

IX. Catechism for Young Children

In 2019-20, we are working through the Catechism for Young Children, a Reformed question-and-answer aid that was written as an introduction to the Westminster Shorter Catechism. (At a few points throughout the catechism the wording is amended to reflect Sun Valley Church’s theological commitments.) The practice of catechesis is a rich blessing that spans centuries of Church History, and we hope that as you spend some time with your children covering just three questions every two weeks, God will deepen your family’s love for Who He is and what He’s done in Christ! For a helpful article by Tim Keller on the importance of catechism, please visit: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/why-catechesis-now/>

Q82: What is the second commandment?

**A82: The second commandment is, “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments.”**

*Exodus 20:4-6*

Q83: What does the second commandment teach us?

**A83: To reverence God’s Name, Word, and works.**

Q84: What is the third commandment?

**A84: The third commandment is, “You shall not take the Name of the LORD you God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His Name in vain.”** *Exodus 20:7*

X. Family Prayer

XI. Singing the Doxology

*Each week in Sunday Seminars, your children are sent home with a parent handout that walks through the main ideas from the Bible lesson. At some point in family worship, or perhaps around the dinner table, it would be a good idea to spend a few minutes talking with your kids about the truths they have learned, in the spirit of Deuteronomy 6:4-9.*



Throughout Scripture, we see God’s chosen people leading their families in worship. Abraham led his children in the LORD (*Gen 18:17-19*), Joshua vowed to lead his family in worship (*Josh 24:15*), and we see Job do the same (*Job 1:5*). Family worship is also a command of God given in Deuteronomy 6:4-7 and Ephesians 6:4. Family worship is simple, with three elements: (1) read the Bible, (2) pray, and (3) sing to God. Our family worship liturgies are intended more as a toolbox than a tightrope – as a help rather than a hindrance. Select elements that will be helpful as you lead your family in simple Bible reading, prayer, and singing to God for 10 minutes or so each day. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

I. Call to Worship

“Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down on the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron,  
running down on the collar of his robes!

It is like the dew of Hermon,  
which falls on the mountains of Zion!

For there the LORD has commanded the blessing,  
life forevermore.”

Psalm 133

II. Prayers of Adoration

### III. Song of Adoration

### IV. God's Law (also this week's Fighter Verse)

“Go and learn what this means, “I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.” For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.” Matthew 9:13

### V. Confession of Sin

When you confess sin together as individuals and as a family, here are some different ways you could come before God:

- Someone can lead in a prayer of confession while others reflect that prayer in their hearts.
- With a few moments of silence, each person can pray in his or her heart secretly to God.
- Everyone can take turns, as they feel comfortable, confessing sin out loud. This helps us come before God in common as sinners in need of His mercy.

Or here is a corporate confession of prayer that those who are willing could pray out loud together:

Lord, You look at our hearts and see us in our inward selves with perfect knowledge. We confess before You and each other that while You have called us to love You with our whole hearts, we have oftentimes put on a show of godliness while harboring ungodly thoughts, attitudes, and desires. Please forgive us for the weak love with which we have lived in this world. Help us to depend on You and chase after righteousness, holiness, and true love as we partner together for the Gospel—in our home, in our church, and for the sake of the lost throughout the world. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

### VI. Gospel Promise

“And I am sure of this, that He Who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” Philippians 1:6

### VII. Song of Rejoicing: “All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name”

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' Name  
Let angels prostrate fall  
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all  
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race  
Ye ransomed from the Fall\_  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace and crown Him Lord of all  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace and crown Him Lord of all

Let every kindred, every tribe  
On this terrestrial ball  
To Him all majesty ascribe and crown Him Lord of all  
To Him all majesty ascribe and crown Him Lord of all

O, that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall  
We'll join the everlasting song and crown Him Lord of all  
We'll join the everlasting song and crown Him Lord of all

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### VIII. Bible Reading (up to one chapter/day is a good guide)