

A Guide for Youth Confirmation Instruction

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Wittenberg Lutheran Theological Seminary
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©2024, by Missionary Bruce Naumann
brucenaumann@gmail.com

What is Confirmation?

A common definition of the word confirm is to "establish the truth or correctness of something." When a young person is confirmed in a Lutheran church this means:

- He has received instruction in the basic teachings of the Bible and is able to show that he has learned these things.
- He can declare his faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior and promise to dedicate himself to live his life as a faithful child of God.
- He can show that he understands the true meaning and value of the Lord's Supper, and that he is able to "examine himself" (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) in preparation for Holy Communion.
- He is now becoming an adult member of the church. As a child he learned about Jesus and attended church because his parents made these choices for him. As he becomes an adult, the Holy Spirit leads him to make these choices for himself. He is then able, with the help of God, to promise to be faithful to Jesus and His Word for his whole life.

In this way the congregation, through its pastor, trains young people so that they are ready to *confirm* the faith which the Holy Spirit has given them in their baptism, and strengthened through His Word.

The church's Rite of Confirmation involves the examination of students and (usually) a ceremony during the worship service. God has not commanded this in the Bible, but it is a beneficial tradition which has been practiced in many churches for centuries. The Bible does, however, make it clear that it is the LORD'S will that young people should be instructed in Bible truths:

> *You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. - Deuteronomy 11:18-19*

> *We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might and the wonders that he has done. Psalm 78:4*

> *Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6*

It is true that the primary responsibility for instructing the young belongs to their parents, as we read in Ephesians 6:10, *"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."* But the pastor has a responsibility for instructing all of the church's members. He assists the parents by instructing young people so that they can become adult church members who are able "examine themselves" for the Lord's Supper.

> *Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. Acts 20:28*

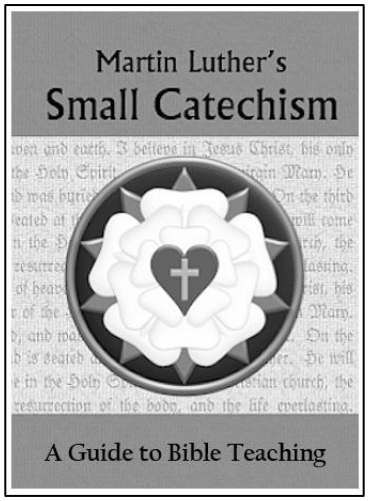
This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. 1 Corinthians 11:28-29

Who should receive Confirmation instruction?

Children who are baptized members of the church should be instructed as they are approaching the age of being an adult. There are no firm rules for how old the children should be. Many churches begin a program of classes when the children are eleven years old. The weekly classes then continue for two (or perhaps 3) years, after which the students are confirmed. In this way they are prepared to participate in the Lord's Supper. Customs may vary, but keep in mind that 1) At the time they are confirmed, the young people should be old enough to understand the teachings of Scripture, and especially to understand the meaning and value of the Lord's Supper; 2) Confirmation should not be delayed too long. The young person who is prepared should not be kept from the Lord's Supper, which is a tremendous blessing.

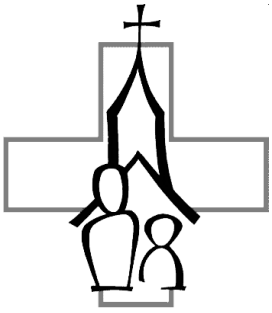
What is Dr. Martin Luther's Small Catechism?



Of course, all of God's truth comes to us in the 66 books of God's inspired Word from the Old and New Testaments. It is very important to make the students familiar with their Bibles, and to give them a love for the lifelong study of God's Word.

The Small Catechism is useful in presenting a brief outline of Bible doctrines. It is known as a "handbook of Christian teaching." After Martin Luther left the Roman Catholic church, many churches also rejected the false teachings of Rome and became Lutheran. As Luther visited these churches, he found that there was widespread ignorance about the Bible's teachings among the church members and even among the clergy. He saw a need for a simple teaching tool that would introduce young people to what the Bible says. Luther knew that if the children understood the Bible's teaching about six different articles of faith, they would have a solid foundation of Scripture knowledge which they could build upon for their whole lives. These six articles faith are:

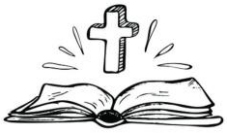
1. The 10 Commandments
2. The Apostles' Creed
3. Holy Baptism
4. The Lord's Supper
5. The Ministry of the Keys and Confession
6. The Lord's Prayer



Luther said that his Small Catechism was "the simple way a father should present it to his household." For more than 500 years Lutheran parents and churches have used this outline to instruct their children, with the aim of giving them a life-long love of reading and studying the Word of God.

The original *Small Catechism* was quite brief – only a few printed pages with simple explanations about the meaning of the six chief parts. Most churches use an expanded version. This is a book which includes questions and answers about the chief parts, along with Bible passages that show the truth of what is being taught. It is best if both the teacher and the students have the same expanded version for class purposes. If your students do not have access to such a book, you should at least provide them with Luther's original, short version. You can then encourage them to take notes in an exercise book as you teach.

What are my teaching goals?



Your most important teaching goal is the same one that the Apostle John had when he wrote his gospel: *"These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." John 20:31* You will accomplish this purpose if your students gain a firm foundation of heartfelt trust in Jesus as their Savior from sin, continue firmly in this faith for their whole lives, and bring forth fruits of faith that will glorify God by their Christian life and witness.

This goal can only be accomplished through the power of the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit does this work through the powerful Word of God.

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." (Romans 10:17)

"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity." (2 Peter 3:18)

Earnestly pray that God will work through you to give your students more and more ***grace*** and ***knowledge*** of the Lord Jesus! Keep these important points in mind when you are preparing and teaching the Confirmation class:

A) True Christian growth in God's Word involves both the *head* and the *heart*.



First, we want the children to learn and remember the ***facts*** about what the Bible teaches – this is ***head*** knowledge. They should be able to correctly answer questions about the Bible doctrine, and they should memorize key Scripture passages and portions of the Small Catechism.



The second part is even more important. We want the ***meaning*** of the Bible's teachings to increase faith and trust in Jesus in the hearts of the children. We want the Good News about full forgiveness of sins through Christ to bring them peace and joy, and we want God's love to lead them to live a holy life, for God's glory. We also want them to be eager to share God's love in Christ with others.

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved." (Romans 10:9-10)

Example 1: when teaching about the 7th Commandment, *"You shall not steal,"*



We want the children to *know*. about the God-pleasing ways that he blesses us with our possessions, the right way to use these blessings, and how to respect the possessions of others. We want them to *know* about the ways that people break this commandment, and that God does not tolerate sin.



We want the children to *recognize* that when they fail to keep the 7th commandment they are sinners in need of a Savior. We want them to *treasure* the good news that Jesus kept this commandment in our place, and died to take away our guilt. With this kind of Savior, the children will see that earthly possessions are blessings from God, to be used for his glory.

Example 2: when teaching about the person of Jesus Christ in the second article of the Apostles' Creed,



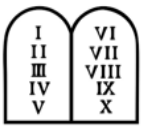
We want the children to *know* that Jesus Christ was and is true God (John 1:1, John 5:23-25, Philippians 2:5-7, etc.). We want them to *know* that this same Jesus was and is true man (John 1:14, 1 Tmothy 2:5, etc.).



We want the children to *treasure* the miracle of how true God became a true man. We want them to find *peace and joy* in the great love of Jesus that led him to leave heaven's glory to become human like us, so that He could live a life of humble obedience and die for us on the cross.

B) True Christian faith means daily repentance for sin and trust in God's forgiving grace, because of Christ.

Your instruction should emphasize the two great teachings of Scripture, both ***Law*** and ***Gospel***. When preparing for your class, ask and answer these questions:



What does this part of the Catechism tell us about the ***Law***? The Law is what God expects from us, and the punishment that comes from breaking His Law. The Law shows us that we are guilty of sin. ***"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God…" Romans 3:23***



What does this part of the Catechism tell us about the ***Gospel***? The Gospel is the good news about what God has given to us in Jesus. By grace He has given us full forgiveness of all our sins and the promise of eternal life. All this is only because of Jesus' death in our place and His resurrection. ***"…and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus," Romans 3:24***

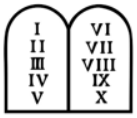


What does this part of the Catechism tell us about ***Fruits*** of faith? Because of God's love to us in Christ, the believer now wants to live a life that pleases God. What does the teaching tell us about the life we should now live as God's children? ***"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5***

Note that certain portions of the Catechism are focused primarily on only one of these topics. For example:

- The 10 Commandments, of course, are all about ***Law***. You can and should, however, regularly remind the students of how Jesus kept each of these commandments perfectly, so that His perfect record of obedience becomes our own. The is the comforting ***Gospel*** which is found behind each of them. *"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that **in him we might become the righteousness of God."** (2 Corinthians 5:21)*
- The Apostles' Creed tells of the great love of God in creating us, redeeming us, and sanctifying us. This is GOSPEL. However, when you are teaching about Jesus' death and resurrection, you can and should remind the students of the reason why Jesus had to go to the cross. It was because of our sins. That is the LAW which is behind the story of Jesus' work for us.

Remember that your most important teaching goal is found in John 20:3, *"These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."* Your students *will* have life in Jesus' name, for their whole lives, when you are careful to instruct them in both God's ***Law*** and his ***Gospel***. When the hearts of your students are struck by their great need for a Savior because of their sins, and the great love of God for them in Jesus' work of redemption, then they will be inspired to bring forth the ***Fruits*** of faith by living a life of service to the Lord. This is the pattern that Jesus gave to his disciples when he said in Luke 24:47 that *"repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations."* The Apostle Paul gave the same pattern to Pastor Titus:



For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.



[4] But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, [5] he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, [6] whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, [7] so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.



[8] The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people. (Titus 3:3-8)

How do I conduct the Confirmation class?

The following instructions are not rigid rules that must be followed. They are offered as good advice. Your particular congregation, parents, and students may make it necessary to adjust the program.

It is very important for you to ***prepare*** for each class with prayer and study of the parts of the catechism, along with the Bible passages for each section. Think carefully about what you want your students to learn and remember from the class. See **"What are my teaching goals?"** above.

For best results, confirmation classes should be held weekly, and at a set time. Sometimes it is convenient for parents if the class is held before or after the Sunday worship service. Perhaps the pastor can teach the confirmation students while members are teaching the younger children in Sunday school.

A good amount of time for the class is 90 minutes. It is helpful for both students and the teacher if there is a short break (about 10 minutes) in the middle. Here is a suggested step-by-step procedure for teaching the class:

1. Open with prayer.
2. Ask the students to recite the memory work which you assigned previously.
3. Review the main ideas from the previous class by asking questions of the students.
4. Open to the current section of the Catechism. There will be questions, answers, and supporting Bible passages. Read the question, then begin to discuss the Bible passages. Explain the meaning of the passages to the students, then ask them questions. Your goal is to lead the students to understand God's Word, and to arrive at the answers to the questions for themselves.
5. Boredom and inattention are your enemies. You can fight them in these ways:
    a. Make it clear that you expect the students to give you their full attention. They should be sitting up straight and not slouched over. The students should have only their class materials, with no distractions such as electronic devices.
    b. Keep eye contact with your students. They will not pay attention if you have your eyes on your book all the time.
    c. Use the questioning method so that the students themselves are participating and arriving at the answers themselves.
    d. Use stories from the Bible or your own experiences to teach the point which is being discussed.
6. As time is ending, make a note of the place in the catechism where you should start next time.
7. Assign memory work for the next class. From the passages discussed that day, select two or three from your Catechism book. If the students have the same book, have them mark the passages to memorize. If they do not have the book, have them write down the memory assignment in their exercise book. ***Be sure to read the passages together and explain the meaning of each one*** so that the students understand what they are memorizing. It is also helpful for students to memorize the parts of the Small Catechism. For example, here is a memory work assignment having to do with the Fifth Commandment:

    * The Fifth Commandment: **You shall not murder.**
      What does this mean? We should fear and love God that we do not hurt nor harm our neighbor's body; but we should help and be a friend to him in every bodily need.

    * Passages: **Genesis 9:6** - "Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed; for in the image of God He made man."
      1 John 3:15 – "Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him."
      Ephesians 4:32 - And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God for Christ's sake also forgave you.

    It is also very helpful for the students to learn, over time, to recite the list of the books of the Bible.

    It can be difficult to lead your students to memorize key Bible passages, but it is worth the effort!

    "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!" (Psalm 119:11-12)

8. Close with prayer. You may wish to close each class with "Luther's Evening Prayer," which you will find in your larger Catechism book. Over time the students will come to know this prayer by heart and can use it as their own evening prayer for years to come.

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When is a student ready to be Confirmed?

Some students are able to memorize well. Others are not. However, a student is not ready to be confirmed simply because he is smart or has answered questions well. It is the pastor's job to evaluate each student to see whether he has these qualifications:

- He has received instruction in the basic teachings of the Bible and is able to show that he has learned these things.
- He can declare his faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior and promise to dedicate himself to live his life as a faithful child of God.
- He can show that he understands the true meaning and value of the Lord's Supper, and that he is able to "examine himself" (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) in preparation for Holy Communion.

If the student meets these goals, then he is ready to be confirmed. If he has not met these goals, more instruction may be necessary.

Sample Confirmation Ceremony

On Confirmation Sunday, the students who are being confirmed come forward, and the pastor says:

Dear Students of God's Word, Our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded You; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." You have been baptized and instructed in the Christian faith according to our Lord's command. Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

1. Do you this day, in the presence of God and of this Christian congregation, affirm the solemn covenant which the Lord made with you at your baptism? If so, then answer "**I do**."
2. Do you, then, renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways? If so, then answer "**I do**."
3. Do you believe in the Triune God of Holy Scriptures, the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit? If so, then answer "**I do**."
4. Do you affirm your faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and do you desire to follow Him in true Christian discipleship? If so, then answer "**I do**."
5. Do you desire to be a communicant member of this Lutheran church, and of our larger church body? If so, then answer "**I do**."
6. Do you accept the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, word for word, as God's Word and the only true rule for faith and life? If so, then answer "**I do**."
7. Are you in agreement with the teachings of this Lutheran Congregation, drawn from the Bible, as you have learned to know them from Luther's Small Catechism? If so, then answer "**I am.**"
8. Do you intend to follow God's Word, to be faithful in the use of the Means of Grace, and in faith, word and action to remain true to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit for as long as you live? If so, then answer, "**I do so intend, by the grace of God.**"

Given this affirmation of your faith and commitment to the Word of God, I invite and welcome you, as members of this Evangelical Lutheran congregation, to share with us all the gifts our Lord has for His Church in a lifetime of worship and service. May the almighty and most merciful God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless and keep you. Amen.

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APPENDIX: CATECHISM EXAMINATION REVIEW

For questioning the students prior to their confirmation. They should be able to recite appropriate Bible passages, from memory, for the topics being discussed.

These questions are adapted from those originally written by Pastor Michael Sydow of the CLC-USA

1. The Catechism
a. What is Luther's Small Catechism?
b. From which book did Luther take the material in the Catechism?
c. What are the Six Chief Parts covered in the Catechism?

2. The Bible
a. What is the Bible?
b. What two major parts is the Bible divided into?
c. In what languages was the Bible written?
d. Who wrote the Bible?

3. The Bible – Inspiration
a. What is the way that God used to give us His word?
b. What does the word "inspiration" mean?
c. Why do we speak of "verbal" inspiration?
d. Are there any mistakes in the Bible? Why or why not?

4. Law and Gospel
a. What are the two main doctrines of the Bible?
b. What is the Law?
c. What is the summary of God's Law called?
d. What is the Gospel?
e. What is the difference between Law and Gospel?

5. First Commandment
a. What is the First Commandment about?
b. Who is the true God?
c. What does "triune" mean?
d. What is the sin against the First Commandment called? (give examples).

6. Second Commandment
a. What is the Second Commandment about?
b. Give some examples of the name of God.
c. In what larger sense do we speak of God's name?
[A: his "good name" – his reputation – everything we know that is true about him]
d. What are some of the ways people misuse God's name?
e. How should we use God's name (Luther's explanation)?

7. Third Commandment
a. What is the Third Commandment about?
b. What does the word "Sabbath" mean?
c. Which day(s) are our Sabbath days? Why?
[A: We have the <u>rest</u> of forgiveness of sins <u>every</u> day]
d. How do people break this commandment?

8. Fourth Commandment
a. How does the Fourth Commandment differ from the first three?
b. What is the Fourth Commandment about?
c. In what areas of our lives do we have parents and superiors?

9. Fifth Commandment
a. What is the Fifth Commandment about?
b. What are some of the ways people break this commandment?
c. What is our time of grace?
[A: It is the time in this life when we can come to faith in Jesus]
d. Why doesn't God want us to murder anyone?

10. Sixth Commandment
a. What does God protect in the Sixth Commandment?
b. What is marriage?
c. What is adultery?
d. What is divorce? What does God say about divorce?

11. Seventh Commandment
a. What does God protect in the Seventh Commandment?
b. From whom do we receive all our possessions?
c. How does God get our property and possessions to us?
d. How are we to use our possessions?

12. Eighth Commandment
a. What does God protect in the Eighth Commandment?
b. What is false witness?
c. How is it possible to tell the truth and still sin against this commandment?

13. 9th and 10th Commandment
a. What is coveting? Give an example.
b. How does the Tenth Commandment differ from the Ninth?
c. How does coveting differ from ordinary desire?

14. Original Sin
a. What is sin?
b. What are the two types of sin?
[A: Things we do which God forbids (commission), and things we <u>fail</u> to do which God commands (omission)]
c. What is original sin?
d. What effect does original sin have on us?

15. Actual Sin
a. What is actual sin?
b. What is the punishment for sin?
c. What is death (physical, spiritual, and eternal)?
d. How is a person saved from sin?

16. First Article – Creation
a. What is a creed?
b. What creed do we study in our Catechism?
c. Who is God the Father?
d. What is His primary work called?
e. What is creation? How did God create everything?

17. Preservation and Protection
a. What does it mean that God preserves us?
b. What are natural means? Example.
c. What does the Father do for our protection?
d. Why does the Father preserve and protect us (Luther's explanation)?
e. What should be our reaction to all God's goodness to us?

18. Second Article – Redemption
a. Who is Jesus Christ?
b. How do we know that Jesus is true GOD?
c. Why did Jesus have to be true God to save us?
d. Why did Jesus have to be true Man to save us?
e. What does our Savior's personal name (Jesus) mean?
f. What does our Savior's official name (Christ) mean?

19. The Offices of Christ
a. What are the offices of Christ?
b. What is a prophet? How is Jesus our Prophet now?
c. What is a priest? How is Jesus our Priest now?
d. How does Christ rule as our King now?
e. What was the primary purpose of Christ's coming?

20. The Work of Christ
a. What is the work of Christ called?
b. What is redemption?
c. Why did Christ redeem the world?
d. What price did Christ pay?
e. Who has been redeemed?
f. Since everyone has been redeemed, why isn't everyone going to heaven?

21. The Humiliation of Christ
a. What is Christ's state of humiliation?
b. What period of Christ's life includes His humiliation?
c. What was the purpose of Christ's humiliation?
d. Why did He have to humble Himself in this way?
e. How did Christ substitute Himself for us to set things right?
f. When did this take place?

22. The Exaltation of Jesus
a. What is the exaltation of Jesus?
b. What is resurrection?
e. What are 3 important things that Jesus' resurrection PROVES to us?
e. What occurred at the ascension of Jesus?
f. What is Christ doing right now?

23. Third Article – The Holy Spirit
a. Who is the Holy Spirit?
c. What is the work of the Holy Spirit called?
d. Why do we need the Holy Spirit to do His work?
e. What does the Spirit use to create faith? (What is the "means of grace"?)

24. Conversion
a. What is conversion?
b. What is regeneration?
c. How are people converted or regenerated?
d. Who receives the credit when a person becomes a believer?
e. Whose fault is it when a person is lost?

25. Fruits of Faith
a. What are "fruits of faith"?
b. What does God consider to be a good work?
c. As Christians, what makes us want to keep God's commandments?
d. Can good works ***save*** anyone? Why do them then?

26. The Holy Christian Church
a What is the Holy Christian Church?
b. Why is the Church called "holy?"
c. Why is the Church called "Christian?"
d. Where can the Holy Christian Church be found?
e. How do we know that the Church is found there?

27. Church Fellowship
a. Compare a local congregation and the Holy Christian Church. How are they alike, or different?
b. What is church fellowship?
[A: everything people do together as spiritual partners: worship, prayer, Lord's Supper, etc.]
c. With whom should one worship?
d. What's the difference between an orthodox and a heterodox church?

28. Religious Unionism
a. What determines which church is the "right" church?
b. What is religious unionism?
[A: To practice fellowship without agreement about the Bible's teachings]
c. What should a person do if he/she discovers false doctrine?
d. To what type of church should a person belong?

29. Justification
a. What does the word justify mean?
b. What is universal justification?
c. What is personal justification?

30. Last Things
a. When is the last day?
b. What's going to happen on the last day?
c. What will be the outcome of the judgment?

31. The Sacraments Baptism
a. What is a sacrament?
b. List four things that the sacraments have in common with each other.
c. Which are the two sacraments?

32. Baptism
a. What does the word baptize mean?
b. What is Baptism?
c. Who is to be baptized?
d. Why do we baptize infants (3 reasons)?

33. The Blessings of Baptism
a. What are the blessings of baptism?
b. What are the old Adam and the new man?
c. How is the old Adam killed and how does the new man come forth?
d. How is your own baptism a great COMFORT? *[See Galatians 3:27]*
e. How is your own baptism a great CHALLENGE? *[See Romans 6:3-4]*

34. The Office of the Keys
a. What are the keys of the kingdom?
b. Who has the power of the keys?
c. What is the difference between a penitent and an impenitent sinner?
d. To whom should we lock heaven? To whom should be unlock heaven?
e. In church life, who normally uses the keys? Why?

35. Church Discipline
a. What is church discipline? What is its purpose?
b. What are the steps of church discipline?

36. Confession and Absolution
a. What is confession?
b. To whom should a person confess his or her sins?
c. What is absolution?

37. Holy Communion
a. What is the Sacrament of Holy Communion?
b. What are the earthly elements?
c. Which church teaches that the bread and wine are <u>changed into</u> the physical body and blood of Christ?
d. Which churches teach that the bread and wine are only <u>symbols</u> of Jesus' body and blood?
e. What is the Bible's teaching about the <u>real presence</u> of Jesus' body and blood with the bread and wine?

38. Holy Communion – Blessings
a. What are the blessings of Holy Communion?
b. What should a person be able to do before coming to the Sacrament?
c. Who should <u>not</u> come to the Sacrament? (4 answers) Why not?

39. Prayer
a. What is prayer?
b. To whom do we pray?
c. Who only can offer a proper prayer? Why?
d. What promise do we have from God when we pray?

40. The Lord's Prayer
a. Where did the Lord's Prayer come from?
b. What are the three sections of the Lord's Prayer?

41. Lord's Prayer Summaries
Explain the meaning for each petition:

- **"Our Father in heaven"** – *[A: Through Christ we come to you in confidence, as Your dear children.]*
- **"Hallowed be Your name"** – *[A: Let Your true identity from Your Word shine IN us and THROUGH us.]*
- **"Your kingdom come"** – *[A: Rule in our hearts and throughout the world, and come quickly in glory!]*
- **"Your will be done on earth as in heaven"** – *[A: What YOU want is what WE want (not the will of the devil, the world, or our sinful flesh).]*
- **"Give us today our daily bread"** – *[A: Provide for all our needs, and make us content.]*
- **"And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us"** – *[A: Free us from our sins and move us to forgive.]*
- **"And lead us not into temptation"** – *[A: Keep us from falling into sin and give us strength to overcome.]*
- **"But deliver us from evil"** – *[A: Defeat the devil's purposes and lead us to heaven.]*
- **"For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours Now and forever"** – *[A: You can do all these things – we praise you for it!]*
- **"AMEN"** – Yes, it shall be so!

