



Calvary
Baptist Church

For the week of:
02/24/25

Home Worship Guide

New City Catechism

Question 22: Why must the Redeemer be truly human?

That in human nature he might on our behalf perfectly obey the whole law and suffer the punishment for human sin; and also that he might sympathize with our weaknesses.

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 Isaiah 7:14

Discuss

Which is harder to believe: That Jesus is human, or that he is God? Throughout Jesus' earthly ministry, those who saw, met, heard, and touched Jesus had no reason to doubt his humanity. Their struggle was with his deity, like his claim that "I and the Father are One" (John 10:30), after which they prepared to stone him!

Today, Christians accept the idea that Jesus is God without too much struggle. In our well-intentioned efforts to revere Jesus as the Son of God, though, we may sometimes fail to remember that Jesus is also a man. Scripture says Jesus experienced life much like the rest of humanity, like us: He was born and he grew (Luke 2:42-52). He was hungry (Mark 11:12), tired (John 4:6), thirsty (Luke 7:34), happy (Luke 10:21), angry (Mark 10:14), and sad (Luke 19:41-44). He had personal relationships (John 11:5), went to social events (Luke 5:29), had routines (Luke 22:39), and he even paid taxes (Matthew 17:24-27). Those were parts of the life of a man, not God; after all, God doesn't get thirsty! And of course, Christians believe that Jesus was a human man because Scripture says so: "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).

Jesus was truly God, and he was also truly human.

Discussion Questions

- Do you find it hard to believe that Jesus was a man? Why or why not?
- Have you ever considered traveling to the places Jesus went, or eating the food he ate?
- How does it make you feel about God to know that Jesus experienced things in life like you do?

Sing

I Will Sing of My Redeemer
P. P. Bliss

Pray

Thank God for sending Jesus to be born as a baby and to live a life on Earth.

I WILL SING OF MY REDEEMER

Verse 1:

I will sing of my Redeemer
and his wondrous love to me;
on the cruel cross he suffered,
from the curse to set me free.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer!
With his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon,
paid the debt, and made me free.

Verse 2:

I will tell the wondrous story,
how my lost estate to save,
in his boundless love and mercy,
he the ransom freely gave.
I will praise my dear Redeemer,
his triumphant power I'll tell:
how the victory he gives me
over sin and death and hell.

Verse 3:

I will sing of my Redeemer
and his heavenly love for me;
he from death to life has brought me,
Son of God, with him to be.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer!
With his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon,
paid the debt, and made me free.



TUESDAY

Read Hebrews 9:15

Discuss

Even if we don't always agree with them, we instinctively understand that there are rules in life. Some rules are universal, no matter how we feel about them, like gravity. Other times, rules are written by someone in authority. You have to stay below a certain speed on the roads. You have to be a certain height if you want to ride the roller coaster, because you may not stay in the roller coaster if your body is the wrong size (and your body will obey the law of gravity, whether you like it or not!).

God is our highest authority, and the Law he wrote for man to follow is recorded in Scripture. A right relationship with God required obeying God's law, but no one was capable of fully obeying it. Jesus, as a man, was under God's law, but he did what the rest of mankind was unable to do: He fulfilled the whole law and obeyed it perfectly (Matthew 5:17).

Since, as a man, Jesus fully met the righteous requirements of the law, he alone has the authority to act as our Redeemer and the mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5, Hebrews 9:15).

Discussion Questions

- Think about how many rules you have to follow in one day – even if you don't like them. Now think about perfectly obeying every single rule, all day, every day, with a good attitude. What do you think it means that Jesus was a man, but he was able to live a perfect life?
- When you have time, draw a picture of a right-sized person and a wrong-sized person riding a roller coaster. Decorate your picture then show it to your family and tell them what is happening.

Sing

Trust and Obey
John H Sammis

Pray

Thank God for Jesus fulfilling the law, and pray for an obedient heart.

TRUST AND OBEY

Verse 1:

When we walk with the Lord
in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will,
he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain:

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Verse 2:

Not a burden we bear,
not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss,
not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey.

[Refrain]

Verse 3:

But we never can prove
the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows,
for the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey.

[Refrain]

Verse 4:

Then in fellowship sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey.

[Refrain]



WEDNESDAY

Read 1 John 4:9-10

Discuss

Yesterday we were reminded that people are unable to obey God's law. That sin of failure to follow God's law required sacrifice: untold numbers of bulls, rams, and other animals were sacrificed on a near continuous basis, starting all the way back at the Garden of Eden, when God killed an animal to create the garments that would cover Adam and Eve after their sin. But those sacrifices were only representative of payment. They were looking forward to a final, conclusive atonement, since "it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins" (Hebrews 10:4).

We also read that Jesus was able to act as our Redeemer and mediator (our representative) because he perfectly followed God's law. Man's sin did require sacrifice, but no animal sacrifice was enough. Only a perfect sacrifice would be sufficient. God is perfect, but the Immortal God cannot die. So, the man Jesus, our Redeemer, was able to be our representative in the sacrifice for our sins. Jesus had to be truly human in order to be able to suffer the punishment of death for our sin.

Hebrews 10:11-14

And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God...For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

Discussion Questions

- Which of your sins did the sacrifice of Jesus pay for – the ones in your past, or the ones in your future?
- How much did the payment for your sins cost?
- How do the answers to those questions influence how you live your life every day?

Sing

Were You There?
Anonymous- African Spiritual

Pray

Thank God for Jesus taking
the punishment for our sin

WERE YOU THERE?

Verse 1:

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Verse 2:

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Verse 3:

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Verse 4:

Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?
Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?



THURSDAY

Read Hebrews 2:17-18

Discuss

While there isn't much recorded about Jesus' youth, one event reminds us that Jesus was "made like his brothers in every respect," even as a 12-year-old.

In Luke 2:41-52, Mary and Joseph frantically return to Jerusalem after having lost track of young Jesus following the Feast of the Passover. Finding him in the temple, Mary spoke to him in what may have been an exasperated tone: "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress."

Mary and Joseph were upset. For Jesus, being separated from his earthly parents wasn't quite the same as losing a child in Wal-Mart today. For his parents, though, their "distress" remains relatable some 2,000 years later. How did Jesus, the Son of God, respond?

"And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them." (Luke 2:51)

At 12-years-old, Jesus was in the temple because he understood who he was and what his purpose was. Yet Jesus was truly man and submissive to his earthly parents. Just "like his brothers", as a boy Jesus had a family and relationships in his life.

And just like when he was born, Mary "treasured up all these things in her heart"(v51). Jesus was the Son of God, but she was still his mom.

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever been lost/lost a child in a store or while travelling? What was it like when you were reunited?
- What does it mean to you that you can pray to a God who understands you and your struggles?

Sing

How Long O Lord How Long?
Sovereign Grace

Pray

Thank God for your family, and ask Him to strengthen your relationship

HOW LONG O LORD HOW LONG?

VERSE 1:

O Lord, our God, to You we come
Will You still hide Your face?
We cry before You and on our knees we pray
How long, O Lord, how long?

VERSE 2:

Our sorrows leave us weak and worn
Surrounded by our fears
We look to heaven through feeble faith and tears
How long, O Lord, how long?

CHORUS:

Till Your glory fills our eyes
And our faith is turned to sight
Till our thirsty souls are satisfied
How long, O Lord, how long?

VERSE 3:

Our foes and enemies rejoice
Injustice seems to reign
Lord, we are shaken and we are losing strength
How long, O Lord, how long?

VERSE 4:

But we will trust Your steadfast love
Your grace will be our song
You bring new mercies with ev'ry rising sun
How long, O Lord, how long?



FRIDAY

Read Hebrews 4:15

Discuss

Earlier this week we read that Jesus lived life much like the rest of humanity, but without sin. There is no joy or pain, happiness or hardship, that you can experience that Jesus cannot understand. Jesus, our Redeemer, is uniquely qualified to be our mediator because he understands us, having lived life just like us. He can help us in our challenges, struggles, weaknesses, and temptations because He lived them, too. Since God calls us to holiness, we can ask Jesus to help us when we are tempted because He also was tempted and did not sin. No matter how we feel in the moment, we can take solace and hope in knowing that Jesus lived life, and felt, as well. When we have joy, we can remember that he rejoiced too. When we're having a hard day, we can remember that Jesus had to deal with hard days, too. And when we're annoyed with people around us, we can remember that Jesus was constantly surrounded by all kinds of people with all kinds of personalities—even among His disciples!

Our Redeemer needed to be truly human that he might sympathize with our weaknesses. Now he is our representative, “who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us” (Romans 8:34).

Discussion Questions

- If you were able to split the winnings, who would you want to be your representative on your favorite gameshow? Why would you choose them as your advocate?
- What does it mean to have a representative before God who understands us perfectly and can sympathize with us?
- Do you want Jesus to be your Redeemer? What should you do?

Sing

There is a Redeemer
Keith Green

Pray

Ask God to grant you understanding and sympathy for the weaknesses of others

THERE IS A REDEEMER

Verse 1:

There is a Redeemer,
Jesus God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God,
Messiah, Holy One.

Chorus:

Thank You, O my Father
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit 'til
Your work on earth is done.

Verse 2:

Jesus my Redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God,
Messiah, O for sinners slain.

(Chorus)

Verse 3:

When I stand in glory
I will see His face,
And there I'll serve
My King forever,
In that holy place.

(Chorus)

