youth challenge CEF

FOR 11 - 15 YEAR OLDS

UNFINISHED

THE STORY OF THE REFORMATION

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This resource includes a lesson text for the teacher, activity sheets for the teens and a PowerPoint presentation for the lesson. These can be downloaded from www.cefireland.com/jycmanual

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NOTE FOR TEACHERS

'Unfinished' is a resource aimed at equipping you to teach those in the 11-15 year old age group about the Reformation and its implications. It can be adapted for an older age group.

It is important that you adapt this for the setting in which you teach and for the young people to whom you teach. Application should also be added and adapted depending on the knowledge and spiritual understanding of the young people in your group.

There are many methods and ideas included. Not all must be used, similarly there are others which could be employed (e.g. you could use a role play or drama in the teaching of the life of Martin Luther).

It is important to emphasise that the Reformation is not just a historical fact, but must be ongoing in our lives, churches and communities.

I trust that this will be of help to you as you teach the young people the great truths of the Reformation.

Colin Hylands
CEF Youth Challenge

SUGGESTED PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Introduction	5 mins
Activity of finding letters on objects and collating information	5 mins
Why should we be always reforming?	5 mins
How God used Martin Luther to bring a Reformation	15 mins
IF DOING OVER 2 WEEKS, BREAK HERE	
Bible verse unscrambled	5 mins
What was the focus of the Reformation?	5 mins
Bible research on the 5 Solas	5 mins
How can you be always reforming? (Sola Worksheet)	15 mins
Conclusion	5 mins

OBJECTIVES



That teens will understand the history of the Reformation and its significance today.



That teens will want to ensure they are living according to God's way.



That teens will examine what they believe, and as a result what they do, in light of God's Word.

INTRODUCTION

What do you do with these items:

• Show guitar tuner (or picture of one)

• Show image of software update available for iOS

• Show image of retainer for teeth

A guitar tuner helps you to bring the guitar back to the correct tone.

A software update helps to get rid of mistakes and bring the phone back to working in the way it should.

A retainer or a set of braces is there to help bring your teeth back into line.

None of these are things that you use once or do once and then forget about. In each case you are continually going back and using them to make sure your guitar is in tune or that your phone is up to date or that your teeth stay straight. They're needed because these things are 'Unfinished'. This isn't because they need added to, but because you need to keep going back to them and making sure that they are correct and haven't been distorted in any shape or form from what is intended.

In the past there have been many major events which have changed the course of history or have had a dramatic impact on the world. One such event happened 500 years ago and is known as the 'Reformation'. It impacted countries first in Europe and then right across the world. Kingdoms were affected, political powers were affected, churches were affected, and individual lives were affected. But this wasn't just something that should be viewed simply as a historical event. The Reformation is unfinished — not because it needs to be added to, but because it is something that is still relevant today to you and me.

Years ago the reformers used to have a Latin motto which was *semper reformanda*. What does it mean?

METHOD: Activity - Find the letters



Have items or pictures with a connection or link to the historical Reformation hidden around the room or building.

E.g. Jar with coins in it, hammer, old Bible, Calvin book, indulgence paper, rosary beads, picture of St Peter's Basilica, etc.

Attach one or more letters behind or to the bottom of each item / picture. Give each young person Handout 1A and ask them to find all the letters, unscramble them and see if they can complete the

puzzle. Most, if they are listening, will have realised that the second word is related to reforming.

WHY SHOULD WE BE ALWAYS REFORMING?

Semper reformanda means 'always reforming'. In other words, it means that you and I should live our lives always with the intention of getting back to being in line, getting back to the right way. The phrase isn't about changing things for the sake of change. It's about having firm foundations, staying close to, and if needed, coming back into line with what God says in the Bible.

What is the right way? Living God's way, according to His Word. Trusting Him alone for salvation, and living for Him alone.

Are you living as God wants? Have you come to Him in the way that He has shown for forgiveness?

God warns us that you and I need to be always reforming, making sure that we are living His way.

Romans 12:2 *- Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

1 Thessalonians 5:21 *- …but test everything; hold fast what is good.*

To be always reforming, being kept in line with God's truth, you must not allow yourself to be squeezed into the thinking of the world or those around you. Rather you must seek to discern what God says and hold firm to that truth.

Around 500 years ago many of those who attended church and even worked in the church as ministers had gone away from what God teaches in His Word. They had not held fast to what was good, they had allowed other people's ideas to change their thinking and they had drifted away from the teaching of God's Word. They thought they knew it all, thought they were doing what was pleasing God, but actually they had drifted far from God.

Maybe you are like that? You have been taught the Bible either at home, in church or at clubs. You think you know all about how to get to God, how to please God. But actually you have let other people's ideas and your own wrong thoughts take you away from God's way. You have begun to think that you deserve God's salvation, or that you can live however you like after you are saved. Or that it is acceptable to be unloving or unkind to others in your school? You need to get back into line with what God says. Listen to Him. Obey and follow what He says.

500 years ago when people had begun to ignore God's Word, to teach and believe wrong things about it, God intervened — and He used a man who himself had got so much of it wrong!

HOW GOD USED MARTIN LUTHER TO BRING A REFORMATION

Martin Luther was born in 1483 in a German town named Eisleben. He left home when he was only 14 to train to be a lawyer. At 21, Martin would have visited his parents and then walked back to the university. One night it got darker and darker; a storm was brewing. The storm was getting closer and closer! A deafening

crash — everything around Martin was bright and he was hurled to the ground by the force of lightning. The lightning struck the ground right beside him, but he was unharmed! Martin was afraid and he prayed — not to God, but to a saint, because that's what he had been taught to do, "Saint Anna! Protect me! If you protect me, I will become a monk!"

That is exactly what Martin did. He devoted his life to religion and moved into a monastery, which is a building where monks live that they may dedicate themselves to serving God.

Martin and the people who lived at that time had been taught that the way to please God was;

"I must work hard. I must do what is right. That's how I get God to like me."

Martin needed to have his thinking brought back into line with what God says.

Martin had to get up at 3 o'clock in the morning to pray. He had to work hard and live in a cold cell which was never heated. But Martin found monastery life interesting and after a trial year he wanted to stay in the monastery forever. Martin had to promise never to marry, to live in poverty and to obey the laws of the monastery, the church and the Pope. Now his only possessions were his monk's habit (which was the coarse tunic type of clothing that monks wore) and a Latin

Bible. He put up with all of this in order to earn God's love. He thought…

"God is a strict judge. One day when we die we will have to stand before Him. It's only through good deeds, much prayer and by giving away a lot of money that you can maybe escape hell."

This is what Martin had learned and felt with beatings (many of the monks would punish themselves or allow themselves to be punished to help discipline their bodies to focus solely on living for God). That was the teaching of the church at that time and everyone believed it. The people couldn't check it in the Bible for themselves, for many ordinary and poor people couldn't read Latin. All church services were held in Latin and the Bible was only in the Latin language.

Although Martin prayed, fasted and worked more eagerly than all other monks, he didn't have any peace.

Just the opposite — he became more and more confused. He could never know if he had done enough. Martin no longer had any joy in life. He walked up and down in his cell: "As a sinful person, how can I ever please such a strict judge as God?"

Martin talked about it with his friend Johannes von Staupitz. He encouraged him to study more of the Bible and do more to earn God's favour. Martin went to Rome on an assignment, and there he saw two monks crawl up the 28 steps of the 'Holy Stairs', in order to get a reduction in the punishment for sins from God. Martin wondered about it all. Was this really how people could please God?

By working hard, trying to do what's right, trying to earn God's approval?

Martin loved reading the Bible and teaching from it, and soon had lots of people who came to listen to him preach in the church at Wittenburg. But after a short time Martin was shocked to learn that the people from his church in Wittenberg were travelling to another town to buy letters of indulgence, which were letters from the church so that they wouldn't be punished for their sins! The church was making a business out of it, for the Pope needed the money to pay for the new big cathedral, St Peter's! Martin couldn't believe it! Is this really how you could have your sins forgiven? Was this really what being a Christian was all about — working hard, doing what's right, trying to please people and please God in this way? There had to be something more?

He watched as another monk named Johann Tetzel told the people, "When the money clinks in the box, the soul flies up to Heaven." What a huge lie! Martin was upset. "The church must change this. Poor people are spending all that's left of their money for a piece of paper. Jesus Christ has already paid the price and God forgives anyone who genuinely feels sorry for their sins and asks for forgiveness!"

Then Martin wrote down exactly what needed to be changed. In the end it was 95 statements (sentences). On 31 October 1517 Martin nailed these 95 statements to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. That's where people could put up notices of events, as well as documents for discussion. He wanted to talk to people about the statements and hear their opinions — and talk people did! "That's unbelievable! Everyone needs to know about this! No more cheating the people. God is a Gracious Father and not a strict Judge like the church claims." They began to tell others — it's not about what you do or working hard to please others — it's all about what Jesus has done for us!

There is nothing that you and I can do to please God or earn His forgiveness. Isaiah 64:6 reminds us that our attempts to be pure and perfect are like filthy rags in the sight of a Holy God. The only hope is to look to Jesus who has done all that was needed to make a way. Martin was beginning to realise that. Some of the people were beginning to realise that. Have you realised that?

But not everyone was happy about it…

The Pope and the bishops were furious at Martin's writings. How could a simple monk dare to question the church? Yet Martin was certain — God's Word counts more than what the Pope says.

Martin's next project was to study the book of Romans. He read, "The just shall live by faith …" (Romans 1:17). Martin thought about it for a long time! "How can a person be just before God?" One day God showed Martin the answer. "That's it! Saved by faith! If I believe in Jesus Christ, He forgives my sins. He already paid for my sins on the cross. I don't have to work for it anymore! I am just before God, through faith in Jesus Christ!"

At last Martin had the answer to his question, "How can I be forgiven?" It

wasn't easy for him, though, to put aside things which had become habits. That was painful. He wanted to remain a faithful, obedient monk!

But this knowledge of God's grace changed Martin's life. Now he was sure that he was saved from the punishment for his sins. Now he knew that God had forgiven him and that he would go to Heaven.

Do you know that too? Perhaps you are the same as Martin was. You think that you have to work hard to get to Heaven. But doing good deeds and going to church, praying and reading the Bible, while good, isn't enough. What you need to do is to realise that there is nothing in you that can earn God's forgiveness. You need to turn to Jesus, place your trust completely in Him, and ask Him to forgive you. Martin taught his students about it and preached on it in his church. "You don't need to be afraid of God. He loves you. You don't need to earn His grace through doing religious things and good deeds. You only need to believe." Some of his colleagues contradicted him, "But the church teaches something different."

"Then the church is mistaken. That is what the Bible says and what the Bible says counts."

"Don't let the Pope hear that," his friends warned. "That won't please him."

Three years after Martin wrote the 95 statements the Pope sent an official 'letter' to Martin warning him that he had 60 days to withdraw his statements. But Martin was convinced.

"God's Word must be the standard for the church's teachings."

He was ordered to go to Parliament in a place called Worms and answer for what he was saying. As he rode into the town, the people along the street cheered him on!

The Emperor asked Martin, "Will you withdraw these writings?"

"If you cannot prove from the Bible that I am wrong, I will not withdraw anything. God's Word convinced me and my conscience tells me that it is the truth. I will not withdraw anything. So help me God. Amen!"

A murmuring sound went through the crowd. The Emperor made his final judgement: Martin was found guilty of heresy (believing and teaching something that was against what the church believed and taught). Now he had no rights and no protection anymore. He was seen as a dangerous criminal and given no protection from the law. Anyone could take him prisoner, rob him or kill him, if they wanted — and actually were encouraged to do so!

Yet for Martin the truth of the Bible was more important, even if it would cost him his life.

Martin set off for home. Then suddenly horsemen rode up to him. They had their faces covered with their hoods. They threw a sack over Martin's head and

kidnapped him. Martin wasn't afraid, for he knew that it was a plan by his friends to keep him safe and hidden away! While he was being kept safe he began to translate the Bible into German so that everyone could read it!

Luther worked day and night and in only 11 weeks he had translated the entire New Testament into the German language. "I am using ink to fight the devil," Martin once said, meaning his Bible translation. In only a few months 5,000 copies were sold!

Lots of people began to read the Bible for themselves and huge changes began to happen. They called all of the changes 'the Reformation'. The Reformation had influenced the whole country and it didn't make sense any more for Luther's opponents to kill him. Now Martin travelled through all of central Germany.

"I want people to understand the Gospel properly."

The changes spread and affected everything in the country. Farmers refused to give all their money to the church and to the princes. Many monks and nuns now realised that it wasn't necessary to live unmarried in order to come closer to God. Martin himself was now no longer a monk. He helped the nuns, who had fled from a convent, to find husbands. He married one of them himself. Her name was Katharina von Bora.

Martin and Katharina had six children and Martin's sister had died so they also took her six children into their home. There were also many students who lived with the Luthers, which helped Martin to pay the expenses of this big household. Martin was getting older and was often ill. However, he continued to preach in many cities and taught at the university in Wittenberg. One day Martin was called to the city of his birth. "I'm needed in Eisleben. I must leave today. Katharina, pack my things." There he became ill and on 18 February 1546 Martin died in Eisleben, the very place where he was born.

As he died, he quoted something that Jesus had said and prayed: "Into Your hands I commit my spirit. You have saved me, O Lord, my faithful God." The day when Luther nailed the statements (or Theses) to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg—31 October 1517—was the beginning of the Reformation in all of Europe. God used Martin Luther, His faithful servant, to show thousands of people that God is a God who loves and wants to forgive us. We don't need to work to earn our salvation; we must accept His free gift. We can believe what He has said in His Word. Do you? Have you accepted His free gift, or are you still trying to earn it?

Do you see how God used Martin Luther? But that was history! Why should we be always reforming?

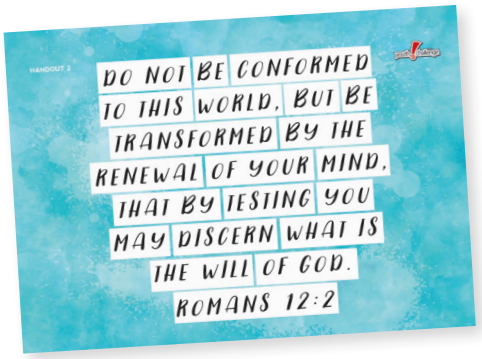
METHOD:
Audio visual suggestions

Depending on language availability and suitability, there are some short animated clips of the life of Martin Luther which may be suitable here in addition or as an alternative.

e.g.
https://youtu.be/tox2TflUH90
https://youtu.be/b4TeJJmQJqU

METHOD:
Activity - Bible verse unscramble

Print 2 copies of Romans 12:2 and 1 Thessalonians 5:21 and cut up one copy of each into individual words. Divide your teens into 2 teams. After showing both verses, 'accidentally' drop each set of words - the first team to arrange their verse in the correct order wins.



WHAT WAS THE FOCUS OF THE REFORMATION?

Martin Luther is the one who is seen as beginning the Reformation, but he wasn't on his own. Many people began to study God's Word and rediscovered the truths that are contained within the Bible. They discovered the truths of the Gospel, and began to teach these truths to all who would listen.

They began to talk about what they had learned from God's Word. To discuss and debate it. To teach it. To share it. They were so excited to get to know more about who God is, what He thinks of you and I, how you and I can please Him, and how you and I can be saved.

The focus of the Reformation was God's Word and the teaching in it about how you can be right with God and live for Him. These were summarised by people in what became a sort of slogan.

E.g. If I give you a slogan, can you tell me the company?
Just do it (Nike).
I'm loving it (McDonalds), etc

Similarly the '5 Solas' were what the reformers' teaching was known as. What were they?

Sola Scriptura
Scripture alone *(the only foundation)*

Solus Christus
Christ alone *(the only mediator)*

Sola Gratia
Grace alone *(the only method)*

Sola Fide
Faith alone *(the only means)*

Soli Deo Gloria
To the glory of God alone
(the only ambition)

METHOD: Bible research

If the focus of the Reformation was getting people to check out if what they were being taught was actually what God says, then we had better check to see if the 5 Solas are what God says in His Word! Stick 5 Solas on a wall (or place on the ground).

See handout 3. Give the teens an envelope with 10 Bible verse references in them. Ask them to look each verse up, discover which Sola it refers to, and stick it underneath the heading.

(If your group is too large, you could split them into 2 or 3 groups and do this for each group on a different wall.)

Answers;
Sola Scriptura - *2 Timothy 3:16; Romans 15:4; Hebrews 4:12*
Solus Christus - *John 14:6; 1 Timothy 2:5*
Sola Gratia - *Ephesians 2:8*
Sola Fide - *Romans 5:1; Galatians 2:16*
Soli Deo Gloria - *Romans 16:27; Ephesians 3:20*

WHAT WAS THE FOCUS OF THE REFORMATION? (CONTINUED)

The focus here was on what God says, and so continually they would have been encouraging people to be *semper reformanda* — always reforming. Always going back to what God's Word says.

That's what you and I need to keep doing — going back to what God says; seeing if what you believe and what you are doing is in line with what God says. Semper reformanda.

So if you are going to be always reforming, you need to look at what God says, and to start with we can look at the 5 areas the reformers highlighted.

HOW CAN YOU BE ALWAYS REFORMING?

Just like the guitar tuner, the software upgrade, and the retainer — you and I need to make sure that what we believe and how we live are in line with God's Word. You and I need to be always reforming. So let's have a check up!

Using the 5 Solas that were the slogan of the Reformation, let's see what the Bible says, what it meant to the people at the time of the Reformation, and then why it is still so important to you and I today.

METHOD: Worksheet on the 5 Solas (see Handout 4)

If you have limited time you could divide your group into smaller groups. Each smaller group could work on only one or two points and then listen as feedback is given on all 5. This will prevent them losing interest.

The 5 Solas

1. Sola Scriptura : by Scripture alone

2 Timothy 3:14-17

• What important truths do we learn about the Bible from this passage?

v15 - it shows the way of salvation.
v16a - it is inspired by God. Every word is from God.

v16b - it can teach, rebuke, correct and train us.
v17 - it can equip us to serve Him.

Leaders: stress that this is God's revealed Word, and it is vital that we depend on it alone. This should lead us to study it more.

What did this mean to the people 500 years ago?

True or false;

Most people had a Bible
TRUE / FALSE (F)

Most people read their Bible
TRUE / FALSE (F)

What the church said was more important than what the Bible said
TRUE / FALSE (T)

Leader: share how the Bible was produced in the Latin language in those days. Latin was a language that most of the common people could not understand, so they relied on the pastor at the church to tell them what it said and how they should live. Unfortunately at that time a large percentage of the clergy were not living God's way (estimated over 1/3 were blatantly living in open sin) and even those who had a desire to follow God couldn't understand the Latin Vulgate translation well enough, and so did not truly grasp the Gospel.

The reason that they stressed 'Sola Scriptura' was not because we can't listen to what others teach, or that we should ignore church leaders. It's so that we can test what others say and make sure it is in agreement with what God says in His Word.

• What does this mean for you?

You can have (Assurance)
(Clue: know for certain)

Leader: whenever people tell you that you are wrong, that you may not be a Christian, that there is another way — you can know for sure from God's Word.

You can have (Peace)
(Clue: opposite of worry)

Leader: when you are doubting if something you have done is pleasing to God, or if you have been forgiven, you can have peace from God's Word.

You can have (Authority) (Clue: policemen, teachers etc all have this)

Leader: if someone is teaching something that is not what God says, you can disagree on the authority of God's Word, not by guessing what He might say, but by knowing clearly.

As a result of this, you and I must read it, love it, obey it! Do you?

Leader: if you have time, get them to share ideas on how they read and study God's Word.

2. Solus Christus : In Christ alone

1 John 2:1-2

• What does the Bible tell us about what Jesus is doing now and about what He has done?

v1 - He is our (advocate)

Leader: explain the role of Jesus as advocate briefly — how He prays and intercedes for us. Explain how this should

encourage us and give us confidence when we are facing trials and temptations.

v2 - He is the (propitiation) for sins

Leader: explain how propitiation means that on the cross Jesus suffered the wrath of God against our sin and disobedience. That He did all that was necessary for our salvation.

• What did this mean to the people 500 years ago? People were (adding to what Christ had already done)

Leader: show how there were many good works being asked of people, or prayers to Mary and the saints, or the sale of indulgences as (previously mentioned in the life story of Martin Luther).

• What does this mean for you? Sometimes you and I don't realise or show the importance of what Jesus has accomplished on the cross. We (doubt) that Jesus did all that was necessary.

Leader: encourage them to think about how they display this doubt. They might display it by trying to do other good things to earn salvation or add to it, or by fearing and worrying that God will not forgive them.

• We don't (thank) Him enough for the cross, or (talk) about it enough to others.

Leader: if we believe in the importance of what Christ has done on the cross and that it was necessary for salvation, then we will live lives that are thankful. We also will take opportunities to share this news with others and not just stop at showing love to others or speaking of Christ as a good example of self sacrificing love. We will speak of the cross and what it means.

3. Sola Gratia: By grace alone

Ephesians 2:1-10

• What does the Bible teach us?

How do v1-3 describe us before God? (dead)

What happens in v4? (God acts)

By what is it that you are saved v8? (grace)

v9 tells us what did not save us. What is that? (works)

Grace is defined as getting something which you do not deserve.

• What did this mean to the people 500 years ago? 500 years previous, most people accepted that they must be saved

by grace - but they didn't believe that it was by grace (alone)

• What does this mean for you?

Stop trying to earn God's favour. How do people believe they can be saved?
(do more good deeds than bad deeds)
(be good living / prayers / religious)
(pay money to church / charity)

Leader: try and get discussion from teens. Challenge them as to whether they are trusting in the grace of God for salvation or on their efforts.

4. Sola Fide: Through faith alone

Romans 3:21-26

• What does the Bible teach us?

Righteousness is a right standing / being perfect before God.

v22 - who is righteous? (God)

v23 - who is sinful? (all of us)

v24 - you and I can be justified - made right in God's eyes. How? (gift)

v25 - how do you receive that? (faith)

v26 - faith in who or what? (Jesus and what He has done)

Our right standing before God is by faith alone. We are declared righteous by the holy God through resting and trusting on Jesus and His righteousness.

• What did this mean to the people 500 years ago?

Leader: explain how many believed that people were saved by their efforts or merits. Some also believed that Christ's righteousness became part of us and we have to keep working so that it increases and we eventually become totally righteous.

As a result of trying to continually earn God's grace and a right standing before God, many never knew true (forgiveness) and (happiness).

• What does this mean for you?

It means that you and I are (never good enough)

You are declared right before God by (trusting in Christ's finished work)

This means that you and I can never boast of what we have done or how good we are, but are always looking to Jesus Christ through whom we are saved.

5. Soli Deo Gloria: Glory to God alone

Romans 11:33 - 12:2

• What does the Bible teach us?

Have you ever wondered why God would send Jesus to die for you? Why make a way for you to be saved?

Romans 11:33-36 tells us;

Whose wisdom was it? (God v33)

How are His ways described? (inscrutable v33)

Who advised Him or encouraged Him to do it? (No one v34&35)
It's all about Him! (v36)
Romans12:1-2 reminds us of how we should respond.

Present your bodies (as a living sacrifice v1)

Do not be (conformed) but be (transformed v2)

• What did this mean to the people 500 years ago?

Leader: religion had become tied up in politics and the nobility at that time, and for many in the church it was all about money and power. This Sola was focused

on reminding people that it really is all about God and His glory alone!

God's glory must come (first)
(God alone) deserves our worship.

• What does this mean for you?
He must take (first) place in our lives. Everything you do should be done to the glory of God because He is everything to you.

• How does this affect how you live?

Leader: discuss how this changes attitudes, behaviours, school etc. It has an impact on how we use our time and our finances.



CONCLUSION

500 years is a long time.

There have been many changes in technology and in the societies that we live in.

But the need for you and I to live ***semper reformanda*** is just as important today as it was then.

I wonder will you take the time to examine how you are living? Are you following God's Way?

Firstly have you come to Him in the way that He has made — though faith in His Son the Lord Jesus? Have you placed your faith in Him alone to save you? If you have, are you living continually for God's glory and not for your own ambitions? Are you putting Him first in your life, reflecting Him in all you do?

Are you holding fast to the truths that you find in God's Word?

The Reformation may have happened 500 years ago, but in a sense it is 'Unfinished'. You and I must live *semper reformanda*, making sure that our lives are in line with God's Word, or as the reformers would say…Sola Scriptura, Sola Christus, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Soli Deo Gloria!

SOURCES

These truths alone
The Good Book Company

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Kenneth Brownell

Convinced by scripture
Andy Johnston

Martin Luther
Child Evangelism Fellowship of Germany

Rescuing the Gospel: The story and significance of the Reformation
Erwin W Luther

The Reformation: How a monk and a mallet changed the world
Stephen J Nichols

RESOURCES

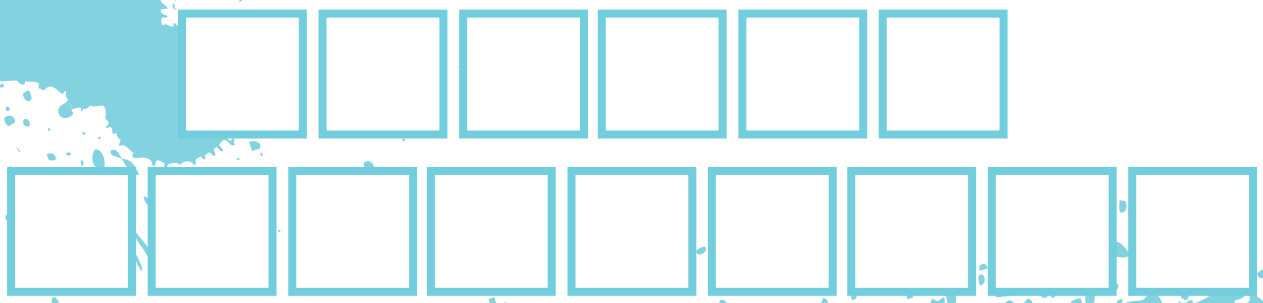
Handout 1A & 1B - Always Reforming

Handout 2 - Bible Verse Unscramble

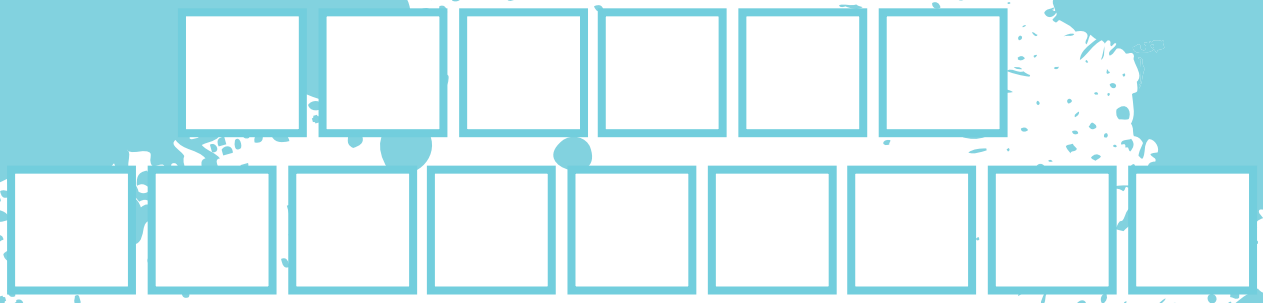
Handout 3 - Bible Research

Handout 4 - 5 Solas Worksheet

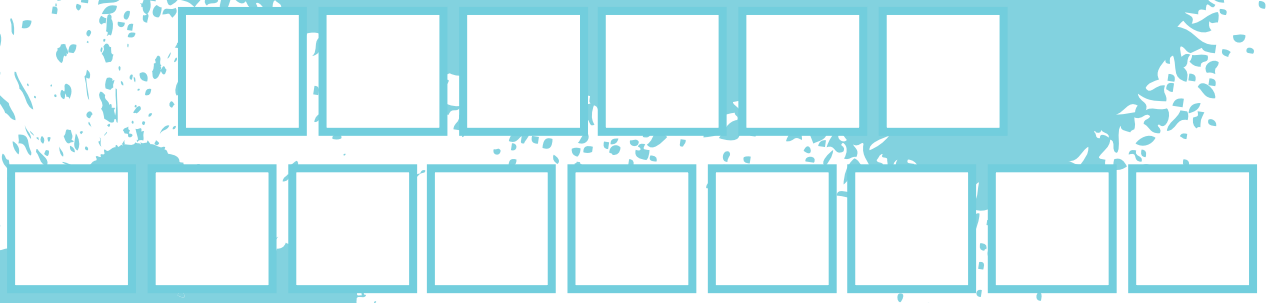
HANDOUT 1A

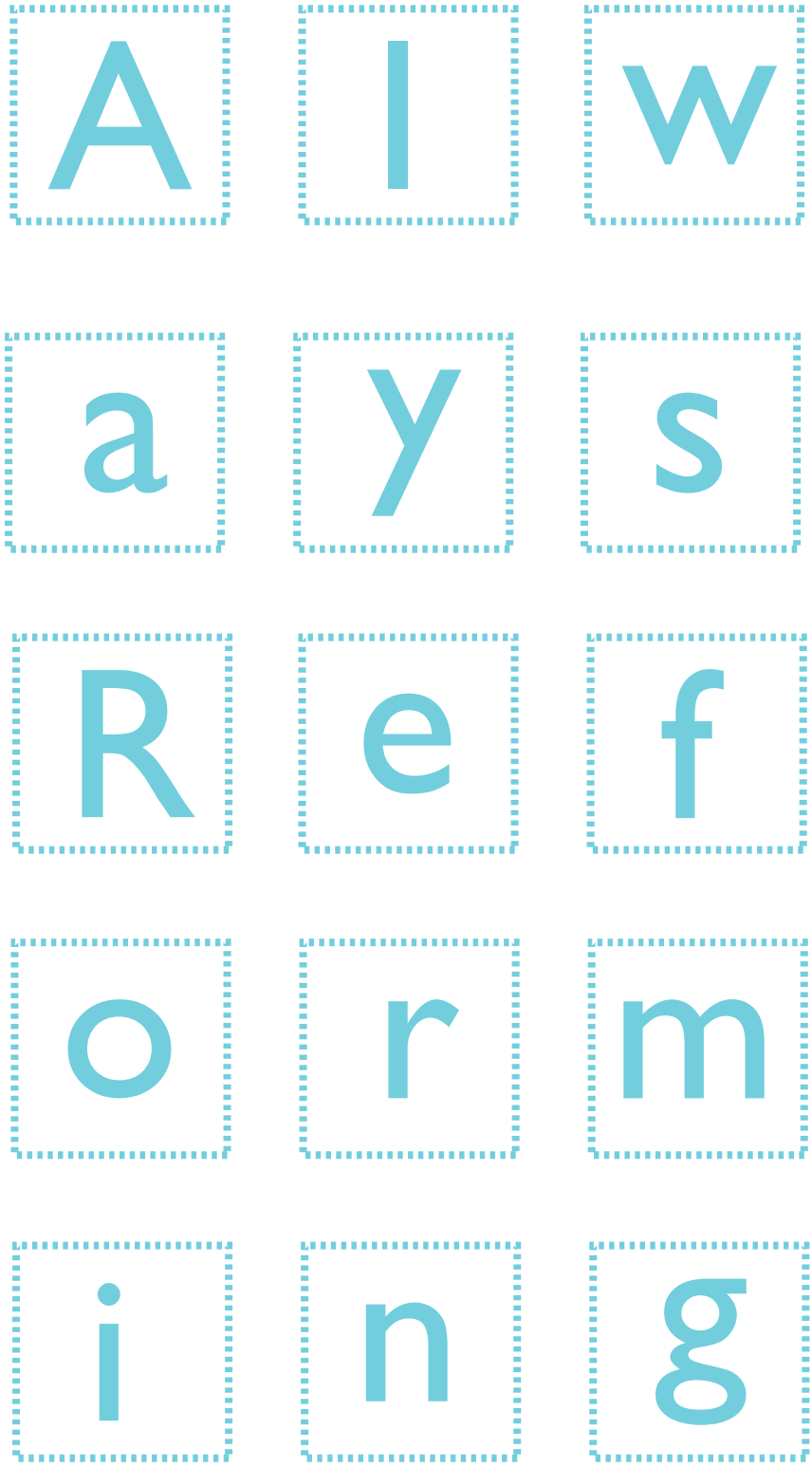


HANDOUT 1A



HANDOUT 1A




Always
Reforming

BUT TEST EVERYTHING; HOLD FAST WHAT IS GOOD

1 THESSALONIANS 5:21

HANDOUT 2

DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWAL OF YOUR MIND, THAT BY TESTING YOU MAY DISCERN WHAT IS THE WILL OF GOD.

ROMANS 12:2

SOLA SCRIPTURA

SOLUS CHRISTUS


SOLA
FIDE


SOLA
GRATIA



HANDOUT 3

1

HANDOUT 4

SOLA SCRIPTURA

BY SCRIPTURE ALONE

2 Timothy 3:14-17

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TELL US?

What important truths do we learn about the Bible from this passage?

v15 -

v16a -

v16b -

v17 -

WHAT DID THIS MEAN TO THE PEOPLE 500 YEARS AGO?

TRUE OR FALSE

Most people had a Bible
TRUE / FALSE

Most people read their Bible
TRUE / FALSE

What the church said was more important than what the Bible said
TRUE / FALSE

*The reason that they stressed **'Sola Scriptura'** was not because we can't listen to what others teach, or that we should ignore church leaders. It's so that we can test what others say and make sure it is in agreement with what God says in His Word.*

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

What does this mean for you?

You can have

_____

(Clue: know for certain)

You can have

_____

(Clue: opposite of worry)

You can have

_____

(Clue: policemen, teachers etc all have this)

As a result of this, you and I must read it, love it, obey it! Are you?

2

HANDOUT 4

SOLUS CHRISTUS

IN CHRIST ALONE

I John 2:1-2

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TELL US?

What does the Bible tell us about what Jesus is doing now and about what He has done?

v1 - He is our

_____

v2 - He is the

_____

WHAT DID THIS MEAN TO THE PEOPLE 500 YEARS AGO?

People were _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

Sometimes you and I don't realise or show the importance of what Jesus has accomplished on the cross.

We _____ that Jesus did all that was necessary.

We don't _____ Him enough for the cross, or _____ about it enough to others.

3

HANDOUT 4

SOLA GRATIA

BY GRACE ALONE

Ephesians 2: 1-10

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TELL US?

How do v1-3 describe us before God?

What happens in v4?

By what is it that you are saved v8?

v9 tells us what did not save us. What is that?

Grace is defined as getting something which you do not deserve.

WHAT DID THIS MEAN TO THE PEOPLE 500 YEARS AGO?

500 years previous, most people accepted that they must be saved by grace - but they didn't believe that it was by grace

_____

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

- _____
- _____
- _____

4

HANDOUT 4

SOLA FIDE

THROUGH FAITH ALONE

Romans 3:21-26

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TELL US?

Righteousness is a right standing / being perfect before God.

v22 - who is righteous?

_____

v23 - who is sinful?

_____

v24 - you and I can be justified - made right in God's eyes. How?

_____

v25 - how do you receive that? _____

v26 - faith in who or what? _____

Our right standing before God is by faith alone. Declared righteous by the holy God through resting and trusting on Jesus and His righteousness.

WHAT DID THIS MEAN TO THE PEOPLE 500 YEARS AGO?

As a result of trying to continually earn God's grace and a right standing before God, many never knew true _____ and _____

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

It means that you and I are

_____

You are declared right before God by

_____

This means that you and I can never boast of what we have done or how good we are, but are always looking to Jesus Christ through whom we are saved.

5

HANDOUT 4

SOLI DEO GLORIA

GLORY TO GOD ALONE

Romans 11:33 - 12:2

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TELL US?

Have you ever wondered why God would send Jesus to die for you? Why make a way for you to be saved?

Romans 11:33-36 tells us:

- Whose wisdom was it?

_____

- How are His ways described?

_____

- Who advised Him or encouraged Him to do it?

_____

- It's all about Him! (v36)

Romans 12:1-2 reminds us of how we should respond.

Present your bodies

_____

Do not be _____
but be _____

WHAT DID THIS MEAN TO THE PEOPLE 500 YEARS AGO?

God's glory must come

_____

_____

deserves our worship.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

He must take _____ place in our lives.

Everything you do should be done to the glory of God because He is everything to you.

How does this affect how you live?

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