

# Voorwoord

In 2017 herdenk reformatoriese kerke die Kerkhervorming, vyfhonderd jaar nadat Martin Luther sy 95 stellings teen die aflaathandel aan die kerklike owerhede gestuur het. Maar wat is die toekoms van reformatoriese kerke? Het die tyd vir 'n volgende kerkhervorming aangebreek?

Dié boek het 'n sterk historiese inslag, maar is nie tradisionele 'kerkgeskiedenis' nie. Dit is ook nie net op een kerk gerig nie, omdat kerke vanuit verskillende tradisies as gevolg van globalisering met soortgelyke uitdagings worstel. Elkeen moet in unieke omstandighede kerk wees. Die boek poog om iets van die uitdagings waarmee kerke in die een en twintigste eeu gekonfronteer word te verwoord en daarop te antwoord, met die eietydse reformatoriese spreuk *ecclesia semper reformanda* as vertrekpunt.

Ek het in die boek van 'n multidissiplinêre metodologie gebruik gemaak. Insigte vanuit historiese teologie, sistematiese teologie, praktiese teologie en missionale teologie is benut om 'n 'praktiese ekklesiologie' te skep. Daar is met albei ore geluister – na die teorie én die praktyk.

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Hierdie boek word opgedra aan my vrou, my kinders en alle medegelowiges wat met groot toewyding in die kerk diensbaar is, omdat dit die Here se kerk is.

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