

# The West End Herald

Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC



## Are the **5** Solas Still Important for the Church Today?

by Gabriel N. E. Flubrer

The five *solas* (Latin for “alone”) of the Reformation—Scripture alone, grace alone, faith alone, Christ alone, to the glory of God alone—are indispensable for the church in any era. They will always be relevant because they summarize the biblical gospel, which is the church’s lifeblood in every age.

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They are particularly significant today because even professing evangelicals, to say nothing of the culture around us, are being tempted to abandon the gospel. Therefore, the church must recognize the dire need of not only defending the five solas but also celebrating them.

The five solas are important for us today for at least three reasons.

1

### **The five solas set apart the true gospel from every other religion, worldview, or philosophy.**

Every day, the world calls out its siren song of spiritual compromise. Satan loves to negotiate the nonnegotiables of biblical truth. He whispers the lie that we don't need to have strong convictions about the Bible as our only standard of truth or hold firm to the teaching that only those who trust Christ alone for salvation are right with God. The temptation to downplay doctrine is unceasing. A winsome but unyielding grasp of the five solas can help us resist these attractive lies.

2

### **The five solas provide us with unspeakable comfort in a chaotic world.**

The pace of modern life is unsustainable. It colors our understanding of "the normal Christian life." We tend to equate busyness in ministry with productiveness for Jesus. But the two must not be confused. Knowing that we are saved by God's grace alone through faith alone gives us rest from an exhausting world. We leave behind a performance mindset in our relationship with God and embrace a life of trusting, resting grace. Safe in the arms of our Savior, we are set free to let go of trying to earn what God freely gives us—Christ Himself.

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## **COLUMBIA, SC**

# Palmetto Family Council



Palmetto Family Council is a nonprofit public policy organization focused upon implementing conservative Christian ideas in South Carolina state law, especially concerning sexual morality.

Palmetto Family Council has stated its goal is to “transform the culture in South Carolina by promoting the values and virtues of marriage, the traditional family model, and sexual purity.”

Palmetto Family Council’s Vision is *a South Carolina where God is honored, religious freedom is preserved, families thrive, and life is cherished*. Its headquarters are in Columbia near the South Carolina State House. ♦

## Council Team

Steve Pettit, *President*

Randy Page, *Executive Vice President*

Kevin Caiello, *Operations Director*

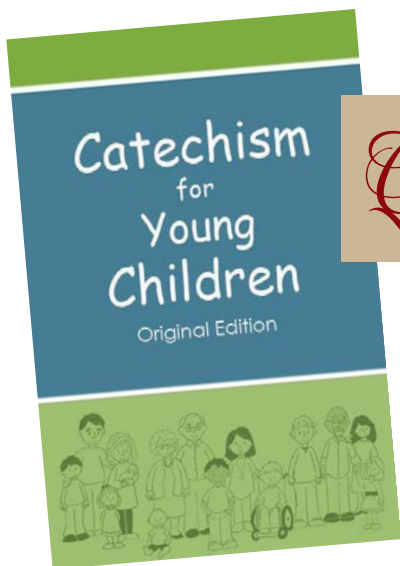
Justin Hall, *Communications Director*



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## Question 102:

What does the tenth commandment teach us?

## Answer:

To be content with our lot.

***6 But godliness with contentment is great gain, 7 for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. 8 But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. 9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.*** 1 Timothy 6:6-10

What did you bring with you into the world when you were born? What will you take with you when you die? What does verse 8 say that we need? If we have those things, should we be satisfied? Has God ever not provided those things for you? When we want more and more and want to get rich, what trap might we fall into (verses 9–10)? Ask God to help you to be satisfied with what you have and not to envy, so that you fall away from the faith. ♦

*From the Lips of Little Ones, Jeff Kingswood*





at the corner of

# River & Rhett

Thank you to the SPC Diaconate and the Jacob Gamble family for a wonderful day at the farm last Saturday!



# *October* **Birthdays**



- 20 Irene Sasser**
- 21 Kim Robertson**
- 22 Ashley Maralit, Nicole Welch**
- 23 Lia Johnson**
- 24 Jeremiah Johnson**
- 25 Ethan Cancino, Christy Giusti,  
Jonah Nguyen**
- 26 Nora Davis, Attee Leigh,  
Katherine Lyon, Patrick Szrama**

# This Week

## MORNING SERMON

*Dr. Richard D. Phillips*

JESUS UNDER ARREST

Mark 14:43–52

## EVENING SERMON

*Dr. Richard D. Phillips*

THE BLASPHEMY OF HEROD

Acts 12:20–25

## Sunday, October 20

- 8:30 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP  
9:55 A.M. Children's Chapel (*Sanctuary*)  
10:00 A.M. Membership Class (*Room C-209*)  
10:00 A.M. Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP  
12:30 P.M. College/20s Luncheon (*Gym*)  
5:00 P.M. Missionary Prayer Band (*Chapel*)  
5:30 P.M. Season of Prayer (*Chapel*)  
6:00 P.M. EVENING WORSHIP—*The Lord's Supper*

## Monday, October 21

- 6:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study (*Fellowship Hall*)  
9:30 A.M. Rafiki Bible Study (*Conference Room*)

## Tuesday, October 22

- 10:00 A.M. WIC Bible Study (*Fellowship Hall*)  
7:00 P.M. WIC Circle 4 (*L. Martin Home*)

## Wednesday, October 23

- 5:30 P.M. Christian Education Committee (*Conference Room*)  
5:30 P.M. FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER (*Gym*)  
6:15 P.M. Hope Choir (K4–K5); Covenant Choir (Grades 1–6);  
Youth Choir (Grades 7–12)  
6:45 P.M. Missions Moment (*Gym*)  
7:00 P.M. CAT Kids (Ages 3–Grade 4); Covenant Kids (Grades 5–8)  
7:00 P.M. Jr. & Sr. High Bible Studies  
7:00 P.M. Adult Prayer Meeting & Bible Study (*Gym*)  
7:30 P.M. Chancel Choir

## Thursday, October 24

- 9:00 A.M. Calvary Presbytery (*Laurens*)  
9:30 A.M. Precepts Bible Study (*Conference Room*)

## Friday, October 25

- 9:15 A.M. Raising Up Mothers (*Fellowship Hall*)  
12:00 P.M. Men's Luncheon and Bible Study (*Gym*)  
1:30 P.M. Mission to Main

## Saturday, October 26

- 8:00 A.M. Masculine Mandate Seminar (*Gym*)  
10:00 A.M. Sr. High Boys/Girls Bible Studies (*Youth Hut/Fellowship Hall*)

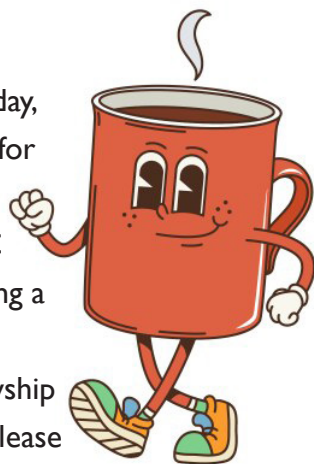
# Upcoming Events

[spcgreenville.org/calendar](http://spcgreenville.org/calendar)

- October 20** Baptism Sunday
- October 20** The Lord's Supper in the Evening Service
- October 24** Calvary Presbytery (Laurens)
- October 26** Masculine Mandate Seminar
- October 30** Reformation Party
- November 3** Daylight Saving Time Ends

## BREAKFAST Food Needed

The next Masculine Mandate Seminar is Saturday, October 26, at 8:00 A.M. Ladies, please sign up for food, help setting up, serving, and clean up using the sign up genius you received in a WIC church e-mail. If you are unable to sign up using a computer, please contact Sharon Phillips. Food should be brought ahead of time to the Fellowship Hall kitchen or on the morning of the event. Please arrive with food, or have your husband arrive with food, no later than 8:00 A.M. A huge thank you to all for supporting the men in our church as they study God's Word and his design for godly masculinity.





# 3

## The five solas remind us that our salvation is secure.

Only when we are assured of the love of God will we live out the commands of God. The five solas enable us to say with David, “Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day” (Ps. 119:97). Following Jesus, obeying Him by the Spirit, and killing sin become our joy. So many Christians drift, unconsciously most of the time, to the belief that God loves them when they obey.

But the true gospel of the five solas pulls us back to the bedrock scriptural truth that God loves us and therefore we obey. The difference is subtle, but it makes all the difference in our daily lives. Your Father loves you! He is pleased with you in Christ. When those realities come home, John’s words become our delightful creed: “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome” (1 John 5:3).

In sum, nothing is more urgent for the church than protecting, propagating, and passing on the true gospel encapsulated by the five solas. It is our only hope, our greatest comfort, and our supreme joy. Most of all, these biblical teachings will always be important because they bring us to Christ, who is our life. ♦

Dr. Gabriel Fluhrer currently serves as senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He has written or edited several books and articles, including *Atonement* (P&R, 2010), *These Last Days* (P&R, 2011), and *Alive: How the Resurrection of Christ Changes Everything* (Reformation Trust, 2020). In his free time, he enjoys hunting, golf, and Gamecock football.



# Announcements

## Reformation Party—October 30

Join in on this annual family-friendly celebration! Children are encouraged to dress up as Reformation or other wholesome characters. The congregation is asked to provide wrapped candies and small prizes. Items may be dropped off in the designated box in the Gymnasium. If you would like to provide a game/booth, please contact Rev. Early.

*There will be no Prayer Meeting or Bible Study that night.*

## WIC International Dinner

All ladies are invited to the annual International Dinner at the SPC Gymnasium on Friday, November 8, at 6:30 P.M. Please bring a dish of your choice (main dish, vegetable, bread, or dessert) from the country of your choice! Ramona White will be our guest speaker.

## Operation Christmas Child

This is a ministry that seeks to share the love of Christ and the gospel in both word and deed with less fortunate children around the world. Look for the red and green shoe boxes on the counter outside the church library and on the table outside the gym. November 20th is the due date for returning your filled boxes to the table outside the Gym. Please contact Attee Leigh with any questions.



## SPC MEMBERSHIP CLASS

This no-obligation class meets for eight weeks. It is open to anyone interested in learning more about our beliefs or joining our church. Gather with others and our minister, Dr. Phillips, as we explore together our church distinctives.

**Date:** Sundays—began September 22 (not too late to attend!)

**Time:** 10:00 A.M.

**Place:** Room C-20

**Teacher:** Dr. Richard Phillips

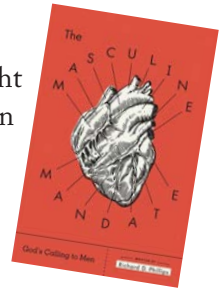
**Register:** [spcgreenville.org/signup](http://spcgreenville.org/signup)

## Masculine Mandate Seminar

All men are invited to the second of these gatherings taught by Dr. Phillips. SPC Ladies are providing breakfast, so plan to arrive at 8:00 A.M. on October 26 in the Gymnasium.

## Daylight Saving Time Ends

Make a note to set your clocks BACK one hour before you go to bed Saturday night, November 2!



I, being a great sinner,  
comfort myself in a great  
Saviour. When I look upon  
myself, I see nothing but  
weakness and emptiness;  
but when I look upon  
Christ, I see nothing but  
sufficiency and fullness.

*Puritan Gold*

**William Gouge**