The Six Great Ends of the Church

Learning Mini-Series

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**DISCUSSION OUTLINE: GREAT END #2**

**The Shelter and Nurture and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God**

*Presented by The Reverend Emilee Williams*

**Series Information:**

This learning mini-series is sponsored by The Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington. It consists of seven videos in the “Ted Talk” presentation style. A discussion outline accompanies each of the Six Great Ends presentations. The presentations and presenters are:

* **Series Introduction:** *Rev. Dr. Rob Erickson*
* **The Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind:** *Rev. Dr. Rob Erickson*
* **The Shelter and Nurture and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God:**

*Rev. Emilee Williams*

* **The Maintenance of Divine Worship:** *Rev. Dr. Jacob Bolton*
* **The Preservation of the Truth:** *Rev. Becca Messman*
* **The Promotion of Social Righteousness:** *Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey*
* **The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World:** *Rev. Dr. Raymond I. Hylton, Sr.*

**Discussion Outline:**

1. Find the mission statement for this congregation and read it aloud. How does it compare to the Six Great Ends? Similar or not?
2. Do you agree that the Great Ends need to work in unity? Do you see any that you think could stand alone?
3. What do you think Shelter means in the context of this statement? Is protection the primary goal of shelter? What else is shelter?
4. What do you think Nurture means in the context of this statement? Especially, is something other than growth fostered as a part of Nurture?
5. What do you think Spiritual Fellowship means in the context of this statement? How is unity a part of this fellowship?
6. Overall, do you consider this an “inward looking” statement that deals only with ourselves. Who are the children of God?
7. Are other statements in the Six Great Ends more focused on others outside “the children of God”?