



We are in the series *Law and Gospel*. Rev. Al Lewis has been explaining the purposes of God's Law. We learnt that there are three purposes, and he shared the first two (find more details on those [here](#)). In today's *Conversation*, the Director of Communications (Dr. T) helps us to find out about the third and final purpose of God's Law, by putting this question also to Rev. Lewis:

Dr. T: We learnt that the first purpose of God's Law is to provide outward discipline, and the second is to show our sin, and you said those lead to a third. What is the third?

Rev. Lewis: As a beloved son or daughter of our God we want to please Him and so He has given us His Law as a guide on our life's journey. In Christ we are freed from sin's captivity, exempted from the curse and coercion of the Law and enabled and motivated by the Holy Spirit to see obeying the Law as a delightful response to God's grace and mercy (Psalm 1:2). (For a fuller explanation of the third use of the Law see the Formula of Concord Epitome VI.)

When we fail to live as a beloved child of God we return to the cross, confessing our sin and receiving forgiveness and cleansing for Jesus' sake.

Rev. Al Lewis graduated from CLS in 1992 and served as a parish pastor in B.C. and Alberta. After retiring in 2013 he ministered as an Intentional Interim Pastor in three congregations over ten years dealing mainly with conflict ministry. He is currently serving as vacancy pastor at King of Kings Lutheran Church, Dickson, AB.

There we have it! In our last three entries, we have been looking at the purposes of God's Law. It is good advice to examine *Gospel*/now . . . which raises an interesting question: How is Gospel different from 'good advice'? Hmm . . . Another of our pastors will answer that one for us. Join us next week, in the *Conversations*, to see who that is and more so to hear the response, as we continue our journey back to basics. If you have questions that you would like to put to our pastors, send them [here](#), and get the answers you need in the *Conversations*.