest in this condition. (Acts 2:37).

QUESTION 6: Why is there a need of this sense of sin for true repentance? **ANSWER:** There is need of this sense of sin unto true repentance because, without this sense of sin, sinners will not forsake sin, nor apply themselves unto the Lord Jesus for pardon and healing. (Matt. 9:12, 13).

QUESTION 7: What apprehensions of God's mercy are required in this repentance? **ANSWER:** There is requirement in repentance, that that have apprehensions of God's mercy, as he is both slow to anger and of great kindness; as he is most ready to forgive, and most ready to be pacified unto repenting sinners. (Ex. 34:6,7, Rom. 2:4).

QUESTION 8: Can we apprehend pardoning mercy in God only through Christ? **ANSWER:** We can truly apprehend pardoning mercy in God only through Christ, because God is so infinitely just and jealous, and a consuming fire to sinners out of Christ. He is reconcilable unto sinners only through his Son who hath given satisfaction unto his justice for sin. "All things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ" (2 Cor.

5:18).

QUESTION 9: What need is there of the apprehension of God's mercy in Christ, in order for our repentance?

ANSWER: There is need of the apprehension of God's mercy in Christ in order for our repentance, because without the apprehension of this mercy of God, and willingness through his Son to be reconciled unto us. Upon conviction of and contrition for sin, we shall either cast off our trouble, and run more eagerly unto the commission of sin than before or, if we cannot cast off our trouble, we will sink under tormenting despair and be in danger of making away with ourselves, as Judas did. Whereas the apprehension of God's mercy in Christ is an encouragement to us to forsake our sins and to turn to him, and a means to affect our hearts with kindly and godly sorrow for sin.

QUESTION 10: What is true grief for sin? **ANSWER:** True grief for sin consists in our mourning and sorrowing for sin; not only as it is likely to bring ruin upon ourselves, but chiefly as it has brought dishonor upon God's name; not only as it hath wounded our consciences, but chiefly as it hath wounded our Saviour; not only as without repentance it is like to damn our souls, but also as it has debased and defiled our souls. "I will declare mine iniquity: I will be sorry for my sin" (Ps. 38:18, Ps. 51:3, 4, Zech. 12:10, Isa. 64:5, 6).

QUESTION 11: May we not truly grieve for sin, though we do not weep for it? **ANSWER:** **1.** If we can readily weep for other things, and cannot weep for sin, the truth of our grief is very questionable. **2.** There may be true and great grief for sin without tears, in them that are of a dry constitution, and are not prone to weep upon any account. There may be in some many tears in the eye, where there is no grief in the heart, so in others there may be much grief in the heart, where there are no tears in the eye.

QUESTION 12: Why is grief for sin needed for repentance?

ANSWER: Grief for sin is needs for repentance, because it further works the heart to a willingness to leave sin; because God requires it, and has promised mercy to those who mourn for sin. "Be afflicted and mourn, and weep; let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness" (James 4:9, Jer. 31:18–20).

QUESTION 13: What is the hatred of sin is required for true repentance? **ANSWER:** Hatred of sin which is required for true repentance, is an inward deep loathing and abhorrence of sin, as the most odious thing in the world, which is accompanied with a loathing of ourselves, as being rendered by sin most loathsome and abominable in the eyes of God. "Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings which have not been good, and shall loathe yourselves in your own sight, for your iniquities and your abominations" (Ezek. 36:31).

QUESTION 14: Why is hatred of sin needful for true repentance? **ANSWER:** Hatred of sin is needful for true

repentance, because no affection of the heart will more engage us against sin than our hatred; and when grief for sin is much spent, hatred of sin will put weapons into our hands to fight against it.

QUESTION 15: What is the turning from sin which is part of true repentance? **ANSWER:** The turning from sin which is a part of true repentance consists in two things: **1.** In a turning from all gross sins, in regard of our course and conversation. **2.** In a turning from all other sins, in regard of our hearts and affections.

QUESTION 16: Do those who truly repent of sin never return again unto the practice of the same sins which they have repented of? **ANSWER:** **1.** Those who have truly repented of sin do never return unto the practice of it so as to live in a course of sin as they did before; and where any after repentance returns to a course of sin, it is an evident sign that their repentance was not of the right kind. **2.** Some have truly repented of their sins, although they may be overtaken and surprised by temptations, so as to fall into the commission of the same sins which they have repented of, yet they do not lie in them, but get up again, and with bitter grief bewail them, and return again unto the Lord.

QUESTION 17: What does turning to the Lord (the other part of true repentance) consist? **ANSWER:** Turning to the Lord consists: **1.** In making application of ourselves to him for the pardon of sin and his mercy. "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving kindness; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out my transgressions" (Ps. 51:1). **2.** In our making choice of him for our God and chief good. "Behold, we come unto thee; for thou art the Lord our God" (Jer. 3:22). "They shall call on my name and I will hear them; I will say, It is my people; and they shall say, The Lord is my God" (Zech. 13:9). **3.** In our delivering up of ourselves to his obedience. "I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies" (Ps. 119:59).

QUESTION 18: What is that obedience which we must deliver ourselves up unto, in our returning to the Lord? **ANSWER:** The obedience which we must deliver up ourselves unto, in our returning to the Lord, is the new obedience of the gospel.

QUESTION 19: Why is the obedience of the gospel called new obedience? **ANSWER:** The obedience of the gospel is called new obedience, because it is required in the new covenant, and because it must proceed from newness of spirit, the new nature or new principle of grace and spiritual life which is put into the soul by the Spirit of God. "But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held, that we should serve in newness of spirit" (Rom. 7:6).

QUESTION 20: When do we deliver up ourselves unto this new obedience? **ANSWER:** We deliver up ourselves unto this new obedience: **1.** When we have full resolutions and purposes of it. "I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments" (Ps. 119:106). "And exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would

cleave to the Lord" (Acts 11:23). **2.** When we are diligent in our endeavors after it that we may constantly walk in the ways of new obedience, without offense either to God or man. "And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless" (Luke 1:6). "And herein do I exercise myself to have always a conscience void of offense toward God and toward men" (Acts 24:16).

QUESTION 21: Do all who truly repent fully, perform new obedience? **ANSWER:** None that truly repent do here in this life perform new obedience fully without any failure or defect. But they diligently endeavor to do it and when they fall short, it is their grief and trouble. "For I am ready to halt and my sorrow is continually before me" (Ps. 38:17).¹

Prayer Requests-05/15/2017

If you have a matter for prayer during the second service, please make that request known to the Pastor.

- **Pray** for Kristine Schempp, and Anna Allie, expecting. Pray for Anna particularly that her "morning sickness" (which often lasts longer than the morning) would subside.
- **Pray** for the Larsons, for wisdom toward Gabriel's long term care.
- **Pray** for Mr. Rocky Simbajon, & family, and for the work in the Philippines.
- **Pray** for Mrs. Lyla Ruddell, and Mr. "Sonny" Dillard, for Greg Schempp's father, and for Nick and Eric's grandmother, for health.
- **Pray** for our Church in San Marcos, that the new venue, and direction from Presbytery will be conducive to growth.
- **Pray** for our Elder Visitations, that the Lord would grant growth in grace, and good fellowship.
- **Pray** for Rev. Stephen Welch, as he searches for a new ministerial call.
- **Pray** also for Rev. George Lacy, as he too searches out a new call.
- **Pray** for Nick Wehlau's grandfather, who has cancer.
- **Pray** for the completion of the ancillary Church building in Loreto, Mindanao.
- **Pray** for Rev. Jeff Donnan, as he battles cancer.
- **Praise** for the Williamson family upon the purchase of a new home. **Pray** for their move next Saturday.

¹ Thomas Vincent, *A Family Instructional Guide*, electronic edition based on the first Banner of Truth ed., 1980. (Simpsonville, SC: Christian Classics Foundation, 1996), 227–233.