

BOOK OF FAITH SERIES: TOP 10 STORIES & THEMES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT  
WEEK 6 (Beginning Sunday, October 25): "The Need For Reform"

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REMINDER: Sermons, some in print form, and all in audio format, are available on the FLC website:  
[www.firstlutheran.com](http://www.firstlutheran.com)

REMINDER: "Take It Home" activities and discussion guides for families with children are available on the FLC website, Children's Ministry page

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READINGS THAT RELATE...

Isaiah 58:1-14

Micah 6:6-8

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Mark 7:1-8

Matthew 9:9-17

\*\* NOTE: You can read the Bible online, for free! It can always be at your fingertips, as long as you are able to connect to the internet!

For NRSV (New Revised Standard Version), go to <http://bible.oremus.org/>

For The Message version, go to [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

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QUESTIONS TO PONDER... and to guide your prayer this week...

- + What do each of the texts above say about reform? Consider both God's perspective and ours.
- + Martin Luther said, "The Church is always reforming." Why does reformation need to be not just a one-time thing, but a way of life for God's people?
- + How many different reforms and "changes for the better" have you seen within the Church during your lifetime?
- + Why is it that today's prophets and heretics often become tomorrow's saints and examples of faith? Why is reform usually slow to catch on?
- + How has God changed you during your lifetime? In what ways has your faith changed during your lifetime? What do you see differently now when compared with an earlier time in your journey? What have been the causes or reasons for those changes, those personal reforms?
- + Where and how do you see God's Spirit moving to change the Church today?
- + In what ways are you being urged or asked or invited to change, but remaining hesitant or unwilling?

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NEXT SUNDAY'S THEME (November 1): "Doing Justice -- Daring to Dream God's Dream for the World"

HAPPY REFORMATION DAY, AND HALLOWEEN, ON OCTOBER 31 !!!

God's Blessings and Peace as we journey together,

Pastors Jay & Charlie