

## **A Catechism for Everyone**

### **Devotional for Teachers:**

A group of evangelical ministers, in 1798, were moved to create a baptist catechism for the children in their congregation. They called the it “A Catechism for Boys and Girls.” I used this catechism as a starting point. I also used the The First Catechism of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Westminster Shorter Catechism, Heidelberg Catechism, an open source Small Catechism of Martin Luther and a small Wesleyan Catechism. None of which seemed well worded and completely right for children. But the more I delved into the catechisms, the more I recognized the power of the question answer format. As I spoke to people the answers would pop up into my head and defend my faith. I am utterly amazed. I tend to lean toward things that have more color and child friendly teaching tools. With this material there is little to start with, I had to start from scratch.

-----God and Man-----

1. Who made you?

--God made me

**Gen 2:7** Then the Lord God formed a man. He made him out of the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into him. And the man became a living person. Nlrv

2. What else has God made?

--God made all things

**Gen 1:1** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Nlrv

3. Why did God make you and all things?

--To glorify and enjoy God.

**Rev 4:11** ... You (Our God) are worthy to receive glory and honor and power. You are worthy because you created all things...**Ps 19:1** The heavens tell about the glory of God. The skies show that his hands created them. Nlrv

4. How can you glorify God?

--Glorifying God is to be a friend of God and to do the things he does

**Ecc 12:13** ... Have respect for God and obey his commandments. That's what everyone should do. Nlrv  
**Psalms 37:4** Find your delight in the Lord. Then he will give you everything your heart really wants. Nlrv

5. Is there more than one God?

--No. There is only one God.

**Deut 6:4** The Lord is the one and only God. Nlrv

6. How many persons does this one true God exist?

--In three Persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

**Jude 1:20-21** ... praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. NKJ (John 15:26)

7. Who is God?

--God is a Spirit

**John 4:24** God is spirit. His worshipers must worship him in spirit and in truth.

8. Where is God?

--God is everywhere

**Ps 139:5** You are all around me. You are behind me and in front of me. You hold me in your power.(Psalm 139:7-12)

9. Can you see God?

--No. I cannot see God, but he always sees me

**John 1:18** No one has ever seen God....**Psalms 139:1** Lord, Father wants all who look to the Son and believe in him to you have seen what is in my heart. You know all about me. have eternal life. I will raise them up on the last day. Nlrv

10. Does God know everything?

--Yes. Nothing is hidden from God.

**Ecc 12:14** God will judge everything people do. That includes everything they try to hide. He'll judge everything, whether it's good or evil.

11. Can God do anything?

--Yes, God knows best, and he can do anything.

**Jer 32:17** You (God) have made the heavens and the earth. Nothing is too hard for you. **Phil 4:13**

12. Where do you learn how to love and follow God?

--By spending time with God and reading his words. **1**

**John 2:5** But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him... NLT

13. What is the Bible?

--The Bible is the word of God written by holy men. **Jer 30:2** "...I am the God of Israel. I say, 'Write on a scroll all of the words I have spoken to you. Nlrv

14. How can I know God's word?

--God tells us to read, listen and study the Bible **2 Tim 3:16** God has breathed life into all of Scripture. It is useful for teaching us what is true...Nlrv

15. Has God only revealed Himself in the Bible?

--No. God reveals himself in nature and in our hearts, as well. **Ps 19:1** The heavens tell about the glory of God. The skies show that his hands created them. Nlrv

16. Who were our first mom and dad?

--Adam and Eve **Acts 17:26** From one man he made all the people of the world... **Gen 3:20** Adam named his wife Eve. She would become the mother of every living person. Nlrv

17. What did God use to make our first mom and dad?

--God made Adam from dirt, and Eve from Adam's rib bone  
**Gen 2:7** Then the Lord God formed a man. He made him out of the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into him. And the man became a living person.. Nlrv

18. In whose likeness were the first parents made?

--We are all made in the image of God. **Gen 1:27** So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. NLT

19. Did God give Adam and Eve only bodies?

--God also gave them souls that could never die. **Matt 25:46** "Then they will go away to be punished forever. But those who have done what is right will receive eternal life." Nlrv

20. Do you have a soul and a body?

--Yes. I have a soul that can never die. **Matt. 25:40** My Father wants all who look to the Son and believe in him to have eternal life. I will raise them up on the last day. Nlrv

21. What is your soul?

--My soul is all of me that should know and love God. **Mark 12:30** Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. NIV

22. How were Adam and Eve when God made them?  
--They were happy and holy when God created them.  
**Gen 1:28** God blessed them. He said to them, "Have children and increase your numbers. Fill the earth and bring it under your control. NIVR

23. Did Adam and Eve stay holy and happy?  
--No. They sinned against God. **Gen 3:23** ... God drove the man out of the Garden of Eden to work the ground he had been made out of. NIVR

24. What is sin?  
--Sin is turning away from God and his words.  
**1 John. 3:4** Everyone who sins breaks the law. In fact, breaking the law is sin. NIVR

25. What was our first parent's sin?  
--Disobeying God by eating the forbidden fruit **Gen 3:17** ...You ate the fruit of the tree that I commanded you about. I said, 'You must not eat its fruit.' NIVR

26. Who tempted Adam and Eve to choose to sin?  
--The devil tempted Eve, and Eve tempted Adam. **Gen 3:12-13** ...13 ..."What have you done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me. That's why I ate the fruit."

27. What did sin do to our first parents?  
--Their lives became sinful, difficult and painful. Sin leads to death and all men will die. **Gen 3:17** ... "So I am putting a curse on the ground because of what you did. All the days of your life you will have to work hard to get food from the ground.

28. What effect did our first parent's sin have on all people?  
--All people are born with a "sinful nature." **Rom 5:12** Sin entered the world because one man sinned. And death came because of sin. Everyone sinned, so death came to all people.

29. What punishment does every sin deserve?  
--The punishment of sin is death. **1 Cor 15:22** Because of Adam, all people die. So because of Christ, all will be made alive.

30. Do we know what God requires of us?  
--Yes, God's law is written both in our hearts and the Bible **Rom 2:14-15** ...This is true even though they don't have the law. 15 They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts... (Hew 8:10)

-----Ten Commandments-----

31. How many commandments did God give Moses on Mt. Sinai?  
--There are Ten words to live by also called Ten commandments **Ex 20:1-17**

32. What do the first four commandments teach?

--How to love and serve God **Matt 22:37-38** Jesus replied, " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your mind.'—(Deut 6:5) 38 This is the first and most important commandment.

33. What do the last six commandments teach?  
--How to love and serve our neighbor **Matt 22:39** And the second is like it. 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.'—(Leviticus 19:18)

34. Who is your neighbor?  
--Everyone who has a need. **Lk 10:36-37** "Which of the three do you think was a neighbor ...?"..."The one who felt sorry for him."

35. Why should I obey God's commandments?  
--Obeying God pleases him and shows that you love Him. **John 14:15** "If you love me, you will obey what I command..."

36. Does God also love those who disobey Him?  
--Yes! **John 3:16** "God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

37. What is the first commandment?  
--The first commandment is, "You must not have any other god but me." **Deut 5:7** NLT

38. What does the first commandment teach us?  
--To worship God alone **Is 45:5** ...I am the one and only... God.

39. What is the second commandment?  
--The second commandment is, "You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind, or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea..." **Deut 5:8** NLT

40. What is an idol?  
--An idol is anything in your life that is more important than God. **Is 44:15** Man gets wood from trees for fuel. He uses some of it to warm himself. He starts a fire and bakes bread. But he also uses some of it to make a god and worship it...

41. What does the second commandment teach us?  
--Nothing is about God **Is 44:9** Those who make statues of gods don't amount to anything. And the statues they think so much of are worthless...

42. What is the third commandment?  
--The third commandment is, "You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God..." **Deut 5:11** NLT

43. What does the third commandment teach us?  
--Be careful how you use God's name **Is 8:13** I am the Lord who rules over all. You must think about me as holy. You must have respect for me. You must fear me.

44. What is the fourth commandment?

--The fourth commandment is, "Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy..." **Deut 5:12** NLT

45. What does the fourth commandment teach us?

--To keep God's day of rest and worship **Is 58:13** ... Honor my holy day. Do not work on it. Do not do just anything you want to...

46. What is the fifth commandment?

--The fifth commandment is, "Honor your father and mother " **Deut 5:16** NLT

47. What is the sixth commandment?

--The sixth commandment is, You must not murder. **Deut 5:17** NLT

48. What does the sixth commandment teach us?

--Don't hurt people **Rom 13:10** Love does not harm its neighbor. So love does everything the law requires. Nlrv

49. What is the seventh commandment?

--The seventh commandment is, "You must not commit adultery" **Deut 5:18** NLT

50. What does the seventh commandment teach us?

--To be faithful to your husband or wife **Matt 5:28** ... Do not even look at a woman in the wrong way. Anyone who does has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

51. What is the eighth commandment?

--The eighth commandment is, "You must not steal." **Deut 5:19** NLT

52. What does the eighth commandment teach us?

--Do not take things from people without asking. **Eph 4:28** Those who have been stealing must never steal again. Instead, they must work. They must do something useful with their own hands. Then they will have something to give to people in need. Lev 6:2

53. What is the ninth commandment?

--The ninth commandment is, "Do not give false witness against your neighbor." **Deut 5:20** NLT

54. What does the ninth commandment teach us?

--Always tell the truth. **Prov 12:22** The Lord hates those whose lips tell lies. But he is pleased with people who tell the truth. Nlrv

55. What is the tenth commandment?

--The tenth commandment is, "Do not long for your neighbor's wife. Do not long to have anything that belongs to your neighbor..." **Deut 5:21** Nlrv

56. What does the tenth commandment teach us?

--To be happy with what we have **1 Tim 6:6** You gain a lot when you live a godly life. But you must be happy with what you have. Nlrv

57. Can anyone keep these ten commandments?

--No, since Adam's sin, only Jesus has been able to keep the Commandments. **Rom 3:10** It is written, "No one is right with God, no one at all. Nlrv

58. How do the ten commandments help us?

--They teach us how to please God and show us our need for a Saviour. **Rom 3:20** So it can't be said that anyone will be made right with God by obeying the law. Not at all! The law makes us more aware of our sin.

59. Will all men die, because they broke God's commandments?

--No. all who believe in Jesus Christ are by God's grace set free from judgement. **Rom 6:23** When you sin, the pay you get is death. But God gives you the gift of eternal life because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done. Nlrv

-----Salvation-----

60. What is a covenant?

--A covenant is an agreement or promise between people. **Ps 103:18** He always loves those who keep his covenant. He always does what is right for those who remember to obey his commands.

61. What is the covenant of grace?

--The convenient of grace is a free gift from God to save all who are faithful to Him. **Rom 5:21** Sin ruled because of death. So also grace rules in the lives of those who are right with God. The grace of God brings eternal life because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done.

62. Who is Jesus?

--Jesus is the Son of God. **Mark 15:39** A Roman commander was standing there in front of Jesus. He heard his cry and saw how Jesus died. Then he said, "This man was surely the Son of God!"

63. How was Jesus' birth special?

--He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born to the virgin Mary, being both man and God. **Matt 1:23** "The virgin is going to have a baby. She will give birth to a son. And he will be called Immanuel."—(Isaiah 7:14) The name Immanuel means "God with us."

64. Did Jesus Christ ever sin?

--No. He followed God in every way **1 Jn 3:5** But you know that Christ came to take our sins away. And there is no sin in him.

65. What did Jesus agree to do for us in the covenant of grace?

--Jesus Christ, who had no sin, freely died for our sins **Heb 9:14** But Christ offered himself to God without any flaw. ... So how much more will his blood wash from our minds our feelings of guilt for committing sin! Sin always leads to death. But now we can serve the living God.

66. How could the Son of God die for us?

--Jesus, God's son, became like us so that he could obey

God and die for our sins. **Heb 2:14** ...So Jesus became human like them in order to die for them. By doing that, he could destroy the one who rules over the kingdom of death...

67. What is atonement?

--Jesus paid the price of sin for us, so that we can be close to God. **Heb 2:17** ... he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. NIV

68. What is salvation?

--Salvation is being made safe from the consequences of sin, by believing in Jesus and what He did on the cross. **Acts 16:30-31** "Believe in the Lord Jesus. Then you and your family will be saved."

69. How did Jesus die?

--Jesus died in terrible pain and shame on the cross, crucifixion. **Heb 12:2** ...who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. NIV

70. Who did Jesus die for?

--All people, especially the faithful **John 3:16** "God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

71. Did Jesus stay dead?

--No. He rose from the dead on the third day. **Acts 2:23-24** ...You nailed him to the cross. 24 But God raised him from the dead...

72. What is the Resurrection?

--Coming alive after being dead. **John 11:25** Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. NLT

73. Where is Jesus now?

--Jesus is in heaven **Acts 7:55** But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. NIV

74. How were godly people saved before Jesus came?

--They had faith in the God's promise of a savior. **Romans 4:22** "God accepted Abraham because he believed. So his faith made him right with God."

75. How does Jesus Christ help his friends?

--He is a prophet, a priest and a king. **John 18:37** ...Jesus answered, "You are right to say I am a king....(Mark 15:2)

76. How is Jesus a prophet?

--Jesus was really God and man. He teaches us what God is like and what God wants from us. **Luke 24:20** He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. NIV

77. How is Jesus a priest?

--Jesus died for our sins and prays to God for us. **Heb 5:6** "You (Jesus) are a priest forever, just like Melchizedek."

78. How is Jesus Christ a king?

--He rules over us and protects us. **Matt 16:16** "You are the Christ. You are the Son of the living God."

79. How do you repent?

--Say that you are very sorry and choose to obey God. **Ez 18:30** Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall...NIV

80. What is justification?

--Through faith in Jesus, God sees me just-as-if my sin never happened. **Rom 5:18** ...the result of one act of righteousness (Jesus') was justification that brings life for all men. NIV

81. What is righteousness?

--Righteousness is following God in every way. Only Jesus is righteous. **Deut 6:25** ...if we are careful to obey all this law before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness. NIV

82. What is sanctification?

--Sanctification is God cleaning sin out of our hearts. It is complete only in Heaven, because of our sin nature.. **2 Cor 3:18** ... We are being changed to become more like him (Jesus)...

83. Who can change a sinner's heart?

--Only the Holy Spirit can change a sinner's heart. **Ez 36:26** I will give you new hearts. I will give you a new spirit that is faithful to me. I will remove your stubborn hearts from you. I will give you hearts that obey me.

84. What is the Holy Spirit's part in the Covenant of Grace?

--When you ask Jesus into your heart, the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of you. He makes you a new creation and is the proof that you have joined God's family. **Ep 1:13** ...When you believed, he marked you with a seal. The seal is the Holy Spirit that he promised.

85. What is the Body of Christ?

--The Body of Christ is God's family (The Holy Spirit is our family name) . The Holy Spirit has given each believer a gift to use in Christ's Church. **1 Cor 12:27** You are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of it.

86. How can you receive the Holy Spirit?

--A believer can ask God for the Holy Spirit. **Lk 11:10** Everyone who asks will receive. He who searches will find. And the door will be opened to the one who knocks.

87. What are the Fruits of the Spirit?

--The Fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The Fruits of the Spirit are the proof that He lives

inside a believer of Jesus. **Gal 5:22-23** NLT

-----Sacraments-----

88. Why did Jesus give us the reminders of Baptism and the Lord's Supper?(ordinances or sacraments)

--So that we would always remember what Jesus did for us and that we belong to Him. **1 Cor 11:25** "... Do this to remember me as often as you drink it."

89. What is Baptism?

--A believer is put under the water as a sign of dying to the sinful nature and rises up out of the water to a new life with Jesus. **Rom 6:3-5** ... By being baptized, we were buried with Christ into his death. Christ has been raised from the dead by the Father's glory... Nlrv

90. What is the purpose of baptism?

--The purpose of baptism is to publicly tell everyone that Jesus is your savior. **Gal 3:27** All of you who were baptized into Christ have put on Christ as if he were your clothes.

91. Who is to be baptized?

--All who are sorry for not following God, and are willing to let Jesus change them.

**Matt 28:19** ... go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

92. What is the Lord's Supper or communion?

--The eating of bread and drinking of wine/juice to remember Jesus' pain and death. **1 Cor 11:26** When you eat the bread and drink the cup, you are announcing the Lord's death until he comes again.

93. What does the bread represent?

--The bread represents Jesus' body, broken for our sins. **Luke 22:19** ..."This is my body. It is given for you. Every time you eat it, do it in memory of me."

94. What does the wine/juice represent?

--The wine represents the blood of Jesus poured out to forgive our sins and to make a new covenant (agreement). **Matt 26:28** ... This is my blood of the new covenant. It is poured out to forgive the sins of many.

-----The Lord's Prayer-----

95. What is prayer?

--Prayer is talking with God. **Ps 66:19** But God has listened. He has heard my prayer.

96. What has Jesus given to teach us how to pray?

--The Lord's Prayer: Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored. May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 Forgive us our sins, just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us. 13 Keep us from falling into sin when we are tempted.

Save us from the evil one.' **Matt 6:9-15** Nlrv

97. What is the first thing the Lord's Prayer is asking for?  
--"May your name be honored" **Matt 6:9** Nlrv

98. What is the second thing the Lord's Prayer is asking for?

--"May your kingdom come." -God will come and live in all who believe. **Matt 6:10, Luke 17:21** ...God's kingdom is among you. Nlrv

99. What is the third thing the Lord's Prayer is asking for?

--"May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven." We are asking that we could serve the Lord now as in Heaven. **Matt 6:10** Nlrv

100. What is the fourth thing the Lord's Prayer is asking for?

--"Give us today our daily bread." We are asking God for all the things our bodies need. **Matt 6:11** Nlrv

101. What is the fifth thing the Lord's Prayer is asking for?

--"Forgive us our sins, just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us." Forgiveness of sin comes from God. **Matt 6:12** Nlrv

102. What is the sixth thing the Lord's Prayer is asking for?

--"Keep us from falling into sin when we are tempted. Save us from the evil one." **Matt 6:13** Nlrv

-----Last things-----

103. Will Jesus come again?

--Yes. In the last day He will come to judge the world **James 5:8** be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. NIV

104. What happens to people when they die?

--Your bones and flesh returns to dust, and your soul goes to God or hell. **Dan 12:2** Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. NIV

105. Will all dead people be alive again?

--Yes. All dead people will rise again, both those who obey God and those who do not. **Acts 24:15** and I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked. NIV

106. What will happen to those who turn away from God?

--They will be separated from God forever, in hell. **Rom 6:23** For the wages of sin is death... NIV

107. What is hell?

--Hell is a place of never ending pain. **Rom 2:9** There will be trouble and suffering for everyone who does evil. ...

108. What will happen to those who follow God?

--They will live with Jesus forever, in a new heaven and a new earth. **Rom 2:10** ... there will be glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good....