

Holy Communion: Biblical Doctrine; Local Practice

August 11, 2013



Adding a Confessional Service; Time for Individual Confession and Absolution

How?

1. Imposed by the pastor?
2. Imposed by the Board of Elders (pastor's "puppets"?)
3. Discussed and decided by the voter's assembly with the knowledge of the whole Congregation.

When is -1- or -2- acceptable? With what procedure?

When is -3- appropriate?

Reasons not to do it

1. Would such an addition offend some members (What does this mean? How does a weak conscience and strong conscience fit into the conversation?) What must be said to the 'strong conscience' that says this would be wrong? What must be done for a weak conscience that is not sure? (The role of Scriptures and the Confessions).
2. Would such an addition offend members of other congregations? How could this be prevented?
3. What "practical" objections will be made against it. Do these objections have a basis in our theology or in our flesh?

Resolution to Institute Liturgical and Individual Aids for Worthily Receiving Holy Communion

Whereas; (conditions being addressed that can be changed)

Whereas: Scriptural admonitions that could be better carried out

Whereas: Confessional guidance that is not being followed

Whereas: Practical hurdles that should not stand in the way because...

Be it resolved:

- 1) Liturgical changes/additions (Commitment of the pastors)
- 2) Admonitions to the members (Commitment of the congregation) with goals for all the members.
- 3) Thanksgiving to God and asking his blessing for the growth of our congregation in faith and witness to the church and community.