



Calvary
Baptist Church

For the week of:
02/17/25

Home Worship Guide

New City Catechism

Question 21: What sort of
Redeemer is needed to bring us
back to God?

One who is truly human and also
truly God.

WELCOME

Why should we do a family devotional?

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” - Deuteronomy 6:4-8

As long as there have been a “people of God,” the command given to them has always been that they would be instructing their children in the way of the Lord. It is expected that parents will be teaching their children.

But teaching children is more than simply giving rules. It involves showing them HOW to obey the Lord by doing it yourself! These family devotionals are meant to equip you as an individual to grow in your understanding of the Lord and His Word, as well as providing parents with the resources and opportunities to demonstrate for their children what it looks like to pursue God.

How to use this devotional:

This is simply a resource for you to use however works best for your family! Each day there is a selected Scripture reading, devotional, discussion questions, a prayer prompt, and a song to sing together. You may consider splitting parts and having one family member read the Scripture while another reads the devotional and another leads the prayer. Feel free to read additional Scripture as you call to mind passages that relate to what was read. Sing more sing with your family than the one provided if you feel led to. Use this guide in whatever way helps you and your family draw nearer to the Lord together.

MONDAY

Read Matthew 1:18-25

Discuss

A lot of people think of the virgin birth as a strange fact to help in Christian trivia. They know that it happened, but they don't understand why it is important. There are many reasons that Christians care about the virgin birth. Two of those reasons are 1) the virgin birth means that Jesus Christ was born as a real person, truly human, and 2) the virgin birth means that Jesus Christ did not inherit original sin.

There are some people who pretend to be Christians that say Jesus wasn't a human. They say He only looked like a human, but was more like a ghost or a spirit.

What the virgin birth shows us is that Jesus was in fact a very real person. Mary didn't give birth to a ghost. If you ask any mother, she knows that her baby was a very real thing that she gave birth to. Mary was pregnant for nine months, went through all the joys and trials of pregnancy. In Bethlehem, Joseph found them a stable to stay in where she gave birth to a very real baby boy. This was no vision, or ghost, or spirit. This was a human boy who would live a fully human life. Likely He stubbed His toe, got splinters, and tripped over His own feet. He was hungry and thirsty. He was truly man

Discussion Questions

- Why do you think it is important for Jesus to be fully man?
- Does it make it easier to go to God, knowing that Jesus understand what it's like to be a human?

Sing

Good Shepherd of My Soul
Keith and Kristyn Getty

Pray

Thank God for taking on flesh,

GOOD SHEPHERD OF MY SOUL

Verse 1:

Good Shepherd of my soul,
Come dwell within me;
Take all I am and mould
Your likeness in me.
Before the cross of Christ,
This is my sacrifice:
A life laid down and ready to follow.

Verse 2:

The troubled find their peace
In true surrender;
The prisoners their release
From chains of anger.
In springs of living grace
I find a resting place
To rise refreshed and ready to follow.

Verse 3:

I'll walk this narrow road
With Christ before me,
Where thorns and thistles grow
And cords ensnare me.
Though doubted and denied,
He never leaves my side,
But lifts my head and calls me to follow.

Verse 4:

And when my days are gone,
My strength is failing,
He'll carry me along
Through death's unveiling.
Earth's struggles overcome,
Heaven's journey just begun
To search Christ's depths and ever to follow.



TUESDAY

Read Luke 4:1-13

Discuss

Temptation. We have all faced it. It is easy when we struggle under the weight of temptation and sin to think that we are alone in this struggle, that no one knows or understands how hard it is...

What we find in Scripture is that Jesus Christ was tempted just like we are. This is only possible because Jesus is truly man. When Jesus came to earth, He took on Himself all the limitations of humanity (Philippians 2:7).

These limitations are important. Because with them, Jesus understood how attractive sin can be. I get 'hangry' when I go half a day without food. Jesus went 40 days without food. He was starving. To be offered bread then was the highest temptation He could face in the moment.

Jesus understands how hard temptation is, but He lived a perfect and righteous life, without sin.

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15

Discussion Questions

- Is it helpful to know that Jesus sympathizes with our weaknesses?
- Does this reality help you trust Jesus more?

Sing

Love Incarnate
Stuart Townend

Pray

Thank God that He can understand our weakness and has mercy on us.

LOVE INCARNATE

Verse 1:

With a prayer You fed the hungry,
With a cry You stilled the storm;
With a look You had compassion
On the desperate and forlorn.
With a touch You healed the leper,
With a shout You raised the dead;
With a word expelled the demons,
With a blessing broke the bread.

Chorus:

Love Incarnate, Love Divine,
Captivate this heart of mine,
Till all I do
Speaks of You.

Verse 2:

As a sheep before the shearer
You were silent in Your pain;
You endured humiliation
At the hands of those You'd made.
And as hell unleashed its fury
You were lifted on a tree,
Crying 'Father God, forgive them,
Place their punishment on me.'

Verse 3:

I will feed the poor and hungry,
I will stand up for the truth;
I will take my cross and follow
To the corners of the earth.
And I ask that You so fill me
With Your peace, Your power, Your breath,
That I never love my life so much
To shrink from facing death.



WEDNESDAY

Read Colossians 1:15-29

Discuss

Jesus Christ is not just a man. Jesus Christ is truly man AND truly God. His divinity is not something that can be ignored. In fact, without His divinity, Christ would simply be a prophet. Maybe the best prophet, but still just a prophet.

Jesus Christ is God incarnate. Because of this, He has authority and authority that no mere man can have! Throughout the New Testament we see this power and authority clearly demonstrated.

His first public act and miracle was at a wedding. Here, the host ran out of wine. Jesus turned the water into wine. He changed the very type of substance in the jars so that good wine filled them. At other times Jesus caused the storm to stop, bread and fish multiply beyond measure, opened blind eyes, caused the lame to walk, and raised the dead to life. Jesus had power and authority over all that is created so that He even commanded the storms.

In His teaching, Jesus also demonstrated authority. The pharisees and the scribes consistently tried to trick Him. They would bring confusing or controversial parts of Scripture to Jesus, hoping that He would make a mistake. Rather than falling into their traps, Jesus taught the law and interpreted the Scriptures, leaving the pharisees speechless.

“And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.” Matthew 7:28-29

Discussion Questions

- Why does it matter that Jesus be God?
- How does Jesus' divinity give Him authority that we do not have?
- If Jesus is God, how should that change how we pray?

Sing

Crown Him With Many Crowns
Matthew Bridges and Godfrey
Thring

Pray

Thank God for humbling
Himself to become man.

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

Verse 1:

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

Verse 2:

Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Verse 3:

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;
no angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends their burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

Verse 4:

Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.



THURSDAY

Read Hebrews 1

Discuss

Jesus is far greater than man or the angels. No created thing is equal to Him. Even though He took onto Himself a truly human nature, He was higher than all created things, being the Son of God Himself.

Being the Son of God, Christ Jesus had the authority not only to teach and explain Scripture, not only to command the winds and the waves to be calm, but also to forgive sins.

“And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven.” And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he then said to the paralytic—“Rise, pick up your bed and go home.” And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.” Matthew 9:1-8

Christ alone can forgive our sins. We are guilty and need His forgiveness. Go to Him and you will be saved.

Discussion Questions

- Why does Christ have to be God in order to forgive sins?
- If Jesus can forgive sins, how do we get that forgiveness?

Sing

There Is A Higher Throne
Keith and Kristyn Getty

Pray

Thank God for forgiving sins
through His Son

THERE IS A HIGHER THRONE

[Verse 1]

There is a higher throne
Than all this world has known
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue
Will one day come
Before the Son we'll stand
Made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace—
Salvation comes

[Refrain]

Hear heaven's voices sing
Their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies
Their praises rise
All glory, wisdom, pow'r
Strength, thanks, and honor are
To God our King, who reigns on high
Forevermore

[Verse 2]

And there we'll find our home
Our life before the throne;
We'll honor Him in perfect song
Where we belong
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye
As thirst and hunger die
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King;
We'll reign with Him
See upcoming pop shows
Get tickets for your favorite artists

[Refrain x2]



FRIDAY

Read Hebrews 2

Discuss

Jesus Christ was not God OR man. He was both God AND man. Yet Jesus was only one person.

This is difficult to wrap our minds around. That Jesus was truly God and truly man, without blending or confusing the natures. Distinct from one another yet bound inextricably in the one person of Jesus Christ.

Man in our sins needed a sacrifice to atone for us. We needed a man, who had lived a perfect life. A man who was tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin. We needed someone like us to atone for us.

But He needed to be much more than like us. We needed One greater than us! There is no way that the sins of man can be atoned for unless God Himself intervenes.

“But I am the LORD your God from the land of Egypt; you know no God but me, and besides me there is no savior.” Hosea 13:4

God, in His mercy, brought the two together. In the person of Christ we have a sacrifice like us to take our place. A sinless man who can stand in our place. We also have God, the only One capable of forgiving our sins. In one person, we have the perfect sacrifice to atone for the sins of man and offer true forgiveness. Praise God for the blood of Jesus!

Discussion Questions

- Why is this hard concept so important?
- How does Jesus being God and man affect how we come to Him?
- Is it comforting to know that God truly understands your trials?

Sing

*Christ Be All
Grace Worship*

Pray

Thank God for humbling
Himself to take on flesh.

CHRIST BE ALL

[Verse 1]

Oh to be, empty and lowly
Meek and unnoticed, and unknown
And to God, a vessel holy
Filled with Christ, and Christ alone

[Verse 2]

How great is God! His grandeur endless
How frail I come, before His throne
I am lost, in love relentless
That Christ be all, and I His own

[Chorus]

May Christ be all, and I be nothing
His glory shines in vessels weak
May Christ be all, and I be nothing
This is my hope: Not I, but Christ in me
This is my hope: Not I, but Christ in me

[Verse 3]

I am poor, and I have nothing
All my deeds cannot avail
But Christ endured the Father's crushing
He bowed His head, as Mercy bled, peace to prevail
He bowed His head, as Mercy bled, peace to prevail

[Chorus]

[Bridge]

Bring me low, my heart lower still
That Your grace my pride relieves
May these words resound loud until
Every tribe and tongue believes
Bring me low, my heart lower still
That Your grace my pride relieves
May these words resound loud until
Every tribe and tongue can sing

[Chorus]

[Verse 4]

On golden shores of sure salvation
I will run to meet my King
Freed from shame and all accusation
He'll give Himself, nothing I'll bring
He'll give Himself, nothing I'll bring

