

Themes of Reformed Theology and Polity

Marks of the Church	Evidence of the True Church	Great Ends of the Church	Themes of Reformed tradition
<p>One – Unity</p> <p>Holy – Called and set apart</p> <p>Catholic – all-encompassing and inclusive</p> <p>Apostolic – witnesses connected to early apostles & saints of all time</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Word of God is truly preached and heard • The Sacraments are rightly administered and received • Ecclesiastical discipline is uprightly ministered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind ▪ The shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God ▪ The maintenance of divine worship ▪ The preservation of the truth ▪ The promotion of social righteousness ▪ The exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The election of the people of God for service as well as for salvation • Covenant life marked by a disciplined concern for order in the church according to the Word of God • A faithful stewardship that shuns ostentation and seeks proper use of the gifts of God’s creation • The recognition of the human tendency to idolatry and tyranny which calls the people of God to work for the transformation of society by seeking justice and living in obedience to the Word of God • The Church reformed, always to be reformed according to the Word of God.

Use the following questions for discussion:

1. What similarities do you see in each column?
2. What key words, or repeated words do you see?
3. What differences do you see in each column?
4. How does each item influence the others?
5. What is significant for you and your ministry as a congregational leader?
6. Share any new discoveries or learnings.