



The Testimony of John Calvin

Reformation Sunday

1 Timothy 2:1-8, p. 991

October 28, 2018

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

On Reformation Sunday we celebrate the church's testimony and reflect on a key theme: prayer.

The Message

1) What is Reformation Sunday?

2) The Testimony of John Calvin

3) Calvin: "The Privilege of Prayer" – 1 Timothy 2:8

The first privilege of prayer is the fact it necessitates: God is now accessible to us.

The second privilege of prayer is that prayer is a resource for our constant need of God.

The third privilege of prayer is that prayer obeys and honors God.

Response

Reformation Sunday reminds us of the testimony of the church, and encourages us to always reform our individual lives and church life to the gospel and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday Text Questions for 1 Timothy 2:1-8

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- 1) Starter Question: Why is it good for the church to celebrate Reformation Sunday each year?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) The apostle Paul, who writes by the inspiration of God, “urges” Christians to pray in v. 1. How can we obey and take seriously this command from Scripture?
- 4) What are the different kinds of prayer listed by Paul in v. 1, and how do they perform different functions in the life and circumstances of Christians?
- 5) How should we pray for “all people” (v. 1) and also for government officials (v. 2)?
- 6) What does v. 4 explain to be the ultimate goal of our prayers, and how does that teach us about the way we should be praying?
- 7) Why does v. 8 speak directly to men in regard to prayer (women are addressed separately in v. 9)? What explanation would you give for this gender-specific instruction?
- 8) Since Christians “in every place” should be praying (v. 8), how should that command be obeyed by you, your family, and Hope Church?
- 9) What does the phrase “lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling” in v. 8 explain to us about the manner in which Christians should pray?
- 10) Closing Application: What *truths to believe* or *actions to obey* does this passage of Scripture teach us?

Further study this week: 1 John 5:13-16 on confidence in asking from God (Mon); James 5:13-18 on the prayer of faith (Tues); Psalm 102 on the Lord hearing prayers (Wed); Philippians 4:4-7 on entrusting all things to God (Thurs); Matthew 6:5-15 on the Lord’s Prayer (Fri).