



**Living Hope**  
Christian Reformed Church  
Belong • Believe • Bless

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## ***Sermon Questions***

***March 17, 2024***

1. Jesus begins with the word ‘Father’ when he says “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When you think of God as “Father”, what feelings/emotions arise within you?
2. How does this return to Father in Jesus’ words on the cross, emphasize the utter forsakenness which he felt and how does this affect us when we feel forsaken by God, or better said, when we forsake God?
3. When you think about commitment, what do you commit your life to? We may quickly say to God...which is good, however, when you look at how you live your daily life, are there other things which you are committed to? How do we combine commitments in this world for life with commitments in the spiritual world for eternal life? Where do they mesh with each other and where do they war against each other? What are some of the “world’s hands” that are holding your life?
4. There were a number of people at the cross. Who do you associate with most closely, one of the criminals on the cross, those watching from a distance – want to see, but scared about getting too close to be associated with him, those in the crowd who cheered Hallelujah on Palm Sunday and then crucify him on Friday, the soldier who realized the righteousness of Jesus...? Or maybe you see your self as a combination of some. Maybe this is a hard question because we don’t really want to say?
5. Jesus was able to pray this pray at the end of his life, because he committed every day to his Father. This also means that he submitted every day to his Father. How does commitment and submission work together in this situation and how does that affect your life in practical ways?
6. Heidelberg Catechism question and answer 1 is. Q. What is your only comfort in life and death? A. That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him. Take some time to discuss whether this really brings comfort and how does committing our life into the hands of God help with this comfort?