



Calvary Baptist Church

09/06/2024

Family Worship Guide

New City
Catechism

Q1: What is our only hope
in life and death?

A: That we are not our own
but belong, body and soul,
both in life and death, to
God and to our Savior
Jesus Christ.

WELCOME

Why should we do a family devotional?

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” - Deuteronomy 6:4-8

As long as there have been a “people of God,” the command given to them has always been that they would be instructing their children in the way of the Lord. It is expected that parents will be teaching their children.

But teaching children is more than simply giving rules. It involves showing them HOW to obey the Lord by doing it yourself! These family devotionals are meant to equip you as an individual to grow in your understanding of the Lord and His Word, as well as providing parents with the resources and opportunities to demonstrate for their children what it looks like to pursue God.

What is a catechism?

Catechisms are teaching tools. Since ancient times these tools have been used to instruct those who are young in the faith and to remind the more mature of the essential truths they believe.

Catechisms work through a series of questions and prewritten answers. Answers that are derived through what Scripture says. Each week we will examine ONE question and its answer from the New City Catechism. You will be encouraged to memorize the question and response as we work through the biblical support for the answer. (If children can memorize it and recite it to Tim in the office on Sunday, they may get a surprise!)

For more resources related to the catechism, follow the QR code.



MONDAY

Read Romans 14:7–8

Read and repeat the Catechism of the week

Discuss

Our lives can get very busy. Doing chores, going to school, going to work, making meals, spending time with family, and of course reading the Bible. In all of the busy-ness, it can be easy to forget “why” we are doing any of it.

Romans 14:7-8 gives us an answer to that question. If you read the verses before it (and you should), you will see that people were disagreeing about what they should and shouldn't do. Should we eat meat or only vegetables? Should we worship on Saturday or Sunday? Paul is telling us that what matters most in these actions is the motivation of our hearts. Whether we live or die, whatever we do, we do it for the Lord!

Everything that we do should be done for the glory of God! He saved us, He bought us with His blood, so anything that we have or are able to do should be for Him.

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever thought about your actions in this way? How would this change the way that we act?
- Think of a boring thing you do (i.e. homework, washing the dishes, folding laundry, ...) how are these done for the glory of God?
- What does it mean to “be the Lord’s?”

Sing

All Glory be to Christ
Kings Kaleidoscope

Pray

That God would allow
you to see your actions
through the lens of His
glory.

ALL GLORY BE TO CHRIST

Should nothing of our efforts stand
No legacy survive
Unless the Lord does raise the house
In vain its builders strive
To you who boast tomorrow's gain
Tell me what is your life
A mist that vanishes at dawn
All glory be to Christ!

All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!
His will be done
His kingdom come
On earth as is above
Who is Himself our daily bread
Praise Him the Lord of love
Let living water satisfy
The thirsty without price
We'll take a cup of kindness yet
All glory be to Christ!
All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign will ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!
When on the day the great I Am
The faithful and the true
The Lamb who was for sinners slain
Is making all things new.
Behold our God shall live with us
And be our steadfast light
And we shall ere his people be
All glory be to Christ!
All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign will ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!



TUESDAY

Read Galatians 2:20-21

Read and repeat the Catechism of the week (try to memorize it)

Discuss

What does it mean to be a Christian? To be a Christian is more than going to church on Sunday, praying, reading the Bible, and all the other things that Christians do (which we should keep doing). To be a Christian means that we have been given a new life.

Jesus lived and died for us, but He didn't do all this so that we would keep living the same way. He lived and died and rose again so that we would be saved from our sins, and start to look like Him! When Christ died, our old lives and all of their sins died with Him!

Instead of living in our old sins, Christians live new lives. If our old self died with Christ, then, if we are in Him, we are given a new self! A life that is by faith in Christ. Faith that Christ died for ME, and that He rose again to give me salvation. Because of this, we aren't living to make ourselves feel good, but instead we are living for Jesus.

"Our new self is created by the Spirit through faith, and the image of that new self is Christ, Christ himself. From one degree of glory to the next. ... don't waste his life; don't waste Christ's life in you." John Piper

Discussion Questions

- What does it mean to live for Christ?
- Think about your old life being crucified with Christ. If our old self is dead, what should change with the way we live now?
- What should our new self look like? What are some ways I can look more like Christ this week?

Sing

Rock of Ages
Toplady

Pray

Thank God for giving
you a new heart

ROCK OF AGES

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy wounded side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
save from wrath and make me pure.

2 Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.

3 Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to the cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath,
when mine eyes shall close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown,
see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.



WEDNESDAY

Read John 10:1-18

Read and repeat the Catechism of the week (try to memorize it)

Discuss

Think about the job of a shepherd. What does a shepherd do? They take care of the sheep, they feed the sheep, they protect the sheep, they help the mamas when they have lambs, and so much more. Jesus calls Himself the Good Shepherd. Our catechism question this week says that Christians have hope because we belong to God. Jesus is a Good Shepherd, because He never loses His sheep.

If you are one of Jesus' sheep, you don't have to worry! Even when things happen that are scary. Even when you sin! If you belong to Jesus, then He will never ever let anything take you away from Him! He died to buy you, and as long as He lives He will never lose you.

"The shepherd is the sheep's providence. Both for time and for eternity, for body and for soul, our Lord Jesus supplies all our need out of his riches in glory. He is the great storehouse from which we derive everything. He has provided, he does provide, and he will provide; and each one of us may therefore sing, "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want." - C.H. Spurgeon

Discussion Questions

- How does belonging to Jesus give us hope?
- When life is confusing, or scary or chaotic, where should we (the sheep) look for protection?
- What are ways that you could stay focused on Christ and His hope when things are uncertain?

Sing

*Christ Our Hope in Life and
Death*

Keith and Kristen Getty

Pray

Pray that God would let
you see all the ways
which He provides for
you.

CHRIST OUR HOPE IN LIFE AND DEATH

Verse 1:

What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to him belong
Who holds our days within his hand?
What comes, apart from his command?
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ, in which we stand

Chorus:

O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

Verse 2:

What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good
Where is his grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Verse 3:

Unto the grave, what shall we sing?
"Christ, he lives; Christ, he lives!"
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore



THURSDAY

Read Galatians 4:4-7

Read and repeat the Catechism of the week (quiz each other and yourself to see if you have it memorized)

Discuss

We all know that this life is uncertain. In our world, things are scary. We don't know what tomorrow will bring. We may fall off our bike, we may lose our keys, we may lose our jobs. Nothing in this life is guaranteed. What are we as Christians supposed to do?!

In the midst of the scary uncertainty of life, we are to be reminded that we belong to God. But we don't only belong to Him in the way a toy or a car or book belongs to us. No, we are God's children. We have been adopted into His family and He loves us so very very deeply. As His children, we can run to Him and cling to Him when the storms of life are raging.

As children of God we also have a future hope! We are "heirs" of and through God. Even if we lose everything we have here, we are promised a future inheritance which can't be taken.

Discussion Questions

- Who is the one who accomplishes our salvation? Us or God in Christ? (Read verses 4-5).
- How does being a child of God affect how we pray/come to God?
- God has made us heirs and promised us an inheritance. Do you believe that what God has promised you is better than anything you have now?
- Are you confident God will be faithful to His promises?

Sing

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Thomas Criswell

Pray

Thank God that He makes us His children.
Pray for those you know who do not know Him.

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

Verse 1:

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
as Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided:
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Verse 2:

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Verse 3:

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!



FRIDAY

Read Psalm 119:89-96

Practice the catechism of the week. Try to recite it without looking!

Discuss

There are few things that are sure in this life. The only rock to stand on in the scariness of the world is God. God doesn't want us to be tossed around like a boat on the waves, but instead wants us to cling to Him. But it is hard to cling to Him if we don't know who He is.

God knows that, and because of that He chose to make Himself known to us in the Bible.

Look at everything God has done. Do you realize that the sun doesn't have to come up in the morning? Every single day God chooses to make it rise. God Himself opens every flower. God Himself blows the breeze. God Himself sustains everything. God Himself fills your lungs with air. He is the one who created the world, and led Israel out of Egypt, and sent His Son for you to redeem you. If God has done all these things and more, then how could we loose heart? The same God who directs the stars also holds your soul, and if you are His child He loves you dearly. Hope in Him, even and especially when

Discussion Questions

- Is it comforting to know that God is in control of EVERYTHING?
- Make a list of ways God has been faithful in the Bible. Make another of how He has been faithful in your own life.
- The Psalmist cried out to God to save him. Where did he say salvation would be found? (read Psalm 119:93-94)
- What areas do you need to trust God in more?

Sing

Doxology
Thomas Ken

Pray

Praise and thank God
for being so faithful in
all things.

DOXOLOGY

Verse 1:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Verse 2:

Praise God the Father who's the source;
Praise God the Son who is the course;
Praise God the Spirit who's the flow;
Praise God, our portion here below!

There are many different versions of this hymn. The first verse is always the same but as you will see in the video, the second often changes.



This link is a fun tutorial to learn the doxology in sign language! A fun family activity!

