



Calvary
Baptist Church

For the week of:
03/31/25

Home Worship Guide

New City Catechism

Question 27: Are all people, just as they were lost through Adam, saved through Christ?

No, only those who are elected by God and united to Christ by faith. Nevertheless God in his mercy demonstrates common grace even to those who are not elect, by restraining the effects of sin and enabling works of culture for human well-being.

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 hymns and songs 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 Ephesians 1:3-14

Discuss

Not everyone is saved. This is a sad but all too true reality. There are many who go through their entire life in rebellion to God and never come to Him in repentance and saving faith. This should break our hearts.

This reality does bring some questions. If God is omnipotent (all-powerful), why doesn't He save everybody? He could do that if He chose to. God could make everybody come to Him in faith and save them. Yet as we see throughout the Bible and in our own experience, not everyone does get saved. This means that God chooses certain people that He will save.

This choosing is called "election" or "predestination." What it means is that before God had laid the foundations of the earth, He already knew who His children were. God has already chosen everyone who will be saved.

This should comfort us. Because God has chosen to save us, we can rest knowing that nothing can remove us from His love. Not only that, but when we share the Gospel, it is promised to bear fruit in the elect.

Discussion Questions

- Read Romans 8:31-39. How does God choosing to save/elect us give us comfort?
- Read Romans 10:14-17. How does election inspire our evangelism?
- Why is it important that God chooses those who will be saved?

Sing

Our Sovereign God
Tom Pennington

Pray

Thank God for His mercy in saving sinners.

OUR SOVEREIGN GOD

Verse 1

Our Sovereign God by His own word
Sustains this world and reigns as Lord.
No angel, demon, sinful man can change
His course, restrain His hand.
O sovereign God, we praise Your pow'r;
Your wisdom, goodness we adore!
We bow our hearts before Your throne;
Help us, O Lord, to trust You more,
Help us, O Lord, to trust You more.

Verse 2

When the fullness of the time had come,
God sent His own Beloved Son.
To keep God's law, live in our place,
To bear our sin, guilt and disgrace.
Dead in our sin, estranged from God,
We fled as rebels from His love.
In sovereign grace He made us sons,
And saved us from the wrath to come,
And saved us from the wrath to come.

Verse 3

Before our birth He planned our days,
Laid out our course, ordained our ways.
The moments of our lives He weaves
So all the glory He receives.
To those He loved before all time,
To all He called, and grace renewed,
He cannot lie; His word is true,
He makes all things to work for good,
He makes all things to work for good.

Verse 4

He has written history's final page
His Son's return will end this age.
The Lamb will come in glorious might,
Take back His world and end it's night.
How deep the wisdom of our God,
Unknown, unfathomed are His ways.
None counsels Him or knows His mind.
We bow before Him all our days,
We bow before Him all our days

O Sovereign God, we praise Your pow'r;
Your wisdom, goodness we adore!
We bow our hearts before Your throne;
Help us, O Lord, to trust You more,
Help us, O Lord, to trust You more.



TUESDAY

Read Colossians 2:6-12 (focus on verse 12)

Discuss

We like to say that we are in Christ and/or that Christ is in us. It is a comforting truth that we have been united with Christ. This is a privilege only for those who are saved. Only those who have been saved by Christ are in Christ. But what does it mean to be united to Christ?

There are many aspects, but union with Christ means that you identify, die, and are raised in and through Him. It means that you are identified as having died with Him on the cross, that your old man is dead just as Christ died, and that you are raised with Him through Him to a new life in Him.

Through His work on the cross, Jesus gives His righteousness to us so that when we come to the throne of the Father, we are clothed in the righteousness of Christ. We are united to Him perfectly through faith in His finished work on the cross.

Because of Christ, our life is now one submitted fully to Christ: "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (Galatians 2:20).

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever thought about God's redemption reaching this far?
- Why do you think that it is important for Christ's redemption to not just stop with saving man?

Sing

I Will Glory in My Redeemer
Steve and Vikki Cook

Pray

Thank God for uniting you to Christ through faith.

I WILL GLORY IN MY REDEEMER

VERSE 1

I will glory in my Redeemer
Whose priceless blood has ransomed me
Mine was the sin that drove the bitter nails
And hung Him on that judgment tree
I will glory in my Redeemer
Who crushed the power of sin and death
My only Savior before the holy Judge
The Lamb who is my righteousness
The Lamb who is my righteousness

VERSE 2

I will glory in my Redeemer
My life He bought, my love He owns
I have no longings for another
I'm satisfied in Him alone
I will glory in my Redeemer
His faithfulness my standing place
Though foes are mighty and rush upon me
My feet are firm, held by His grace
My feet are firm, held by His grace

VERSE 3

I will glory in my Redeemer
Who carries me on eagles' wings
He crowns my life with lovingkindness
His triumph song I'll ever sing
I will glory in my Redeemer
Who waits for me at gates of gold
And when He calls me, it will be paradise
His face forever to behold
His face forever to behold



WEDNESDAY

Read Acts 14:16-17; Psalm 145:9

Discuss

Only those who are elected by God are united to Christ by faith. That is what we have seen the past two days. That is sometimes called “special” or “saving” grace. It is special because only those who repent and believe receive it. There is another kind of grace called “common” grace. Common grace is the type of grace that God gives to EVERYBODY.

Remember, because of sin we are all deserving of eternal punishment. We don’t deserve any good thing. So when good things happen to people, it is because God has been gracious and merciful, giving gifts to those who do not deserve them.

What does this look like? Jesus tells us that the Father, “makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.” (Matthew 5:45).

God sends His common grace to all people, but why? “The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9). God gives grace to all people so that the Gospel can be declared and the elect come to saving faith.

Discussion Questions

- What are ways that you have seen God’s common grace?
- Do sinners deserve common grace?
- How should common grace change how we pray?

Sing

Psalm 90

Shane and Shane

Pray

Confess your unworthiness for grace and thank God for giving you grace.

PSALM 90

VERSE 1

You have been our dwelling place
Oh everlasting God
Before You formed
The mountain tops
You were before it all

PRE-CHORUS 1

And soon our lives
Turn back to dust

CHORUS

When the sun comes up
Satisfy us
Before the day has passed us by
Before our hearts forget
All Your goodness
Satisfy us with Your love

VERSE 2

The wrath of God
Poured out for sin
On Jesus crucified
Consider Him our hiding place
Our shelter is alive

PRE-CHORUS 2

Because He lived
And died for us

REPEAT CHORUS

BRIDGE

Teach us Lord
To number our days on Earth
And give us more
Wisdom in the secret heart
As You displayed amazing grace
In Jesus Christ for us

REPEAT CHORUS 2X



THURSDAY

Read Genesis 20:6; Psalm 33:10

Discuss

Yesterday we learned about the common grace of God. We are going to continue to think about that throughout the rest of the week.

One aspect of God's common grace is that He restrains evil. Think about the people you know who don't know God. Some of them may be really mean and nasty. But there are likely many who you would call "good people." Sinners, yes indeed, but they are not as bad as they could be. They may have sat and talked with you when they saw you had a hard day, helped you up when you fell, brought you food when you were sick, or done many kind and generous things.

That is a mercy of God! In Romans 1 we read about God giving people over to sin. That God allows some to go on sinning in worse and worse ways. The fact that God gives some over to their sin also means that God holds some back, at least for a time.

Imagine what this world would look like if everyone was as bad as they could be. No mercy, no love, no kindness, no generosity. In His grace, God holds people back so that even though everyone is a sinner, not everyone is as sinful as they could be.

Discussion Questions

- Have you considered the grace of god holding back evil?
- Why would God choose to restrain evil?

Sing
Day by Day
Linna Sandell

Pray
Pray that God would continue
to withhold evil that we can live
quiet and peaceable lives

DAY BY DAY

Verse 1:

Day by day, and with each passing moment,
Strength I find to meet my trials here;
Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,
I've no cause for worry or for fear.
He, whose heart is kind beyond all measure,
Gives unto each day what He deems best,
Lovingly its part of pain and pleasure,
Mingling toil with peace and rest.

Verse 2:

Every day the Lord Himself is near me,
With a special mercy for each hour;
All my cares He fain would bear and cheer me,
He whose name is Counsellor and Pow'r.
The protection of His child and treasure
Is a charge that on Himself He laid;
"As thy days, thy strength shall be in measure,"
This the pledge to me He made.

Verse 3:

Help me then, in every tribulation,
So to trust Thy promises, O Lord,
That I lose not faith's sweet consolation,
Offered me within Thy holy Word.
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,
E'er to take, as from a father's hand,
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,
Till with Christ the Lord I stand.



FRIDAY

Read Romans 13:1-7

Discuss

Americans have an obsession with politics. We seem to discuss our government and politics and laws more than any nation before us. In all of our complaining, we often forget that having a government and laws is actually a mercy of God.

The book of Judges has a lot of cool stories, but if you stop and think about it, it would be a very hard place to live. Throughout the book there is no law, people are killing one another, stealing, lying, and all sorts of terrible things. Throughout the book there is a repeated phrase, “In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.” (Judges 21:25).

God gives governments, societies, and cultures, in such a way that they help to restrain evil. Cultures around the world agree that stealing is wrong. Cultures around the world agree that lying is wrong. Cultures around the world agree that murder, adultery, dishonoring parents is all wrong. While no society is perfect, and all turn against God in a variety of ways, they do serve to hold people back from being as bad as they could be.

God has been gracious to people to set up guardrails to protect and keep us from being as wicked as we would be.

Discussion Questions

- How do you see authority figures keeping us from sinning more?
- Have you thought of culture and government as being a grace of God?
- How does this change how you think about our government?

Sing

*All Hail the Power of
Jesus' Name*
Edward Perronet

Pray

Pray that our culture and
government would align
with God's law.

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

[Verse 1]

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

[Verse 2]

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race
Ye ransomed from the fall
Hail Him who saved You by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all
Hail Him who saved You by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all

[Verse 3]

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry 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

[Verse 4]

Oh 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
Lord of all

