



# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

*"Knowing the love of Christ together with all the saints." - Eph. 3:18-19*

*Week Ending August 12, 2017*

For he was looking forward to  
the city that has foundations,  
whose designer and builder is  
God.

- Hebrews 11:10 ESV

**Thank you, from Pastor Charles, Miss Margaret, Elisabeth, and Esther:** We were baptized in deep Christian love when we returned from sabbatical. Thank you for the cards, gifts, and sweet encouragements from all of you. We are grateful to grow and serve Christ together with you!

**Prepare for Worship:** Your pastor and elders encourage you to spend time in prayer each Saturday evening, preparing your hearts for the Lord's Day and praying for the worship of our God. Pray for the Holy Spirit's blessing on the preaching of the Word and our fellowship!

**Sunday Evening Service:** Join us at 6pm for evening worship and the continuation of our series on the Gospel of John, followed by a fellowship dinner.

**Women's Bible Studies:** The daytime study meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 12:30-2:30pm, studying the book of Ruth with Paul Miller's interactive study *A Loving Life*. Contact Joanie Leake at [j2leake@gmail.com](mailto:j2leake@gmail.com) for details. The evening study meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7-9pm, enjoying a study of biblical friendship with Ed Welch's *Side by Side*. For more information, contact Margaret Biggs at [missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net).

**No Sunday School during August.**

**Young Adult Fellowship:** Enjoy food and fellowship at the Weitzes' home in Round Hill at 1pm on Sunday.

**Coming Soon Fall 2017:**

\***Men's and Boy's Breakfast** in September, studying *'The Puritan Option'* (seeking maturity in Christ as a counter-cultural-kingdom people). Based on a critical appreciation and evaluation of Hunter's *'To Change the World'* and Dreher's *'The Benedict Option'*.

\***Sermon Series on the Book of Samuel.** Pray for our reception of the truths of this series.

\***Ashburn Saints Bible Study** starting up again weekly at Winger House; details forthcoming.

\***Calvin's 'Institutes of Christian Religion'** Join us this school year, starting September 8, at the church building at 7:30am on Fridays as Pastor Biggs leads a study on Calvin's most important book. Talk to Kathy Weitz or sign up here: <http://providenceprep.net/adjunct-theology-course-2017-2018.html>

**Suggestions for Summer Reading:** Pastor Biggs suggests James Davidson Hunter's *'To Change the World: The Irony, Tragedy, and Possibility of Christianity in the Late Modern World'*, and Rod Dreher's *'The Benedict Option: A Strategy for Christians in a Post-Christian Nation'* Not everything in the books is recommended; read discerningly, taking time to digest, pray, and meditate on gospel truth.

**Congregational Memory Verses 2017:**

“God is not man, that He should lie, or a son of man, that He should change his mind. Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not fulfill it?”  
-Numbers 23:19

“Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”  
-John 14:13-14.  
Meditate on these promises of God for us as His people!

***"All the Christian virtues or graces are contained in these two, faith and love, which comprehend every affection of a pious soul. It is the property of love to give up and offer oneself and all he has to God; of faith, to receive and accept of God freely giving himself to us."***

***- Herman Witsius***

*From Your Pastor*  
**“500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century:  
John Calvin’s Pilgrim Life and Pastoral Teachings”**  
*Charles R. Biggs*

July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 marked the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of John Calvin (1509-1564). This year of 2017 marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of reformer Martin Luther nailing his 95 Theses on the Castle Church at Wittenberg. As we celebrate together this blessed occasion of the special working of God’s glorious Spirit, let us seek as a congregation to remember our father in the faith, John Calvin.

As God’s holy and beloved people in Christ, it is important to remember our forefathers and foremothers. In fact, Scripture teaches us to “Remember our leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith” (Heb. 13:7). Surely this encourages God’s people to honor our faithful leaders and teachers who live with us as well as those who have lived before us. Our celebration of John Calvin’s life and teaching is not intended merely to celebrate a man of flesh and blood like you and me, but to celebrate God’s good work by His Spirit in and through the man John Calvin.

John Calvin was first and foremost a Christian who loved the Lord Jesus Christ and craved earnestly for God to be glorified in every aspect of the Christian’s life. Calvin taught that the motive of man’s existence should be zeal for the glory of God, “for we are born first of all for God, and not for ourselves.” Calvin was a persevering pilgrim and faithful pastor-shepherd of God’s flock and a biblical, reformed-catholic pastor-theologian, standing with Augustine and Aquinas in his sweet Christian influence and able theological mind. His theology reveals a thorough and in-depth knowledge of the Holy Scriptures and an ability to clearly make the truth of Scripture known. Calvin’s goal in study, writing, preaching, and teaching was always “clarity and brevity” to the glory of the Triune God (though what he described as brief might seem a bit lengthy to American Christians today!) in reaction to the often confusing and labyrinthine theology practiced in the medieval church by the Scholastics (or “Schoolmen”).

Reading Calvin’s writings, one sees a fellow pilgrim along the way, seeking the Eternal City, and desiring to know God and himself according to the Scriptures. His heart was stirred by the love and grace of God and dedicated to making the Holy Scriptures known systematically to the people of God so that they could confess the true faith, truly know God and themselves, and to live out this truth by God’s grace for the glory of God. As a faithful servant and churchman, Calvin’s goal was to organize churches and congregational worship under the Lordship of Christ according to scriptural teaching alone. Calvin fervently believed in the supremacy of Christ the King over both creation and redemption, His teaching over both Church and State, and His Scripture over all of life.

John Calvin was tremendously influential and in many ways unprecedented as a theologian and churchman; perhaps no other man has been as loved and as hated in Christian history. Especially influential were his untiring, ceaseless literary labors that historian Philip Schaff described in this way: “The literary activity of Calvin, whether we look at the number or at the importance of works, is not surpassed by any ecclesiastical writer, ancient or modern, and excites double astonishment when we take into consideration the shortness of his life, the frailty of his health, and the multiplicity of his other labors as a teacher, preacher, church ruler, and correspondent.”

Calvin’s *Institutes of the Christian Religion* is among the most biblical, clear, and influential pastoral theologies ever to be written. Not strictly a *summa theologiae* (“summary of theology”), but an astoundingly warm-hearted *summa pietatis* (“summary of piety”). It is a book about Christian piety—how to cultivate godliness and true spirituality in the fear of the LORD and love and serve God and neighbor by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The *Institutes* is a book aimed at making all biblical theology pastoral and practical for the glory of the Triune God! Schaff said: “This book is the masterpiece of a precocious genius of commanding intellectual and spiritual depth and power. It is one of the few truly classical productions in the history of theology, and has given its author the double title of the Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas of the Reformed Church.” James (Jacob) Arminius, the father of what men call “Arminianism,” wrote of Calvin: “Next to the study of the Scriptures which I earnestly inculcate, I exhort my pupils to peruse Calvin’s Commentaries...Calvin excels beyond comparison in the interpretation of Scripture.” Irony of ironies, that the father of Arminianism praised Calvin in such a way! If only he had also by God’s good Spirit inculcated some of Calvin’s humility. A little knowledge is a dangerous thing indeed!

**“Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but to your name be the glory!”**  
**-Psalm 115:1**

# THIS LORD'S DAY

## Sermon

### *“Word, Worship, and Work, Part 2”*

-Pastor Charles R. Biggs

**Scripture Lesson: Ephesians 4:28; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-13;  
1 Corinthians 10:31**

**Scripture Text: Colossians 3:15-4:1**

#### Theme of Sermon:

*True Spirituality as God's counter-cultural kingdom people is realized internally in the believer's heart, in the local congregation, in the family, and in the workplace, both in our words and deeds.*

## Hymns

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty, 376

What Shall I Render to My God? 637

Take My Life and Let It Be, 585

*Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

-Ephesians 3:20-21

*Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.*

-2 Corinthians 7:1