

*"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children and shall talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." Deuteronomy 6:6-7*

# *Family Catechism*

*May 2013*

*New Life Christian Center | [www.nlccministry.org](http://www.nlccministry.org)*

---

## Catechism Introduction

### A Catechism? (Adopted from a teaching by Pastor John Piper)

#### I. What is a catechism?

*In 1 Corinthians 14:19 Paul says, "In the church I would rather speak five words with my mind, in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue." In Galatians 6:6 he says, "Let him who is taught the word share all good things with him who teaches." Acts 18:25 says that Apollos "has been instructed in the way of the Lord."*

*In each of these verses the Greek word for "instruct" or "teach" is katecheo. From this word we get our English word "catechize". It simply means to teach Biblical truth in an orderly way. Generally this is done with questions and answers accompanied by Biblical support and explanation.*

#### II. The history of these catechisms

*These catechisms come from the Baptist tradition. Although CRCC is non-denominational, these catechisms can serve as a solid foundation for our families. We may add a few elements to it as catechism becomes more ingrained in the culture of our church.*

#### III. Is there a Biblical pattern of doctrine?

*Several texts teach that there is. For example, in Romans 6:17 Paul gives thanks that "you have become obedient from the heart to the pattern of teaching to which you were committed." 2 Timothy 1:13 says, "Follow the pattern of sound words which you heard from me." Acts 2:42 says, "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching." 2 Thessalonians 2:15 says, "Stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught by us." And Acts 20:27 says, "I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God."*

*So it appears that there was a body of authoritative instruction and even a way of teaching it in the early church.*

#### IV. Why is it important?

- 1) *We are required to "continue in the faith, stable and steadfast" (Col. 1:23).*
- 2) *We are urged to "attain to the unity of the... knowledge of the of the Son of God...so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about by every wind of doctrine" (Eph. 4:13-14).*
- 3) *There are many deceivers (1 John 2:26).*
- 4) *There are difficult doctrines "which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction" (2 Peter 3:16).*
- 5) *Leaders must be raised up who can "give instruction in sound doctrine and also confute those who contradict it" (Titus 1:9).*
- 6) *We are commanded to teach and disciple our children (Deuteronomy 6, Ephesians 6).*

#### V. How shall we begin?

*We are asking every family or small group within NLCC (especially fathers) to hold weekly worship and family/group bible study using catechism lessons provided by the church.*

*We are also asking that Wednesday be your designated worship and family or group bible study day. If Wednesday doesn't work for your family or group, feel free to choose another day. Our goal is to learn and grow as a family through biblical teaching.*

*Let's get excited about building a "stable and firm" generation who knows and serves Christ!*

## Other Information

*Sometimes there are other ways to express a true answer to these questions. Feel free to use scripture to formulate other true answers where possible and helpful. The aim of a catechism is not to be exhaustive but to give a solid foundation from which to "keep growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:17). The biblical basis for family and group bible study is Deuteronomy 6:1-8.*

## How To Study

*Each catechism lesson will be studied for the entire month. The lesson will include a number of questions with biblical answers. Each question will have corresponding scriptures for biblical reference. Each question will also have discussion questions, geared to help your family have great discussions about the truth that was learned. We hope that you all will take the time to write down responses and questions for further study.*

*The Children Catechism is very similar to the family lesson, in that it is based off of the same questions. However, the questions and the answers are written in such a way that children can understand and memorize. Remember to allow your children to ask questions and give input in discussion. You may be surprised what revelation God may reveal to your child.*

*With every answer, try to commit them to memory. The scripture says Psalms 119:11 "Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee." Scripture memory is important, because it helps the believer gain knowledge and revelation of the scripture. Also, memorizing the scripture proves to be beneficial when in hard times in life. Bringing back to mind a scripture and a truth from the word of God will help you gain victory from every storm of your life.*

*Make sure that you start and end each lesson that you have with a word of prayer. Pray to the Father that He would bless you and your family to understand the word of God, and that revelation would flow from heaven. At the end of the lesson, make sure to pray that the seed of the Word of God is not stolen or destroyed from the enemy. The scripture says John 10:10 "The thief (satan) comes only to steal and kill and destroy." The enemy seeks to destroy the seed of the word that was planted during your time of devotions. Lastly, in your closing prayer, pray that the seed of the word will fall on good ground. Remember, the enemy comes to destroy and steal the word. Read for yourself Mark 4:1-20 to see the desire of the enemy. Pray that this does not happen to your family.*

*Lastly, challenge yourself! Everyone likes a good challenge every now and again. Challenge yourself and your family to memorize the scriptures. Create ways in which to remember the answers to the questions. Develop games and family challenges to bring the word of God to life. Having this foundation of the Word of God in our life is essential to the disciple of Jesus Christ (John 8:31-32).*

*Our prayer is that you will have the tools you need to succeed. If you ever need assistance at any time, check out the resource page on our church website at [www.nlccministry.org](http://www.nlccministry.org), or write down questions and ask questions to your caretaker leader or church leader. Don't be afraid to ask questions if you don't know. Furthermore, if you don't know do not give answers you don't know. Let your family know 'I don't know, but I will study and find out.' As the lessons go along, you will begin to develop more understanding and revelation from the Word. Further enabling you to better teach and disciple your family.*

*You Ready?!? Let's Begin our journey in the word of God.*

## Family Catechism Lesson 4: Man

### 1. What is the origin of man?

*Answer: God created Adam and Eve, and from them all men have become descendants.*

*Scriptural Reference: Genesis 1:27, 2:7, 18-25*

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1) Search the 'Big Boom Theory'. Discuss why many hold on to this belief instead of the Word of God.
- 2) Eve was considered what to Adam?

### 2. What sort of character did Adam and Eve possess?

*Answer: Both Adam and Eve were made in the image of God, and were sinless.*

*Scriptural Reference: Genesis 1:27*

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1) Being descendants of Adam and Eve, does this mean we are made in the image of God?
- 2) What role does sin play in our character? What is the correlation between sin and our future?

### 3. Who tempted Eve to sin against God?

*Answer: Eve was tempted by the devil, or Satan. The chief of all fallen angels or demons.*

*Scriptural Reference: Genesis 3:1-3*

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1) Was Satan a red man with horns? Explain Satan's appearance in the garden.

### 4. What was the beginning of Eve's sin?

*Answer: The beginning of Eve's sin was that she believed Satan rather than God.*

*Scriptural Reference: Genesis 3:4-5*

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1) Why is it wrong to listen to Satan?
- 2) What could Eve have done in this instance?

### 5. What was the first sign that Adam and Eve had fallen to sin?

*Answer: Adam and Eve showed that they had become sinful by trying to hide from God.*

*Scriptural Reference: Genesis 3:8*

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1) Give reasons why "hiding" was the first recourse for Adam and Eve.
- 2) After reading about the deception of Satan in the garden, what can we say is his main goal in the life of the believer?

### 6. How did God punish their disobedience?

*Answer: God condemned Adam and Eve to death, physical, spiritual and eternal.*

*Scriptural Reference: Genesis 2:17, Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:1*

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1) Can we expect the same punishment from God from sin today?
- 2) Often grace is explained incorrectly as a pass to sin. Explain grace when it comes to disobedience.

### 7. How did Adam and Eve's sin affect their descendants?

*Answer: All human beings are sinful and guilty in God's sight.*

*Scriptural Reference: Romans 5:12*

#### Discussion Questions:

1) What or who, is the only remedy for such an accursed people?

### 8. Can human beings be saved from sin through their own merits?

*Answer: No; the second Adam, the Son of God, is the only Savior of sinners.*

*Scriptural Reference: Acts 4:12, Genesis 3:15*

#### Discussion Questions:

1) Who does this speak of?

2) Why is our savior given the name 'the second Adam'?

### 9. Was man to be idle in the Garden of Eden?

*Answer: No, man was to keep the garden and to have dominion over the animals.*

*Scriptural Reference: Genesis 2:15, 1:26*

#### Discussion Questions:

1) What does say about the blessings that God has given us and how was should care for it?

2) Explain dominion? How does it affect us today?

### 10. What does the New Testament reveal that corresponds to the effect of Adam's sin?

*Answer: The benefits of Christ's salvation for His people correspond to the effects of Adam's sin.*

*Scriptural Reference: Romans 5:12-19*

#### Discussion Questions:

1) Who is the second 'one-man' in this scripture referring to?

2) So does this mean that all sin is abolished and done with through the savior's sacrifice?

## *Children Catechism Lesson 4: Man*

### **1. Where did man come from?**

Answer: God created Adam and Eve. We are their descendants.

### **2. How did Adam and Eve act?**

Answer: Adam and Eve were created without sin and with Godly character.

### **3. Who tempted Eve?**

Answer: Satan tempted Eve in the Garden of Eden.

### **4. How did Eve sin?**

Answer: Eve believed Satan rather than God.

### **5. What were the signs that Adam and Eve sinned?**

Answer: They tried to hide from God. They also blamed each other.

### **6. What was Adam and Eve's punishment for their sin?**

Answer: God condemned them to physical, spiritual and eternal death.

### **7. How does Adam and Eve's sin affect us today?**

Answer: We are born into sin and in need of salvation.

### **8. Can we be saved from sin from simply being good people?**

Answer: No, Jesus is the only savior for sinners.

### **9. What was Adam and Eve's job in the garden?**

Answer: They were to keep the garden and have dominion over the animals.

### **10. What does the New Testament say about Adam's sin?**

Answer: That his sin brought death to all, but Jesus's sacrifice brought life to all.