

Announcements and Information:

Pastor: Rev. Todd Ruddell
972.853.0914 (Home)
469.271.9631 (Mobile)

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 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 send laborers into His field in the next generation.

- Officers and Members of Reformed Presbyterian Churches, & of the RPCGA **Pray** for the children of our churches, and for their parents as they raise them, that the Lord would grant well-ordered families, according to the Scriptures. **Pray** For our new President as he prepares to take office, that the Lord would work upon his thoughts and turn them toward uprightness. **Pray** that he would understand his duty under the rule of law, and work in accord with those constitutional, legal prescriptions of his office, and that through these means the Lord would prepare us, in His due time, for a more consistently Christian establishment. **Pray** that he would be committed to righteous leadership, and also a conciliatory tone, in order, as far as it is consistent with uprightness, to provide for peace, and an end to the rancor that dominates our national discussions.

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 the reformed Church (all kinds) that during this new year, the Lord would grant reformation, the reclaiming of ground lost in declension from our Biblical and confessional standards, a return to the "Old Paths" where the way was made by righteousness, and a decline from the spirit of the age. **Pray** for a renewed study of the Bible, and how our fathers in the faith understood it, in order to imitate their best and most Biblical practices, and doctrines, and to turn from those erroneous and profane doctrines and practices all too common even in reformed churches.

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

CCRPC
702 Business Way
Wylie, TX 75098
214.799.1647

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**

01 January 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.

Question #67: Which is the Sixth Commandment?

Answer: The Sixth Commandment is, Thou Shalt Not Kill.^a

a. Exod. 20:13.

Thomas Vincent:

QUESTION 1: What does the sixth commandment refer to? **ANSWER:** The sixth commandment does refer to our own life and the life of others.

QUESTION 2: What does the sixth commandment require, in reference to our own life? **ANSWER:** The sixth commandment does require, in reference to our own life all lawful endeavors for the preservation of it.

QUESTION 3: May we not deny Christ and his truths for the preservation of our life, if we would certainly lose our life for owning and acknowledging them? **ANSWER:** The denial of Christ and his truths is an unlawful means for the preservation of our life, and therefore not to be used. Saving our life in this way is the way to lose our life and our souls for ever. "Whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 10:33). "Whosoever will save his life, shall lose it. What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" (Matt. 16:25, 26).

QUESTION 4: May we not in any case endeavor the saving of our life by a lie, as Isaac did at Gerar, when he said his wife was his sister, lest the men of the place should kill him for his wife's sake (Gen. 26:7). **ANSWER:** The apostle does answer this case. "We be slanderously reported, that we say, Let us do evil, that good may come; whose damnation is just" (Rom. 3:8). Therefore the lie of Isaac, for preservation of his life, was his sin, and offensive to God and no more to be approved than the adultery of David, which the Scripture does record, not for imitation, but for caution.

QUESTION 5: May we not defend our life against an enemy that assaults us on the Sabbath day, though in so doing we interrupt the duties of God's worship? **ANSWER:** Though sins ought never to be committed, whatever good might come through them; negative precepts binding to all times, yet positive precepts binding always, but not at all times, duties may be interrupted at some time without sin. God does dispense with his worship on his day, when it is necessary that we should be employed otherwise in the defense of our life against a public enemy.

QUESTION 6: What are the lawful endeavors which we ought to use for the preservation of our life? **ANSWER:** The lawful endeavors which we ought to use for the preservation of our life are: **1.** Defense of ourselves with arms and weapons, against the violence of thieves and cutthroats that seek to murder us. "He that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one" (Luke 22:36). **2.** Defense of ourselves which does, and in houses, against the violence of the weather and cold. "She is not afraid of the snow for her household; for all her household are clothed with scarlet" (Prov. 31:21). **3.** The nourishing and refreshing our bodies in a sober and moderate use of meat, drink, and sleep. "For no man hateth his own flesh, but nourisheth and cherisheth it" (Eph. 5:29). "Drink no longer water but use a little wine for thy stomachs sake, and thine often infirmities"

(1 Tim. 5:23). "If he sleep he shall do well" (John 11:12). **4.** The exercising of our bodies with labor and moderate recreations. "The sleep of a laboring man is sweet" (Eccl. 5:12). "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance" (Eccl. 3:14). **5.** The use of physic for the removal of sickness and the recovery of health. "They that be whole need not a physician but they that are sick" (Matt. 9:12). **6.** Patience, peacefulness, contentment, cheerfulness, and the moderate exhilarating of our spirits with God's gifts, especially rejoicing in the Giver, and using all good means to get and keep our mind and heart in a good temper, which does much tend to the preservation of our health, and a good temper also in our body. "A merry heart doth good like a medicine; but a broken spirit drieth the bones" (Prov. 17:22).

QUESTION 7: What does the sixth commandment require, in reference to the life of others? **ANSWER:** The sixth commandment requires, in reference to the life of others, all lawful endeavors to preserve others' life.

QUESTION 8: May a lie be made use of to preserve the life of others, especially if they are God's people, and their life is unjustly sought by God's enemies; as Rahab by a lie, saved the lives of the Israelites in her house, for which she is recorded with commendation, and herself and house were saved, when all the city beside were destroyed? **ANSWER:** **1.** No lie must be used on this or any account; the loss of the lives of the most righteous not being so evil as the least evil of sin. **2.** Rahab was commended and spared for her faith, and because of the promise which the Israelites had made to her, not because of her lie. Her lie was her sin, which without pardon, would have been punished in hell. "By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not when she had received the spies with peace" (Heb. 11:31).

QUESTION 9: How may and ought we to endeavor the preservation of others' lives? **ANSWER:** **1.** Magistrates and judges who have power in their hand ought to defend the innocent when oppressed, wronged, and in danger of losing their livelihood, especially when in danger of death. "Defend the poor and fatherless. Deliver the poor and needy; rid them out of the hand of the wicked" (Ps. 82:3, 4). "If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death and those that are ready to be slain: if thou sayest, Behold we knew it not, doth not He that pondereth the heart consider it and shall not He render to every man according to his works?" (Prov. 24:11, 12). **2.** Everyone ought to distribute necessities of life according to their ability, to such as the poor and in need. "If a brother or sister be naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled, notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body, what doth it profit?" (James 2:15, 16). **3.** Everyone ought to forbear all wrongs and doing any injury to any person, and to forgive such injuries that are done to us, returning good for evil. "Be

blameless and harmless, the children of God, without rebuke” (Phil. 2:15). “Forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any” (Col. 3:13). “Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good” (Rom. 12:21).¹

Thomas Ridgley:

IN explaining this commandment, we shall first consider the positive part of it; or the duties required in it. We should use all lawful endeavours to preserve our own life, and the life of others; and consequently we should avoid all those passions, and other things, which may afford an occasion to take it away, and live in the constant exercise of the duties of temperance and sobriety, as to what respects ourselves, and of meekness, gentleness, and forgiveness of injuries, as to what concerns others. In this commandment it is supposed that life is the most valuable blessing of nature. Hence, to take it away, is to do the utmost injury which can be attempted against us. The valuableness of the life of man appears in four things. First, it is the result of the union of the soul with the body; which is the principle of those actions that are put forth by us as intelligent creatures. Hence, life is to be esteemed in proportion to the excellency of the soul; which is the noblest part of the creation, angels excepted. Again, nothing can compensate or satisfy for the taking away of the life of man, how much satisfaction soever may be given for the loss of other things. Further, man is the subject of the divine image; which supposes us to have a more excellent life than any other creatures in this lower world, and is assigned as a reason of our obligation to preserve life. Finally life is given and continued to us, in order that the most valuable ends may be attained, conducive to the glory of God, the advancement of religion in the world, and the promoting of our everlasting happiness. We may hence take an estimate of its excellency; and it contains the highest motive to us, to yield obedience to this commandment.

This leads us to consider the means which we are to use, to preserve our own lives, and the lives of others. As to the preservation of our own lives, we are not to rush presumptuously into danger of death, without a divine warrant; for to do so is to be prodigal of life. We are also to exercise sobriety and temperance, avoiding gluttony, drunkenness, lust, and all exorbitant passions; which tend to impair the health, as well as defile the conscience. Moreover, when occasion requires it, we are to have recourse to the skill of physicians, and make use of those medicines which may conduce to repair the weakness and decays of nature. As to our endeavours to preserve the lives of others, we are to caution them against those things which would tend to destroy their health, and, by degrees, their lives. We must also discover and detect all secret plots and contrivances which may be directed against them; and we are to support and relieve those who are ready to perish by extreme poverty, yea, though they were our enemies. We are also to defend those who are in imminent danger of death.

Nevertheless, we must not use unwarrantable means, though it were to save our own lives. In times of persecution, for example, we are not to renounce the truths of God, or give occasion to the common enemy to revile them, or speak evil of them, by avoiding to suffer for the cause of Christ. Preferring a profession of the truth to the preservation of life, was that noble principle by which the martyrs whom the apostle speaks of were actuated. ‘They were tortured, not accepting deliverance;’ that is, when they were exposed to the most exquisite torments, and their lives offered them if they would deny Christ, they would not accept of deliverance on so dishonourable terms. Neither are we, at any time, to tell a lie, or do that which is contrary to truth, though it were to save our lives.²

Prayer Requests-01/01/2017

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

- **Pray** for Taylor Williamson, Uni Allie, Maribeth Cogan, expecting.
- **Pray** for the Larsons, especially for Gabriel’s recovery from surgery. **Praise** for his good progress.
- **Pray** for Mr. Rocky Simbajon, & family, and for the work in the Philippines.
- **Pray** for the Ruddells and especially Mrs. Lyla Ruddell, for her health.
- **Praise** for Jason Dodson’s situation, that the Lord would grant mercy and comfort. **Praise** for the good report on his latest scans.
- **Pray** for our Church in San Marcos, that the new venue will be conducive for growth.
- **Pray** for the Allie family, for the sale of their home in Grand Saline, and for Mr. Allie’s current health trials.
- **Pray** for the Eric Rooney family concerning the renovation of their new home.
- **Pray** for Lyla’s nurse Cindy, as she recovers from surgery.
- **Pray** for the Aruldas family as they visit family in California.
- **Pray** for Tom Dillard’s father, “Sonny” Dillard, for his health.
- **Pray** for Greg Schempp’s father as he recovers from surgery.

¹ Thomas Vincent, *A Family Instructional Guide*, electronic edition based on the first Banner of Truth ed., 1980. (Simpsonville, SC: Christian Classics Foundation, 1996), 173–177. (Comments shown are from Q&A # 68)

² Thomas Ridgley, *A Body of Divinity*, vol. 2 (New York: Robert Carter & Brothers, 1855), 380–381.