



HOPE ^{IN} CHRIST
CHURCH

A Christian Reformed Church

Glorifying God by Knowing,
Living and Proclaiming
our Hope in Christ

TODAY'S MESSAGE

Lessons in Wisdom and Folly from Gideon

Judges 8:1-28

OCTOBER 19, 2025

Pastor Scott Roberts

Welcome!

Welcome to Hope in Christ Church. We are so glad
you have joined us today!



Order of Worship

How Great Thou Art

Welcome

Call to Worship

A Might Fortress is Our God

In Christ Alone

Cornerstone

Confession and Assurance

Abide

Prayer

Judges 8:1-28, Reader - Chidubem

Sermon: Lessons in Wisdom and Folly from Gideon

Song of Response

Benediction

Victory in Jesus—Christ Won the Victory



Today's Offering is for the Outreach Fund.
There is a collection basket next to the sound booth.

God is Moving Mountains

In India, in the past, one way churches prevented attacks was to put women in the back of the church. Male aggressors were reluctant to physically harm women, but this has changed. Now they bring female assailants with them to hurt Christian women.

These days, something else is new, too. Instead of just hurting Christians, attackers intentionally beat them as badly as they can, hoping to cause death later. Then the death can be attributed to “natural causes.”

Despite the repeated assaults, “It doesn’t occur to Christians to meet in secret instead. They want to be loud and express their faith,” an ICR field worker said.

Acts of violence on Christians have been common for years now, unfortunately. And as more people become believers, Christians are seen as more of a threat. These days, the government isn’t going after pastors; they’re going all the way up what they call “the conversion chain.”

They’re going after regional and national church leaders – and even after the foreigners (like ICR workers) who are helping persecuted Christians. “If you help persecuted Christians, you are now part of the conversion chain,” an ICR worker said.

The penalties for helping Christians are harsher now. In the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, where some of the worst persecution happens, forced conversion can result in life in prison.

How to Pray:

1. Pray that God will bring justice for the Christians who are imprisoned or attacked.
2. Pray that believers who are assaulted and/or lose homes, livelihoods, and even family members would be cared for.
3. Pray for Hindu activists to experience Jesus’ life-changing power.

For More Information Visit:

<https://christianresponse.org/news/the-conversion-chain/>

Sermon Outline
Lessons in Wisdom and Folly from Gideon
Judges 8:1-28

I. Folly clings to all of us. Wisdom not so much.

II. Gideon's Wisdom (Josh 8:1-2)

A. Ephraim's honor affronted (Judg 8:1, Gen 13:7-8)

B. Gideon displays wisdom (Judge 8:2-3)

1. Gideon recognizes the affront to their honor

2. He makes an agricultural comparison

3. He draws a direct comparison between the grapes and the military reality at hand

4. He asks a question

5. Then the quarrel died (Prov 15:18)

III. Gideon's folly (Judg 8:4-28)

A. The danger of emotional and physical exhaustion to wisdom: The response to refusal of help and threats received (Judg 8:4, Judg 8:6-9)

B. An even greater folly: The offer and acceptance of dynastic kingship (Judg 8:22-28, Judg 8:22-24, 9:1)

1. God is King not me

2. Give me some gold

a. Gideon makes an ephod (Judg 8:27-28, Ex 29:5, Lev 8:7)

b. Why Gideon would do this folly

C. Are we guilty of leaving the ordinary means of God in pursuit of extraordinary experiences?

IV. Conclusion

A. The last mention of *rest* in Judges (Judg 8:28)

B. A Greater Gideon has come

Announcements

PRE-BUDGET MEETING: The pre-budget meeting will be held during the Sunday School hour today. Bring your questions for discussion about the proposed budget. Can't attend, but have thoughts to share? Contact a deacon.

HOW TO DEAL WITH SCAMMERS: Jen Andrews, community service officer with the Bellingham Police Department, will give a presentation on dealing with scammers on Oct. 23 at 6:30 p.m. at Hope in Christ Church. Andrews will offer real-life fraud incidents that (anonymous) Bellingham residents have experienced in recent months to empower citizens with the tools to outsmart deceptive scam artists.

SINGLES FELLOWSHIP AND FUN TIME: Are you single and aged 18-100? More eats, games, laughs and fun are coming up on Friday, October 24 @ 6pm in the church foyer. Come enjoy some pizza, games, and social time. Can't arrive by 6pm? Come late. Bring a friend if you'd like. Questions? Contact Ruth or Tena.

CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS: Is your photo in the church directory outdated? Please email a digital photo to the office or stop by and Tanya will take your photo. The best pictures for directories typically do not have additional items in the photo and are close-up images of the people. Updated directories can be obtained by contacting the church office.

RIDES NEEDED: Sheryl VanDyken is seeking a person willing to provide rides to a mom with health issues so she can go to her appointments and get groceries each week. Preferably it would be the same person each time. Sheryl will be unable to provide these rides for a few months starting the end of October. Ask Tanya for details.

Hospitality for Sunday, October 26, 2025

Provide: Katie

Set up: Katie

Serve: Katie

Clean up: Needed

Servants for Sunday, October 26, 2025

Greeters: Diane, Darryl

Scripture Reader: Mike

Foyer Monitor: Joe

Prayer Room: Needed

Council Members and Districts

Council President: Dan Obbink (360-393-5171)

Elder Chairperson: David Richards (360-961-0459)

Deacon Chairperson: Jenn Boer (360-820-6164)

District - Last name A to C

Elder: Glen Hendricks (616-581-9055)

Deacon: Barb Zylstra (360-927-3583)

District - Last name D to Ka

Elder: Jay Kaemingk (360-319-4671)

Deacon: Darlys Recker (509-833-8357)

District - Last name Kn to N

Elder: David Richards (360-961-0459)

Deacon: Philip Bergman (360-201-3873)

District - Last name O to R

Elder: Mark Ruiter (360-398-0101)

Deacon: Hildred Abee (385-229-2121)

District - Last name S to Z

Elder: Dan Obbink (360-393-5170)

Deacon: Jenn Boer (360-820-6164)

District - Council Members

Pastor Scott Roberts (360-733-6177)

Custodian: Don Recker (509-949-7441)

Worship: Jerry Hop (360-734-9510)

GEMS: Darlys Recker (360-393-4179)

Friendship: Tanya Obbink (360-393-5171)

Safe Church Coordinator: Don Recker (360-393-4179)

Health Minister: Alice Brakke (360-920-8123)

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thurs: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.



BULLETIN DEADLINE

All bulletin items are due on Wednesdays at noon.



HOPE IN CHRIST CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

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