

# Celebrating 500 years since the Reformation

... and how it sparked a wave of evangelism and mission

500  
1517-2017



Rev Wes Bredenhof  
Thursday 19 October @ 7.30pm  
Free Reformed Church Baldivis



The charge continues to be made that the Reformation had no interest in spreading the gospel. This is the commonly accepted view in missiology (the study of Christian mission). But is this really the case? We'll look at how some of the key Reformers answered two important questions:

1. Where is the mission field?
2. What is the church's calling?

We'll especially consider the views of Guido de Bres, John Calvin, and Martin Bucer.

*Session One*



# REFORMATION 500

1517-2017



**Dr Jeffry Temple**  
**Monday 23rd October @ 7.30pm**  
**Free Reformed Church Darling Downs**



Free Reformed Church  
**Darling Downs**  
*Session 2*

**HE STILL MOVES STONES:  
 FINDING BLESSING IN STUDYING THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH**

As we mark the 500th anniversary of the Reformation it is certainly appropriate to pause and reflect on the work of our Heavenly Father in the hearts of sixteenth century believers like Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli and John Calvin.

But should our historical reflections be restricted only to notable milestones such as these? Is the study of Church History an activity that's only beneficial for theologians and academics? What benefit might be found in a more consistent and ongoing examination of the History of Christ's Church?

This evening's discussion will reflect on the question of what value ordinary' believers might derive from learning about how God has guided and cared for His people throughout the generations.



**Dr Jeffry Temple**  
**Tuesday 24th October @ 7.30pm**  
**Free Reformed Church Baldivis**



FREE REFORMED  
 CHURCH  
 OF BALDIVIS  
*Session 3*

**RELOCATING THE REAL PRESENCE:  
 CALVIN AND THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

As we gather to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation we have occasion to reflect on God's goodness in leading His people back to the truth of His Word. Indeed, at the very heart of the Reformation we find the doctrine of Sola Scriptura — the conviction that the message of how sinful men can be reconciled with a Holy God can be found exclusively within the inspired and infallible Words of Scripture. Yet the words of Romans 10:14 rang as true in the sixteenth century as they did in the first: "And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?"

For the fledgling churches of the Reformation era, the notion that belief and salvation were to be rooted in the proclaimed Word required a profound shift in understanding. It meant rethinking, at a fundamental level, how God was to be communed with and how salvation was to be appropriated. Of all the Reformers, no one did more to educate sixteenth century believers about the character and function of the preaching than John Calvin.

In this evening's discussion we will reflect on why the shift away from the sacramentally centred liturgy of Rome to the preaching focused ministry of the Reformers represented such a profound reorientation in thinking. We will also consider some of the things Calvin had to say about how the Gospel message could be effectually communicated by the new Protestant pastorate.



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