

The Lutheran Catechism

A Handbook of Christian Teaching

A “catechism” is a brief summary of the essential teachings of the Bible. This Catechism serves as a “user's guide” or “road map” to the Holy Scriptures. It is not a substitute for the Bible, but a summary of what the Bible teaches. The Catechism keeps us focused on the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. It clearly and concisely summarizes what every Christian needs to know for his or her salvation. It is both a prayer book for the daily life of the Christian and a textbook for how the head of the family is to teach his or her household the Christian faith (Deuteronomy 6.4-9; Luke 24.45-47).

Martin Luther, the leader of the Protestant Reformation, wrote the first Lutheran Catechism in 1529. It was intended to teach uneducated parents the basics of the Christian faith so that they could teach their children. The Catechism is still widely used today as a basic teaching tool of the Christian faith. Because of its compactness, it can easily be memorized, discussed around the family table, and prayed devotionally in the home.

Table of Contents

The Ten Commandments
The Apostles' Creed
The Lord's Prayer
Holy Baptism
Confession and Absolution
The Lord's Supper
Table of Christian Duties

The teaching of the Bible
The teaching of Law and Gospel
The teaching of God
The teaching of Jesus
The teaching of the Holy Spirit
The teaching of creation
The teaching of marriage
The teaching of sin
The teaching of justification
The teaching of sanctification
The teaching of prayer

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

What are the commandments?
The Ten Commandments are a summary of God's holy will (see Exodus 20.1-21; Deuteronomy 5.1-21). God's holy will is summarized in Romans 13.10 with the word love: "Love is the fulfillment of the Law." The Ten Commandments are not simply a list of things to do or not to do, nor are they merely "biblical principles" to live by. Rather, the commandments describe the perfect relationship between God, us, and our neighbor, and they prescribe the actions and attitudes that God expects all people to have toward Him and their neighbor.

Commandment One -- (The Gift of God)
You will have no other gods before me.

What does this mean?
I will fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

The Bible references given in each section may point to an entire story or offer a complete teaching in one verse. Always read the context of a Bible reference to get a complete understanding.

---

1 Kings 18.18, Luke 16.19, Genesis 22, 1 Samuel 17.37, Matthew 6.24, Matthew 22.37

Commandment Two -- (The Gift of Worship)
You will not make for yourself an idol of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath, or in the waters below. You will not bow down to them or worship them.

What does this mean?
I will fear and love God, so that I do not worship God's creation instead of him, but thank him for all of his good gifts and serve him in truth and purity.

> Exodus 32, Acts 19.24, Psalm 115, Daniel 3, Isaiah 46, Romans 1.18-32

Commandment Three -- (The Gift of God's Name)
You will not take the name of Yahweh your God in vain.

What does this mean?
I will fear and love God, so that I do not use his name to curse, swear, practice magic, lie or deceive using God's name, but instead use that very name in every time of need to call on, pray to, praise, and give thanks to God.

> Psalm 116, 1 Samuel 17.43, Romans 1.9, Exodus 7 & 8, 1 Samuel 28, Luke 17.11

Commandment Four -- (The Gift of God's Rest)
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you will labor and do all your work but the seventh day is a Sabbath to Yahweh your God.

What does this mean?
I will fear and love God, so that I will properly manage my days, honor God's Word and gladly hear and learn it.

> Genesis 2.2, Ezekiel 20.12, Acts 20.7, Luke 13.14, Luke 2.41, Acts 17.11

Commandment Five -- (The Gift of Authority)
Honor your father and your mother that your days may be lengthened in the land that Yahweh is giving you.

What does this mean?
I will fear and love God, so that I will neither despise nor anger my parents and others in authority, but instead honor, serve, obey, love, and respect them.

> Genesis 18.19, 2 Samuel 15, Genesis 47.11-12, Luke 2.51, 1 Samuel 20, Romans 13, Ephesians 6.1-9

Commandment Six -- (The Gift of Life)
You will not murder.

What does this mean?
I will fear and love God, so that I will neither endanger nor harm the lives of my neighbors but instead help and support in all of life's needs.

> Genesis 4.8, 9.6, 2 Samuel 11.15, Matthew 27.5, Genesis 37.23, Psalm 139, Acts 7.54, Luke 10.33, Matthew 5.21

Commandment Seven -- (The Gift of Marriage)
You will not commit adultery.

What does this mean?
I will fear and love God, so that I will lead a pure and decent life in words and actions, helping everyone to love and honor his wife or her husband.

> Genesis 2.18, 2 Samuel 11, Genesis 39, Matthew 19.1-12, Hebrews 13.4, 1 Corinthians 7.3-5

Commandment Eight -- (The Gift of Possessions)
You will not steal.

What does this mean?
I will fear and love God, so that I will not take my neighbor's money or property, nor acquire them by using shoddy merchandise or crooked deals, but instead help them to improve and protect their property and income.

> Joshua 7.20, John 12.6, 2 Kings 5.20, Genesis 14.12, Luke 19.8, 1 John 3.17

Commandment Nine -- (The Gift of Truth)
You will not bear false witness against your neighbor.

What does this mean?
I will fear and love God, so that I will not tell lies about my neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead, I will come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret positively all that they do.

> Matthew 26.59, 1 Kings 21.13, 2 Kings 5.22, Matthew 26.14, 2 Samuel 15, Luke 7.4, Ephesians 4.25, Proverbs 19.5, 31.8-9

Commandment Ten -- (The Gift of Contentment)
You will not covet your neighbor's house, husband or wife, manservant or maidservant, ox or donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

What does this mean?
I will love and fear God, so that I will not seek by craftiness to gain possession of my neighbor's inheritance or home, nor to obtain anything under pretext of legal right. Instead, I will be of service and help to my neighbors so that they may keep what is theirs and encourage all to remain and faithfully perform their responsibilities.

> 1 Kings 21, 2 Samuel 11.2, 2 Samuel 15, Philemon

What is the summary of the Commandments?
Jesus said, "You will love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You will love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." This is written in Matthew 22.37-40. Romans 13.10 also says, "Love is the fulfillment of the Law."

Are there any other commandments?
Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." This is written in John 13.34-35.

What does this mean?
We should love and trust in God and gladly do what He commands. We ought to owe no one anything, except to love each other (Romans 13.8), for the person who loves another has fulfilled the law. Christian love comes from a pure heart, with a sincere faith, having a good conscience.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?
I believe that God has created me and all that exists; that he has given me and still sustains my body and soul, all my limbs and senses, my reason and my feelings, together with food and clothing, house and home, family and property. He also provides me daily and abundantly with all I need, protects me from all danger, and preserves me from all evil. All this he does out of his pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness on my part. For all of this it is my duty to thank, praise, serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.

> Romans 8.15, Ephesians 4.6, Daniel 6.26-27, Genesis 1, 2, 9, Revelation 1.8, Psalm 104

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?
I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with silver and gold but with his holy and precious blood and with his innocent sufferings and death. He has done all this in order that I may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

> John 1, 3.16-17, Luke 1.35, Matthew 27, 1 Corinthians 15, Luke 24, Acts 1, Ephesians 1.20

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?
I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church he daily and abundantly forgives all my sins, and the sins of all believers, and on the last day he will raise me and all the dead and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

> John 15.26, Acts 2.38, 5.3-4, Ephesians 5.25-27, Acts 20.28, 1 Corinthians 10.16-17, John 20.22-23, Romans 6.5-8, 1 Corinthians 15.42, Matthew 25.46, Romans 6.23, Revelation 21

THE LORD'S PRAYER

What is the Lord's Prayer?
Jesus said, "When you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."
(Matthew 6.7-13)

Our Father in heaven.

What does this mean?
With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that we may ask him boldly and with complete confidence as loving children ask their loving father.

Romans 8.15, 1 John 3.1

Hallowed be your name.

What does this mean?
God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this prayer we may keep it holy.

How is this done?
God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

Exodus 20.7, Psalm 105.1-5, Matthew 28.19, John 17.11

Your kingdom come.

What does this mean?
God's kingdom certainly comes without our prayer, but we pray that it may also come to us.

How is this done?
God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us his Holy Spirit so that by his grace we believe his holy Word and live a holy life.

Mark 1.15, Luke 12.32, John 18.36, Romans 14.17

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean?
God's good and gracious will is certainly done without our prayer, but we pray that it may also be done among us.

How is this done?
God's will is done when he hinders and defeats every evil scheme and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh which would prevent us from keeping his name holy and which would oppose the coming of his kingdom. His will is also done when he strengthens us and keeps us steadfast in his Word and in faith until we die. This is his good and gracious will.

John 5.30, 1 Thessalonians 4.3, Mark 3.34-35, Matthew 26.39

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean?
God certainly gives daily bread without our prayer, even to all evil people, but we pray that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread?
Daily bread includes everything needed for this life, such as food and clothing, home and property; a faithful husband or wife, devoted children, honest workers, upright and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, decency, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

Proverbs 30.8-9, Psalm 145, Matthew 4.4, 5.45, John 6.35, 51

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

What does this mean?
We pray that our heavenly Father would not look upon our sins or deny our prayers because of them. We are neither worthy of the things we pray for nor do we deserve them, but we ask that God would give us all good things by his grace even though we sin daily and deserve nothing but punishment. So also, we will, with an open heart forgive and cheerfully do good to those who may sin against us.

Proverbs 28.13, Psalm 130.3-4, Matthew 6.14-15, Mark 11.25, 1 John 1.9, Matthew 18.21-22, Ephesians 4.32

Lead us not into temptation.

What does this mean?
God tempts no one, but we pray that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or lead us into unbelief, despair, and other great and shameful sins. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we would finally overcome them and gain the victory.

James 1.13-14, 1 Peter 5.8-9, Genesis 3.1-7,
1 Corinthians 10.12-13

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean?
We pray, as in a summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body or soul, property or reputation, and finally, when the hour of death comes, he may grant us a blessed end and graciously bring us to our resurrected and joyful new life.

Psalm 121.7-8, Luke 2.29-30, 2 Corinthians 12.9,
2 Timothy 4.18

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

What is baptism?
Baptism is water applied to the person with the words, "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Therefore, baptism is not just plain water, but it is water enclosed in God's command and connected with God's Word.

What is this Word of God?
As recorded in Matthew 28.19, Jesus Christ said, "Having gone, therefore, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

What gifts or benefits does Baptism give?
Baptism works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare in Acts 2.38, 22.16, Romans 6.3-4, Titus 3.5, and John 3.5.

How can water do such great things?
Clearly the water does not do these things but the Word of God in and with the water, and faith which trusts this Word of God in the water. For without God's Word the water is plain water and no Baptism, but with the Word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, abundant in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit.

What does such baptizing with water mean for daily life?
It means that the Old Adam in us should by daily sorrow and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

What is Confession?
Confession is when we admit to God that we are guilty of all our sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we only confess those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

1 John 1.8-10, Psalm 32, 51, Romans 6.11-14

What sins should we confess?
Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or actions? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

Psalm 19.7-14, Matthew 18.15-18, Exodus 20

What is Absolution?
Absolution is forgiveness given to repentant sinners and is spoken by the pastor or fellow brother or sister in Christ as if from God Himself, as Jesus says in John 20.22-23, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." Therefore we receive absolution as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

Matthew 9.6, James 5.16, 2 Samuel 12

THE LORD'S SUPPER

What is the Lord's Supper?
It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in and with the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Where is this written?
Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." (1 Corinthians 11.23-26; Matthew 26.26-29; Mark 14.22-26; Luke 22.14-23)

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?
The words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?
Eating and drinking does not do these things, but the words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words, along with the physical eating and drinking, are the Lord's Supper. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."

Who receives this sacrament worthily?
A person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require truly believing hearts. (See 1 Corinthians 11.27-29)

How may I prepare to receive this sacrament?
The pastor or a person may ask and answer these questions:

1. Do you believe that you are a sinner?

Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.

2. Are you sorry for your sins?

Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

3. Do you hope to be saved?

Yes, that is my hope.

4. In whom then do you trust?

In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.

5. Do you believe that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?

Yes, I believe it.

6. What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood?

We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: "This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

7. Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?

That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.

TABLE OF CHRISTIAN DUTIES

There are many vocations given to men and women and the Word of God admonishes them to be filled in proper, honorable and holy ways.

Pastors and Preachers
1 Timothy 3.2; Titus 1.9

What We Owe to Our Pastors and Teachers
Galatians 6.6, 1 Corinthians 9.14, 1 Timothy 5.17, Hebrews 13.17

Government
Romans 13.1-7

Husbands and Wives
1 Peter 3.7, Colossians 3.19; 1 Peter 3.1-6, Ephesians 6.22-24

Parents and Children
Ephesians 6.4, Colossians 3.21; Ephesians 6.1-3

Employees and Employers
Ephesians 6.5-8; Ephesians 6.9

Young People
1 Timothy 4.12, 1 Peter 5.5

Widows
1 Timothy 5.5

A Word for All
Jesus says, "You will love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment. The second is this: You will love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12.29)

And continue praying for everyone. (1 Timothy 2.1-4)

THE BIBLE

What is the Bible?
The Bible is the word of God which was given by God and written down by different men at different times and in different places.

John 1.1, 3.34, 2 Timothy 3.16, Hebrews 1.1-2, 2 Peter 1.20-21

What is the purpose of the Bible?
The word of God is given so that people may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God and that by believing they may have eternal life.

John 20.31, Romans 10.17

How is the Bible to be read?
The Bible is true, eternal, and without error. Therefore we should hear and read the Bible trusting every word, relying on every promise and transformed by every command and admonition.

John 6.36, 10.35, 17.17, Psalm 19.7, 119.105, Proverbs 30.5, Isaiah 40.8, Jeremiah 30.2, 1 Corinthians 2.13

How is the Bible to be used?
The Bible is to be used first to communicate the Gospel of Jesus. It is also profitable for reproof, correction, training in righteousness, comfort, memorization, and meditation.

2 Timothy 3.16-17, Romans 15.4, Psalm 119.9-16

THE TEACHING OF LAW AND GOSPEL

How is the Bible correctly divided?
The Bible is divided into two parts, the Old and the New Testament. It is also divided by the two fundamental teachings of Law and Gospel. Both the Old and the New Testament point us to Christ Jesus. The Law shows us our sin and the Gospel shows us our Savior.

Romans 1.16, 7.7

What is the Law?
The Law has three functions; it restricts unruly and disobedient behavior, it leads us to know our sin, it gives us a pattern to regulate our life.

Romans 13.1-7, Mark 1.15, 3.23, Psalm 119

What is the Gospel?
The Gospel has three functions; it witnesses to Jesus Christ, it gives forgiveness to us; it creates the faith which accepts the promises of Jesus.

Mark 1.15, Acts 13.38, John 6.63, 20.22, Romans 1.16, 10.17, Hebrews 4.2,

THE TEACHING OF GOD

Who is God?
God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit; yet God is not three gods but one. He is Creator, Redeemer and Comforter; he is three persons in one God. He was, is, and is to come.

> Matthew 28.19, Exodus 3.14, Deuteronomy 6.4, Isaiah 45.5, Revelation 1.8, Genesis 1, Matthew 3.13, 28.19

How can I know God?
God is revealed in creation, through our conscience, and in his Word; therefore everyone knows God and is accountable to him.

> Romans 1.19-20, 2.15, 1 Corinthians 2.7-11

What is God like?
God is spirit and love. He fills all creation. He is eternal and all knowing. He is wise, loving, faithful, merciful, and holy.

> Jeremiah 10.10, 23.24, Psalm 90.2, 139.1-4, Isaiah 6.3, Romans 11.33, 1 John 4.8.

THE TEACHING OF JESUS

Who is Jesus?
Jesus is God the Son. He was, is, and is to come. Jesus is also man, born of Mary. He lived, died, rose from the dead, and ascended into heaven.

> John 1.1-3, 1 Timothy 2.5, Luke 24.39

Where is Jesus?
Jesus is here with us in his word, in his body and blood, and in his church. He is in heaven at the throne of God and he is coming again in glory.

> John 1, Luke 22.19, Ephesians 1.20, Romans 8.24, Acts 1.11, Matthew 25, Revelation 22.22

What did Jesus do?
Jesus came to earth as a man to fulfill God's Law for us, because we could not, and he died for our sin, because we needed someone to take our punishment for us, and he rose from the dead, so that we also might have eternal life.

> 1 Peter 1.18, 2.24, John 1.29, 3.16, Philippians 2.5, Romans 5.19, John 11.25, 14.19, 1 Corinthians 15.20

THE TEACHING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Who is the Holy Spirit?
The Holy Spirit is a distinct person of God, who along with the Father and his Son, is eternal, all powerful, and always present.

Acts 5.3-4, 1 Corinthians 3.16

Where is the Holy Spirit?
The Holy Spirit is given and received through faith. He proceeds from the Father and is given by Jesus.

Matthew 10.20, Galatians 4.6, John 15.26, John 20.22

What does the Holy Spirit do?
The Spirit recreates us through the washing of regeneration and renewal of Baptism. The Spirit is a witness to Jesus and a guarantee of the promises we have in Jesus.

Titus 3.5, 2 Corinthians 1.22, 5.5

THE TEACHING OF CREATION

What happened in the beginning?
In the beginning God created everything; heaven and earth, things seen and unseen. There was nothing which existed before God.

Colossians 1.16-17, Genesis 1, 2, John 1.1, Psalm 8, 104

How did God create?
God spoke and it came to be. The word of God creates reality both in heaven and on earth.

Genesis 1, 2, John 1:1, Psalm 33

How long did it take God to create everything?
God created everything in six days and rested on the seventh day.

Genesis 1, 2, Exodus 20.11, 31.17

What was the most special part of the creation?
Man and woman were uniquely created in the image of God, given dominion over the earth and commanded to be fruitful and multiply.

Genesis 1, 2

Will everything last forever?
God has promised to make a new heaven and a new earth where his children will live with him forever in light and joy.

Revelation 21.1, 22.1-5, Isaiah 65.17-25, 66.22

THE TEACHING OF MARRIAGE

What is marriage?
Marriage is the joining together of one man and woman to be one flesh.

Genesis 2.24, Matthew 19.3-6, 1 Corinthians 6.16

Why should there be marriage?
Man and woman should be married because it is not good for man to be alone and because it is God's will that we produce Godly offspring. Marriage is also a picture of God and his church and love should grow in marriage as Christ has loved his church and given himself up for her.

Genesis 2.18, Psalm 127, 128, Malachi 2.15,
1 Corinthians 7.1-5, Ephesians 5.25-32, Hosea,
Song of Solomon

THE TEACHING OF SIN

What is sin?
Sin is breaking the Law of God.

Isaiah 59.2

What is the punishment for breaking the law of God?
The punishment is death.

Romans 6.23, 5.12, Genesis 3

Who sins?
Everyone is a sinner because they have inherited sinfulness and because they have committed sins.

Romans 3.23, Psalm 51.5, Ephesians 2.3, Isaiah 64.6, Romans 7

Is there any hope for sinners?
Yes! Our hope is in Jesus, the Christ, to whom we have been united through baptism, in whom we have forgiveness, and by whom we will be saved.

Romans 6

THE TEACHING OF SANCTIFICATION

What is sanctification?
Sanctification is when God sets something or someone apart for a holy purpose.

Genesis 2.3, Exodus 19.4-6, 1 Thessalonians 4.7

Does God have a holy purpose for me?
Yes! God has called you to be his own and to proclaim his Gospel.

1 Peter 2.9, 1 Corinthians 6.11

What does sanctification look like in my life?
The holy work of God looks like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. In summary, it is Christ living in you.

Galatians 2.20, 5.22, 2 Timothy 2.22-26

THE TEACHING OF JUSTIFICATION

What is justification?
Justification is when God has declared us legally righteous and innocent of sin because the work of Jesus has been imputed to us.

Romans 5.8-9, 4.25

How are we justified?
God justifies a person through Christ our Lord by having Christ take our place and our punishment so that we might be seen as innocent.

2 Corinthians 5.19, John 3.16

Who is justified?
Everyone who believes in Christ is justified by grace as a gift through faith.

2 Corinthians 5.17, Ephesians 2.8-9, Romans 3.21-30, John 3.16

THE TEACHING OF PRAYER

What is prayer?
Prayer is conversation with our Father in heaven where we both speak and listen as well as offer praise and petition.

Matthew 6.9-13, Mark 11.24, Psalm 28

What does God say about prayer?
God says our prayers should be simple and humble, may be persistent, and are to be offered with thanksgiving. God also promises to hear and answer our prayers.

Luke 18.1-14, 11.5, Hebrews 13.15, John 6.11,
2 Chronicles 7.14, Psalm 50.14-15, James 5.16

How should we pray?
We are to pray to our heavenly Father in the name of Jesus. We may pray with other believers and we should pray in private.

John 16.23, Acts 2.42, 4.24, 12.5, Matthew 6.5

HOW THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY SHOULD TEACH HIS HOUSEHOLD TO PRAY

Morning Prayer

In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the cross and say, In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Then, kneeling or standing, say this prayer:

> I thank you my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. And I pray that you would keep me this day also, from sin and every evil, that all my doings in life would please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me that Satan would have no power over me. Amen.

Now you should go to your work joyfully.

Evening Prayer

In the evening when you go to bed make the sign of the cross and say, In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Then, kneeling or standing, say this prayer:

> I thank you my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. And I pray that you would forgive me all my sins and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me that Satan would have no power over me. Amen.

Now you should sleep in peace.