

REFLECTION QUESTIONS FOR SESSION 1

1. What does it mean to you that you have been called as a ruling elder or deacon in the body of Christ, the Church
2. What does it mean to you to call Jesus Christ the Lord and Head of the Church?
3. How would you explain the Trinity to a new Christian?
4. As we considered our call in the first session, we heard these words:
“At baptism, we affirm that each person is a gift from God, chosen for salvation and for service, endowed by God with gifts to be used in obedience to Christ and for the building up of the Kingdom.”

An additional tenet of the Reformed tradition is that we, as members of Christ’s body, have a particular calling in the world and to discern our calling we look to Christ. This is stewardship: what have you been given, and what are you called to give back?

- a. Name one gift you can see in yourself? How has it been nurtured and affirmed by your church community? How are you using this gift for the common good?
 - b. To what have you been called?
 - c. Are there particular tasks that you believe God is calling you to carry out?
5. What does it mean to you to affirm each of these constitutional question?
 - a. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
 - b. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God’s Word to you?
 - c. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

A Closing “Homework Assignment”

We have seen that titles given to Jesus, like “Lord” and “Savior” have meaning beyond what a 21st century Christian might think of. What name do you use most often for God? Look at the names listed on the handout “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” and choose one that is new, unfamiliar, or that particularly speaks to you. Use it in prayer as you feel comfortable in the days ahead.