

Psalms 78:1–8

“How Reformation Happens”

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How does God produce generations of faithful believers? Pastor leads his family in today’s “Hopewell @Home” passage. Psalm 78:1–8 prepares us for the opening portion of morning public worship on the coming Lord’s Day. In these eight verses, the Holy Spirit teaches us that God produces obedience in individuals, and generations, through displaying to them the glory of His character and work—in public and family worship.

Tuesday, March 1, 2022 ▫ Psalm 78:1–8

Questions from the Scripture text: To what are to give our ears and incline them (v1)? What will we be told (v2)? Where have we heard this (v3)? Whom will we tell (v4)? What will we tell? What has God established and where (v5)? What did He command our fathers to do? To whom else would this be communicated (v6)? What are the three parts of the application of this teaching (v7)? What had previous generations not done (v8)?

Next week’s Call to Worship, Prayer for Help, and first song all come from Psalm 78:1–8 so that we will see that we are singing God’s thoughts after Him with *Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds*.

From this Scripture, we learned God’s plan for the reformation and preservation of His church: one generation teaching another generation of generation-teachers—all of whom put that teaching into practice.

Of course, teaching begins with your ears. You can’t teach what you haven’t studied. In our flesh and our folly, we would like to skip to faith, worship, and obedience. But, the Lord’s plan for us and assignment to us begins with our minds. Listen and learn. We cannot teach the next generation until we have learned from the previous one.

What are we to learn in order to teach? The Lord’s testimonies and laws. His teachings and His commands. *The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God and what duty God requires of man.*

There are three primary responses to this knowledge:

Faith. “That they may set their hope in God.” One generation doesn’t just teach the other. They put their hope in God, training the next generation by example as well.

Worship. “And not forget the works of God.” Worship is the first part of faith. We fall at His feet saying, “My Lord and my God.” We don’t forget His works, but rather acknowledge and praise Him.

Obedience. “But keep His commandments.” Obedience is worship in action in the life. Having acknowledged the Lord as God, we give up our right to ourselves and live according to whatever He says.

In what situations are you listening to God’s Word? In what situations are you teaching God’s Word? What place does worship have in each of your days? In each of your weeks? What difference does it make daily that you are living a life of obedience?

Sample prayer: Lord, You are our forgiving, sanctifying God. And we look to You for revival and reformation in our own lives and in the church. But, we often fail to devote ourselves to Your Word, or subsequently to hope in You by those words, to worship You for those words, and to obey You and Your words. Forgive us and cleanse us through Christ, we ask in His Name, AMEN!!

Suggested songs: ARP78A “O Come, My People” or TPH550 “Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds”

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(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)

Psalms 78:1–8

These are God's words contemplation of Asap. Give ear of my people to my law incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable. I will other dark sayings of old which we have heard and known and our fathers have told us I'm not hide them.

From our children telling the generation to come the praises of Yahweh and his strength, and his wonderful works that he has done for his established. A testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel which you commanded our fathers that they should make them known to their children. The desert excuse, the generation to come might know them, the children who would be born that they may arise and declare them to their children that they may set their hope in God and not forget the works of God but keep his

commandments and may not be like their fathers a stubborn and rebellious generation and generation that did not set its heart.

Right. And his spirit was not faithful to God.

Mmm, for the reading of God's inspired.

Psalm 78 on the whole is largely, an account of all the good that God did his people. And how persistently unfaithful Israel was in response and yet that God was more persistently faithful than Israel is persistently unfaithful. And by the time it the salmon ends, it comes to a head.

In God still being committed to the tribe of Judah. And the house of David, which, of course, we know is narrowing in or focusing forward on the forever king that the Lord had promised from David's house. And that God, the Son himself would come and be the son of David according to the flesh.

But then we declared the Son of God by with power by his resurrection from the dead. There's the opening versus of the book of Romans tells us So along that way of preserving for God, a people in Jesus Christ. In this case, Psalm 78, very specifically from whom would come to Christ.

But for whom was the Christ. And In our case for whom has come the Christ and it belonged to the Christ. God's way of preserving for himself. Such a people is Reformation and renewal from one generation to the next that those mighty deeds of God that he had done and shown himself a savior.

We would remember and preferably longer than the three days that we just saw it, take in, Exodus 15 for them. To forget the power of God to save them from Egypt and from the Red Sea. And so he has given us, especially His worship week by week in the Lord's disassembly and day by day, in our homeless, and we see how it's supposed to function with all of the generations together.

As another reason, why is a great folly to give the world what they want by dividing things up. So that the children are not among the congregation for the public worship of God You give the children what you want and in so doing you consign the children and the grandchildren and the great grandchildren unto destruction People literally tell themselves.

We're going to lose the children. So in order to save them, We'll do the thing by which God warns you will lose the children, But God's way of preserving the children is for them to hear his praises, His strength, and his wonderful works. We're not hide them from their children, telling the generation to come the praises of Yahweh and his strength and his wonderful works that he has done.

So this is something that should happen all the time. Just like telling you the law of God, should is something that should happen all the time. Deuteronomy chapter 6 now but this is something that especially happens in the worship assembly. There's no place where we mortel the praises of Yahweh.

His strength and his wonderful works. In fact, that's the place where Jesus says, he will declare his father's name to his brethren, even his brethren. Like Sophia Did you know Sophia that Jesus gathers the worship service on the Lord's day to declare his father's name to you and to sing his father's, praise in the midst of the assembly, that Jesus speaks through the preacher.

Just as we learn Romans 10 and Hebrews 12, other places, and that Jesus sings through the whole congregation, like we learn and Ephesians 5 and Colossians 3. This is why you should set up tall in the worship and participate, and listen. And when it's time to sing sing, this is why Sophia.

This is why we sing all week long at home. The songs that we're going to sing in the worship on the Lord's Day, so you should sing with us when we sing as well as you can every day and it'll get a little bit easier on in the next day and the next day and the next day.

And then the the day before, the Lord's day, you'll know, all the songs and then when you come to the public worship, you can sing them with us, cheerfully, and loudly, and thinking about them. And you can know that. Jesus is singing his father's. Praise and admonishing you with His Word and making that word, dwell richly in you.

We need that. Because what Israel had done all of us was continually forget who God was and hot. He had done. And so they fell into grumbling and they fell in to all manner of wickedness and even idolatry and false worship.

So God's plan for the Reformation Preservation of his church is one generation teaching another generation. And what would that generation do? Tell another one. So verse 5 for his established, a testimony in Jacob and appointed along Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children.

So who are our father's children? Remember. Oh, that's us. Okay, So now we start the the generation to come, who's a generation to come? Well, that's new children or maybe your children's children with the

generation to come might know them. The children who would be born. Okay, so that's children.

Not even born yet that they may arise and declare them to Their children. So, you know, just teach your children to be followers of God, you should and declare, his mighty works to them and declare his instructions to them. You teach your children to be teachers of teachers of the mighty works of God in the law of God.

And then They teach their children to be teachers of teachers and they teach and so on and so forth. That's God's plan for the preservation and Reformation of his church and whatever Reformation he gives. We pray that he should maintain it and that he would give even more. We see in the Bible and in church history that sometimes it's an even harder thing to maintain reformation than it was to reform in the first place that initial Reformation comes like light in the darkness purity.

After filth life, after death energy, after sluggishness, and it catches quickly and the people are invigorated by God. But there seems to be this familiarity that breeds contempt. And so it's necessary by the weekly worship in the assembly by the daily workshop. In our household, by your private worship and your bringing the lifting of the heart to God and that conversation with God, you have from his word and unto him in prayer, bringing that into the fault life of the rest of the day that we not have that familiarity that breeds concerned.

That we don't squander the Reformation and the life that he brings into his church by complacency. So let us fling to the faith. Let us employ the means that he has given us in worship and let us obey his words. That brings us to seven and eight. That what is the result of this teaching that they may set their hope and God.

So there's faith and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments. You see how commandment keeping comes from? Not forgetting one of the reasons that we worship. And remember before God with one, another who God is what he has done. So that we will be awed by him and his love and his power and love him because he first loved us and keep his commandments from that love.

So so that we may believe, so that we may continue to be worshipers. Not forget the works of God and that from that worship will come a life of wholehearted devotion obedience. But keep his commandments and may not be like their fathers a stubborn and rebellious generation or generation that did not set its heart.

All right, and his spirit was not faithful to God. One of the things we're seeing in the world right now is a whole bunch of people who seem to have learned nothing from the 20th century.

Sure, there are a number of people who are saying. Oh, look Putin, pretended. He was everybody's friend. And when he saw weakness and opportunity, he started to invade the freer states around him. Feels like 1936. Seven, eight nine. But there are many, who are still buying the Putin from 23 years ago and they are following the idea of a piecemeal and hoping things will just go away European leaders fly to Moscow and have talks and say oh we've established a conversation and fly back.

You know, Germany's been doing that with Moscow for 16 years and so forth. After Putin destroyed Chechny. And I don't remember if he had done Georgie. No, I think he did Georgia during Anyway, Obama offered him. A reset is a hot people. Don't learn from history. Well there's a much more important history that we ought to learn from and may not be like their fathers are stubborn and rebellious generation.

The generation that did not set its heart. A right into spirit was not faithful to God and then you could read the rest of the Psalm and what it does is it gives you history and it says learn from the history how desperately urgently important it is for you to remember every day of your life, the greatness of who God is the greatness, the mercy, the wonder of how he has saved us and what he has done.

So that we will not just have days of worship in the assembly and mornings and evenings of worship at our table or our living room in the household and the family, but that we will live lives of worship and obedience and not end up like these any like these other generations as bad enough to not learn from 20th century geopolitics, it is much worse.

Not to learn from Psalm 78. Spiritual complacency that leads to sin and rebellion. Yeah. God grant that we would not forget but remember the works of God spray.

Our Father in heaven.

Let me thank you for this Psalm. We thank you for your love to us, and your fatherly instruction pretty Lord. That you would help me to teach my children to be teachers of teachers of your wonderful works that you the great and everlasting God who are perfectly. Holy and God, Most High and God Almighty and also been gone with us and God has come near, we have God.

Merciful that you are full of steadfast love and faithfulness that you have redeemed us not just from Egypt but from sin and death and hell by your son, our Lord. Jesus Christ, how we thank you that we may

live this day. As those who belong to you, those who have received such love those to whom you have given your spirit.

Those who whom your spirit has taught to call you. Our Father and to see your love so that we might love you because you first loved us. Oh, help us to love you. Help us to be full of wonder how you have loved us that our hearts would burn with a desire to show, affection to you in the bending of our wills to do all that pleases.

You that we would shrink back from even our own fleshliness when we give in to mirror earthly pleasure or pride or annoyance rather grant to us contentment in you and humility. Joy to praise you and serve. We ask these things in Jesus name. Amen.