

# One Church.

*In Dialogue with the Bride of Christ*

## Week 5: Presbyterian (with David Sherbino)

### COMMUNITY IN UNITY – Centering On Primary Things

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

### PRESBYTERIAN – The Elders from Scotland

- History...  
Martin Luther → John Calvin → John Knox
- Theology...
  1. The Sovereignty of God (**Psalm 103:19**)
  2. The Authority of Scripture (**2 Timothy 3:16**)
  3. Justification by Grace through Faith (**Ephesians 2:8**)
- Structure...
- Style...

### A DIFFERENT TAKE ON – Sovereignty & Perseverance

#### TULIP:

Total Depravity / Unconditional Election / Limited Atonement / Irresistible Grace / Perseverance of the Saints

#### Perseverance of the Saints:

The continuous work of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer. God's work of salvation which was begun is continued and brought to completion.

#### Biblical Statements

- a. **John 10:27-29**
- b. **Philippians 1:6**
- c. **Romans 8:28-30; 38-39**

#### Objections:

- a. It will lead to a life of immorality
- b. Biblical warnings about apostasy  
(e.g., **Romans 11:22; 1 Corinthians 9:27; 1 Timothy 4:1; Hebrews 3:12-14; 6:4-6; 2 Peter 2:20-22**)

Our Hope:  
Hebrews 7:25

### LOOK TO THE BOOK – Psalm 133

### TAKE OUT – I'll Have One Gospel to Go Please

- For more information on TULIP, listen to our Roundtable interview with Tim Challies.
- For more information regarding TULIP from a non-Calvinist perspective, go to [evangelicalarminians.org](http://evangelicalarminians.org).

*NEXT WEEK... Catholicism (with Vincent Kerr)*

Q & Eh? Text 647.330.2789 or email [ask@themeetinghouse.ca](mailto:ask@themeetinghouse.ca)

#### HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

##### Warming Up...

1. What has been your experience (or lack thereof) with Reformed theology and practice? What about your experience with Arminian (non-Calvinist) theology and practice?
2. [What is something new or encouraging you took away from Sunday's message?]
3. Have you been tracking with the Roundtable podcasts? Those who have, take a moment to give a brief infomercial for those who haven't.

##### Look to the Book...

4. Read **1 Corinthians 15:1-11**. A) What verse or idea stands out to you the most? Why? B) This passage contains one of the most referenced summaries of the Gospel in the New Testament. Using Paul's words in **verses 1-4** as a reference point, summarize the Gospel in your own words. C) If the Gospel unites Christ-followers with different theologies, where should we draw the line on affirming divergent beliefs as "Christian"? Talk about examples. D) What is the value of this passage to Christian apologetics (the art of defending the reasonableness of faith)? E) Paul claims to be the last Apostle to be directly commissioned by Jesus in **verse 8**. How does this teaching support our understanding of Scripture as uniquely authoritative in the world of inspired Christian books and teachers? F) How would a Calvinist interpret **verse 10**? How would an Arminian?

##### The Great Debate...

5. [Divide into two groups to debate the issue: *The biblical warnings of apparent loss of salvation should be taken seriously because they represent a real possibility.* Scripture for both sides of the debate are in your notes. Take 5 minutes to prepare, 5 minutes to debate, and then switch positions for another 5 minutes!]

##### So What?...

6. What are the potential strengths and weaknesses of studying theology in depth? Do you tend toward too much or too little theological study? What would greater maturity in your life look like? What are you going to do about it?
7. **Summer Splash question** – In Matthew 6, Jesus finishes this section by talking about two masters. What happens when we try to live with divided loyalty, multiply treasures? Visit [themeetinghouse.ca/splash](http://themeetinghouse.ca/splash) to learn more.

The Meeting House | Sunday, July 10 / 17, 2011 | Bruxy Cavey

Notes are available online at [themeetinghouse.ca/teaching](http://themeetinghouse.ca/teaching)