

*A Catechism
for
Girls and Boys*

*From the book,
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I: God, Man, and Sin	Page 3
PART II: The Ten Commandments	Page 6
PART III: Salvation	Page 9
PART IV: Prayer	Page 14
PART V: The Word, Church, and Ordinances	Page 16
PART VI: The Last Things	Page 17

PART I: God, Man, and Sin

136. Where is Christ now?

Christ is in heaven, seated at the right hand of God the Father (Rm 8:34; Col 3:1; H1 1:3; 10:12; 12:2).

137. Will Christ come again?

Yes. At the last day he will come to judge the world (Mt 25:31-43; 2 Thes 1:7-10; 2 Tim 4:1).

138. What happens to men when they die?

The body returns to dust, and the soul goes to be with God or to a place of suffering and waiting for judgment (Gn 3:19; Ec 12:7; 2 Cor 5:1-6; Hb 12:22,23; Ph 1:23; 2 Pet 2:9; Rm 2:5).

139. Will the bodies of the dead be raised to life again?

Yes. 'There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust' (Acts 24:14, 15; Jn 5:28, 29; Dan 12:2.)

140. What will happen to the wicked in the day of judgment?

They shall be cast into hell (Ps 9:16, 17; Lk 12:5; Rm 2:8, 9,12; 2 Th 1:8, 9; Rv 20:12-15).

141. What is hell?

Hell is a place of dreadful and endless punishment (Mt 25:46; Mk 9:43-48; Lk 16:19-31).

142. What will happen to the righteous on the day of judgment?

They shall live with Christ for ever, in a new Heaven and a new earth (Is 66:22; 1 Thes 4:16, 17; 2 Pet 3:10-13; Rv 21:1-4).

143. In light of these truths, what should you do?

I should repent of sin and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ (Lk 13:23, 24; Jn 6:27; Acts 16:31).

1. Who made you?

God made me (Gn 1:26, 27; 2:7; Ec 12:1; Acts 17:24-29).

2. What else did God make?

God made all things (Gn 1, esp. verses 1, 31; Acts 14:15; Rm 11:36; Col 1:16).

3. Why did God make you and all things?

For his own glory (Ps 19:1; Jer 9:23, 24; Rv 4:11).

4. How can you glorify God?

By loving him and doing what he commands (Ec 12:13; Mk 12:29-31; Jn 15:8-10; 1 Cor 10:31).

5. Why ought you to glorify God?

Because he made me and takes care of me (Rm 11:36; Rv 4:11; cf. Dan 4:37).

6. Are there more gods than one?

There is only one God (Deut 6:4; Jer 10:10; Mk 12:29; Acts 17:22-31).

7. In how many persons does this one God exist?

In three persons (Mt 3:16, 17; Jn 5:23; 10:30; 14:9, 10; 15:26; 16:13-15; 1 Jn 5:20; Rv 1:4, 5).

8. Who are they?

The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (Mt 28:19; 2 Cor 13:14; 1 Pet 1:2; Jude 20, 21).

9. Who is God?

God is a Spirit, and does not have a body like men (Jn 4:24; 2 Cor 3:17; 1 Tim 1:17).

10. Where is God?

God is everywhere (Ps 139:7-12; Jer 23:23,24; Acts 17:27,28).

11. Can you see God?
No. I cannot see God, but he always sees me (Ex 33:20; Jn 1:18; 1 Tim 6:16; Ps 139 esp. vv. 1-5; Pr 5:21; Hb 4:12, 13).
12. Does God know all things?
Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God (1 Chron 28:9; 2 Chron 16:9; Lk 12:6, 7; Rm 2:16).
13. Can God do all things?
Yes. God can do all his holy will (Ps 147:5; Jer 32:17; Dan 4:34, 35; Eph 1:11).
14. Where do you learn how to love and obey God?
In the Bible alone (Job 11:7; Ps 119:104; Is 8:20; Mt 22:29; 2 Tim 3:15-17).
15. Who wrote the Bible?
Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit (1 Pet 1:20, 21; Acts 1:16; 2 Tim 3:16; 1 Pet 1:10, 11).
16. Who were our first parents?
Adam and Eve (Gn 2:18-25; 3:20; 5:1, 2; Acts 17:26; 1 Tim 2:13).
17. Of what were our first parents made?
God made the body of Adam out of the ground, and formed Eve from the body of Adam (Gn 2:7; 21-23; 3:19; Ps 103:14).
18. What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?
He gave them souls that could never die (1 Cor 15:45; Eccl 12:7; Zech 12:1).
19. Have you a soul as well as a body?
Yes. I have a soul that can never die (Mt 10:28; Mk 8:34-38; 12:30).
20. How do you know that you have a soul?

from their sins through Jesus Christ (Acts 22:16; Col 2:11-14).

129. Who are to be baptized?
Only those who repent of their sins, and believe in Christ for salvation should be baptized (Acts 2:37-41; 8:12; 18:8; 19:4, 5).
130. Should babies be baptized?
No; because the Bible neither commands it, nor gives any example of it.
131. What is the Lord's Supper?
At the Lord's Supper, the church eats bread and drinks wine or grape juice to remember the sufferings and death of Christ (Mk 14:22-24; 1 Cor 11:23-29).
132. What does the bread represent?
The bread represents the body of Christ, broken for our sins (Mt 26:26; 1 Cor 11:24).
133. What does the wine/grape juice represent?
The wine/grape juice represents the blood of Christ, shed for our salvation (Mt 26:27, 28; 1 Cor 11:25).
134. Who should partake of the Lord's Supper?
The Lord's Supper is for those only who repent of their sins, believe in Christ for salvation, receive baptism, and love their fellow men (Mt 5:21-24; 1 Cor 10:16, 17; 11:18, 20, 27-33; 1 Jn 3:24-27; 4:9-11).

PART VI: The Last Things

135. Did Christ remain in the tomb after his crucifixion?
No. He rose from the tomb on the third day after his death (Lk 24:45-47; 1 Cor 15:3, 4).

evil” (Mt 6:13; Lk 11:4).

121. What do we pray for in the sixth petition?

That God will keep us from sin (1 Chron 4:10; Ps 119:11; Mt 26:41).

PART V: The Word, The Church and The Ordinances

122. How does the Holy Spirit bring us to salvation?

He uses the Bible, which is the Word of God (1 Thes 1:5, 6; 2:13; 2 Tim 3:15, 16; James 1:18; 1 Pet 1:22, 23).

123. How can we know the Word of God?

We are commanded to hear, read and search the Scriptures (1 Pet 2:2; Rv 3:22; Mt 21:42; 22:29; 2 Tim 3:14-17).

124. What is a church?

A church is an assembly of baptized believers joined by a covenant of discipline and witness who meet together regularly under the preaching of the Word of God (Mt 18:20; Acts 2:42).

125. What two ordinances did Christ give to his Church?

Baptism and the Lord’s Supper (Mt 28:19; 1 Cor 11:24-26).

126. Why Did Christ give these ordinances?

To show that his disciples belong to him, and to remind them of what he has done for them (Mt 28:19; 1 Cor 11:24-26)

127. What is Baptism?

The dipping of believers into water, as a sign of their union with Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection (Jn 3:23; Acts 2:41; 8:12, 35-38; Col 2:12).

128. What is the purpose of baptism?

Baptism testifies to believers that God has cleansed them

Because the Bible tells me so (Mt 10:28; Mk 8:34-38; 12:30).

21. What is your soul?

My soul Includes all of me that should know and love God (Mk 8:34-38; Ep 3:16-19).

22. In what condition did God make Adam and Eve?

He made them holy and happy (Gn 1:26-28; Ps 8:4-8).

23. Did Adam and Eve stay holy and happy?

No. They sinned against God (Gn 3:1-7; Eccl 7:29; Hos 6:7 where “men” = Adam).

24. What was the sin of our first parents?

Eating the forbidden fruit (Gn 2:16, 17; 3:6).

25. Why did they eat the forbidden fruit?

Because they did not believe what God had said (Gn 3:1-6; cf. Hb 11:6).

26. Who tempted them to this sin?

The devil tempted Eve, and she gave the fruit to Adam (Gn 3:1-13; 2 Cor 11:3; 1 Tim 2:13, 14; cf. Rv 12:9).

27. What happened to our first parents when they had sinned?

Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable (Gn 3:14-24; 4:1-24; Jm 1:14, 15).

28. What effect did the sin of Adam have on all mankind?

All mankind is born in a state of sin and misery (Ps. 5 1:5; Rm 5:12, 18, 19; 1 Cor 15:21, 22; 1 Jn 5:19).

29. What do we inherit from Adam as a result of this original sin?

A sinful nature (1 Kings 8:46; Ps 14:2, 3; 58:3; Eccl 9:3; Mt 15:18-20; Jn 2:24, 25; Rm 8:7).

30. What is sin?

Sin is any transgression of the law of God (1 Jn 3:4; Rm 3:20; James 2:9-11).

31. What is meant by transgression?
Doing what God forbids (1 Sam 13:8-14; 15:22, 23; Hos 6:7; Rm 1:21-32).
32. What does every sin deserve?
The anger and judgment of God (Deut 27:26; Rm 1:18; 2:2; Gal 3:10; Eph 5:6).
33. Do we know what God requires of us?
Yes, he has given us his law both in our hearts and in writing (Rm 2:14-15).

PART II: The Ten Commandments

34. How many commandments did God give on Mt. Sinai?
Ten commandments (Ex 20:1-17; Deut 5:1-22).
35. What are the ten commandments sometimes called?
God's moral law (Lk 20:25-28; Rm 2:14, 15; 10:5).
36. What do the first four commandments teach?
Our duty to God (Deut 6:5, 6; 10:12, 13).
37. What do the last six commandments teach?
Our duty to our fellow men (Deut 10:19; Mic 6:8; cf. Gal. 6:10).
38. What is the sum of the ten commandments?
To love God with all my heart, and my neighbor as myself (Deut 6:1-15; 11:1; Mt 22:35-40; James 2:8).
39. Who is your neighbor?
All my fellow men are my neighbors (Lk 10:25-37; 6:35).
40. Is God pleased with those who love and obey him?

111. What do we pray for in the first petition?
That God's name may be honored by us and all men (Ps 8:1; 72:17-19; 113:1-3; 145:21; Is 8:13).
112. What is the second petition?
"Your kingdom come" (Mt 6:10; Lk 11:2).
113. What do we pray for in the second petition?
That the gospel may be preached in all the world, and believed and obeyed by us and all men (Mt 28:19, 20; Jn 17:20, 21; Acts 8:12; 28:30, 31; 2 Thes 3:1).
114. What is the third petition?
"Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (Mt 6:10; Lk 11:2).
115. What do we pray for in the third petition?
That men on earth may serve God as the angels do in Heaven (Ps 67; 103:19-22; Jn 9:31; Rv 4:11).
116. What is the fourth petition?
"Give us this day our daily bread" (Mt 6:11; Lk 11:3).
117. What do we pray for in the fourth petition?
That God will give us all things needful for our bodies (Ps 145:15, 16; Pr 30:8, 9; 1 Tim 4:4, 5).
118. What is the fifth petition?
'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors' (Mt 6:12; Lk 11:4).
119. What do we pray for in the fifth petition?
That God will pardon our sins, and help those who have sinned against us (Ps 51; Mt 5:23, 1 Jn 4:20, 21). us to forgive 24; 18:21-35;
120. What is the sixth petition?
'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from

6).

103. How does the Holy Spirit baptize believers?

He puts them into the body of Christ by making them a living part of all those who truly believe in Him (1 Cor 12).

104. How does the Holy Spirit seal believers?

He comes to live within them to guarantee that they will receive the wonders God has promised those who love Him (Rm 8:9-11; Ep 1:13, 14; Ep 4:30; 2 Tim 1:9; 2 Cor 1:22).

105. How can you receive the Holy Spirit?

God has told us that we must pray to him for the Holy Spirit (Lk 11:9-13; Jn 4:10; 16:24); but the evidence of His presence is seen most clearly in our trusting and loving the Lord Jesus Christ. (Lk 12:8-10; Jn 3:3-5, 16, 20, 21; 14:17-21; 1 Cor 12:3; 1 Pet 1:2; 1 Jn 5:6-12).

PART IV: Prayer

106. What is prayer?

Prayer is talking with God (Gn 17:22; 18:33; Neh 1:4-11; 2:4; Mt 6:6; Rm 8:26, 27).

107. In whose name should we pray?

We should pray in the name of the Lord Jesus (John 14:13, 14; 16:23, 24; Hb 4:14-16).

108. What has Christ given to teach us how to pray?

The Lord's Prayer (Mt 6:5-15; Lk 11:1-13).

109. How many petitions are there in the Lord's Prayer?

Six.

110. What is the first petition?

"Hallowed be your name" (Mt 6:9; Lk 11:2).

Yes. He says, 'I love them that love me' (Pr 8:17; Ex 20:6; 1 Jn 4:7-16).

41. Is God pleased with those who do not love and obey him?

No. 'God is angry with the wicked every day' (Ps 7:11; Mal 2:17; Pr 6:16-19; 1 Cor 16:22).

42. What is the first commandment?

You shall have no other gods before Me (Ex 20:3; Deut 5:7).

43. What does the first commandment teach us?

God should be Number One (Is 45:5, 6; Mt 4:10; Rv 22:8, 9).

44. What is the second commandment?

You shall not make yourself any graven image (Ex 20:4-6; Deut 5:8-10).

45. What does the second commandment teach us?

Don't bow down to anything but God (Is 44:9-20; 46:5-9; Jn 4:23, 24; Acts 17:29).

46. What is the third commandment?

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain (Ex 20:7; Deut 5:11).

47. What does the third commandment teach us?

Don't use your lips to dishonor God (Is 8:13; Ps 29:2; 138:2; Rv 15:3, 4).

48. What is the fourth commandment?

Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy (Ex 20:8-11; 23:12; Deut 5:12-15).

49. What does the fourth commandment teach us?

Don't neglect the things of God (Lv 19:20; 23:3; Is 58:13, 14).

50. What day of the week is the Christian Sabbath?

Sunday, the first day of the week, which is also called the

Lord's Day (Acts 20:7; Rv 1:10).

51. Why is it called the Lord's Day?

Because on that day Christ rose from the dead (Mt 28:1; Mk 16:9; Lk 24:1-6; Jn 20:1).

52. How should the Sabbath be kept?

In prayer and praise, in hearing and reading God's Word, and in doing good to our fellow men (Is 58:13, 14; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:2; Lk 4:16; Mt 12:10-13).

53. What is the fifth commandment?

Honor your father and mother (Ex 20:12; Deut 5:16).

54. What does the fifth commandment teach us?

To love and obey our parents (Mt 15:3-6; Ep 6:1-3; Co 3:20).

55. What is the sixth commandment?

You shall not kill (Ex 20:13; Deut 5:17)

56. What does the sixth commandment teach us?

To avoid hatred, all that leads to it, and all that follows from it. (Mt 5:21-24; 1 Jn 3:15; Jm 4:1-3).

57. What is the seventh commandment?

You shall not commit adultery (Ex 20:14; Deut 5:18).

58. What does the seventh commandment teach us?

To be pure in heart, language and conduct. Adultery leaves a broken heart (Mt 5:27, 28; Ep 5:3-5; Ph 4:8, 9).

59. What is the eighth commandment?

You shall not steal (Ex 20:15; Deut 5:19).

60. What does the eighth commandment teach us?

Do not take the things of others without permission or payment (Ex 23:4; Pr 21:6, 7; Ep 4:28).

61. What is the ninth commandment?

dren (John 1:12; Ep 1:5; Ep 5:1; Gal 4:7, 31; 1 John 3:1-3).

95. What is sanctification?

God makes sinners holy in heart and conduct so that they will demonstrate his goodness in their lives (Jn 17:17; Ep 2:10; 4:22-24; Ph 2:12-13; 1 Thes 5:23).

96. Is this process of sanctification ever complete in this life?

No. It is certain and continual, but is complete only in heaven (Ph 3:12-15; 2 Pet 1:4-8; 1 Jn 3:1-3).

97. What hinders the completion of sanctification in this life?

The Scripture says "The flesh lusts against the Spirit so that you cannot do the things you would" (Ga 5:17).

98. Since we are by nature sinful, how can one ever desire to be holy and to gain heaven where God lives?

Our hearts must be changed before we can be fit for heaven (Ep 4:17-24; Col 3:5-12).

99. Who can change a sinner's heart?

Only the Holy Spirit can change a sinner's heart. (Jn 3:3; Rm 8:6-11; 1 Cor 2:9-14; 2 Thes 2:13, 14; Titus 3:5-6).

100. What did the Holy Spirit undertake in the covenant of Grace?

He regenerates, baptizes, and seals those for whom Christ has died (Ep 2:1-8; 1 Cor 12:13; Ep 1:13, 14; Ep 4:30; 2 Cor 1:22).

101. What is regeneration?

It is a change of heart that leads to true repentance and faith (Gal 5:22; Ep 2:5-8; 2 Thes 2:13).

102. Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power?

No. I can do nothing good without God's Holy Spirit (Jn 3:5, 6; 6:44; Rm 8:2, 5, 8-11; 1 Cor 2:9-14; Gal 5:17, 18; Ep 2:4-

- He died for our sins and prays to God for us (Ps 110:4; 1 Tim 2:5, 6; Hb 4:14-16; 7:24, 25; 1 Jn 2:1, 2).
87. Why do you need Christ as a priest?
Because I am guilty (Pr 20:9; Ec 7:20; Rm 3:19-23; Hb 10:14, 27, 28; 1 Jn 1:8, 9).
88. How is Christ a king?
He rules over us and defends us (Ps 2:6-9; Mt 28:18-20; Eph 1:19-23; Col 1:13, 18; Rv 15:3, 4).
89. Why do you need Christ as a king?
Because I am weak and helpless (Jn 15:4, 5; 2 Cor 12:9; Phil 4:13; Col 1:11; Jude 24, 25).
90. What did God the Father take on in the covenant of grace?
By His goodness and mercy, God the Father determined to justify, adopt, and sanctify those for whom Christ died (Ex 33:18, 19; Eph 1:3-5; Rm 8:29-33; Gal 4:4-7; Hb 10:9, 10; 1 Cor 1:8, 9; Phil 1:6; 1 Thes 4:3, 7; 5:23, 24).
91. What is justification?
It is God's regarding sinners as if they had never sinned and granting them righteousness (Zech 3:1-5; Rm 3:24-26; 4:5; 5:17-19; 8:33; 2 Cor 5:21; Hb 8:12; Ph 3:9).
92. What is righteousness?
It is God's goodness as revealed in his law, and as honored in Christ's perfect obedience to that law (Ex 33:19; 34:6; Ps 33:5; Hos 3:5; Rm 11:22).
93. Can anyone be saved by his own righteousness?
No. No one is good enough for God (Pr 20:9; Ec 7:20; Rm 3:10-23; Ep 2:8-10; Ph 3:8, 9).
94. What is adoption?
God's goodness in receiving sinful rebels as his beloved chil-

You shall not lie (Ex 20:16; Deut 5:20).

62. What does the ninth commandment teach us?
To tell the truth (Ps 15:1-3; Zech 8:16; 1 Cor 13:6; James 4:11).
63. What is the tenth commandment?
You shall not covet (Ex 20:17; Deut 5:21; Rm 7:7).
64. What does the tenth commandment teach us?
To be content with what we have (Phil 4:11; 1 Tim 6:6-8; Hb 13:5).
65. Can any man keep these ten commandments?
No mere man, since the fall of Adam, ever did or can keep the ten commandments perfectly (Pr 20:9; Ec 7:20; Rm 3:19, 20; James 2:10; 1 Jn 1:8, 10).
66. Of what use are the ten commandments to us?
They teach us our duty, make clear our condemnation, and show us our need of a Savior (1 Tim 1:8-11; Rm 3:20; Gal 3:24).
67. Does God condemn all men?
All are condemned unless they turn away from their sins and place their trust in Jesus Christ (Rm 3:19, 20, 23-25; Jn 17:11, 12; Is 53:11; Acts 17:30).

PART III: Salvation

68. What is a covenant?
An agreement between two or more persons (e.g., 1 Sam 18:3; Mt 26:14, 15).
69. What is the covenant of grace?
An agreement within the Trinity to save people and to provide all the means for their salvation (Gn 17:1-8; Rm 11:27;

- Hb 10:16, 11; 13:20, 21; Jer 31:31-34; Ez 36:25-28).
70. What did Christ take on in the covenant of grace?
Christ took upon Himself to keep the whole law, and to suffer the punishment due to their sins (Gal 4:4, 5; Hb 6:17-20; 7:22; 9:14, 15; 13:20, 21).
71. Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever sin?
No. He was holy, blameless and undefiled (Hb 7:26; Lk 23:47; I-Ib 4:15; 1 Pet 2:22; 1 Jn 3:5).
72. How could the Son of God suffer?
Christ, the Son of God, took flesh and blood, that he might obey and suffer as a man (Jn 1:14; Rm 8:3; Gal 4:4; Phil 2:7, 8; Hb 2:14, 17; 4:15).
73. What is meant by the atonement?
The atonement consists of Christ's satisfying divine justice, by his sufferings and death, in the place of sinners (Mk 10:45; Acts 13:38, 39; Rm 3:24-26; 5:8, 9; 2 Cor 5:19-21; Gal 3:13; 1 Pet 3:18).
74. For whom did Christ obey and suffer?
Christ obeyed and suffered for those whom the Father had given him (Is 53:8; Mt 1:21; Jn 10:11, 15, 16, 26-29; 17:9; Hb 2:13).
75. What kind of life did Christ live on earth?
Christ lived a life of perfect obedience to the law of God (Mt 5:17; Rm 10:4; 1 Pet 2:21, 22).
76. What kind of death did Christ die?
Christ experienced the painful and shameful death of the cross (Ps 22; Is 53; Gospel records).
77. Who will be saved?
Only those who turn from sin and trust in Christ will be saved (Mk 1:15; Lk 13:3,5; Acts 2:37-41; 16:30,31; 20:21; 26:20).
78. What is repentance?
Repentance involves sorrow for sin, leading one to hate and turn away from it because it is displeasing to God (Lk 19:8-10; Rm 6:1, 2; 2 Cor 7:9-11; 1 Thes 1:9, 10).
79. What is it to believe in Christ?
Acknowledge that our only hope is Christ and trusting Him to save us (Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim 2:5; 1 Jn 5:11, 12).
80. How were godly persons saved before the coming of Christ?
By faith, believing in the Savior to come (Jn 8:56; Gal 3:8, 9; 1 Cor 10:1-4; Hb 9:15; 11:13).
81. How did they show their faith?
They offered sacrifices according to God's commands (Ex 24:3-8; 1 Chron 29:20-25; Hb 9:19-23; 10:1; 11:28).
82. What did these sacrifices represent?
Symbols of Christ, who was to die for sinners (Ex 12:46 cf. Jn 19:36; Hb 9 & 10; Jn 1:29; 1 Cor 5:7; 1 Pet 1:19).
83. What does Christ do for his people?
He does the work of a prophet, a priest and a king (Hb 1:1-3; Rv 1:5; Mt 13:57; Hb 5:5-10; Jn 18:37).
84. How is Christ a prophet?
He teaches us the will of God, reveals God to us, and was God in human flesh. (Deut 18:15, 18; Jn 1:18; 4:25; 14:23, 24; 1 Jn 5:20).
85. Why do you need Christ as a prophet?
Because I am ignorant (Job 11:7; Mt 11:25-27; Jn 6:67-69; 17:25, 26; 1 Cor 2:14-16; 2 Cor 4:3-6).
86. How is Christ a priest?