
geyserspringsfbc



catechism

Dear Families,

We are so thankful you have a copy of the Geyer Catechism. As parents, we are mandated by the Lord to disciple our children (Deuteronomy 6:4-9). In the *Truth and Grace Memory Book* Volume 1, Tom Ascol writes, "Teaching their children the Word of God is at the forefront of responsibilities for Christian parents. God specifically calls Christian parents to raise their children 'in the discipline and instruction of the Lord' (Ephesians 6:4). You cannot be passive and fulfill this responsibility to 'bring them up' in the proper way. Prayer, discipline, godly example, and consistent, continuous, clear instruction are required" (pg. 13). The discipleship of our children cannot be subcontracted out to the church. We must be instructing our children from the Word of God at home.

An effective strategy to help us disciple our children at home is catechisms. The word *catechize* simply means to teach. Donald Whitney writes in *Family Worship*, "catechizing is a question-and-answer approach to teaching biblical doctrine" (pg. 48). There are trusted catechisms that have been utilized in church history.



If you have catechized your children, the Geyer Catechism will be very basic. Why? Because the purpose of the Geyer Catechism is to provide parents with a starting place. It is an introductory catechism. For example, there are catechisms that contain over 100 questions, answers of varying lengths, and several Bible verses. The Geyer Catechism consists of only 30 questions, short answers, and a few Bible verses that introduce the fundamentals of the faith. It is designed to be completed over the period of one month. This means that you will be doing one question per day for the month. It is like a catechism with training wheels!

When you complete the Geyer Catechism, there are many options for you to consider going forward. The Geyer Catechism could be repeated for reinforcement. You could, however, graduate your children to another catechism. *A Catechism for Boys and Girls* is an excellent resource to consider implementing into your home. It is much more substantial in content, which will take your family to the next levels of learning. There are also recommended family devotional guides/booklets available for your review in the Family Resource Hub.



Here are some principles to help you catechize your children. These practical steps also apply to other areas of family discipleship:

Scriptural: The resources in your home must be grounded in the Word of God. A good catechism helps you provide solid biblical instruction.

Scheduled: You must prioritize time in the Word of God as a family. It will not happen by accident. Choose a time that works best for your family (after dinner, before bed, etc.). The reality is that you will miss days. When you miss days, the key is picking up right where you left off. This will create consistency which establishes a rhythm of discipleship in your home.

Structured: It is important to have a plan without being too rigid. This could include prayer, singing, Bible reading, and, of course, catechisms. As it has been referenced, catechisms include questions, answers, and Bible verses. You can begin by asking your children a question. Lead and guide them to get the right answer. Repeat the question. Grab your Bibles and look up the verse(s). Display the question of the day somewhere visible in the house. Choose a few verses from the catechism to memorize. There is so much that you can do! As you progress through the catechism, return to the previous days and ask the questions again.



Simple: The simpler your format, the better. There is no need to overcomplicate this. You do not need to be a pastor, a scholar, or a professor. You just need a desire to lead your family in the Lord.

Short: The length of family devotionals will vary depending upon the age of your children. There are times that will be shorter, others longer, and many somewhere in the middle. Regardless, do not try to fill a specific slot of time. Think quality of time, not the quantity of it.

Share: Share the participation of this time with your children. For example, allow your children to ask you the catechism questions, read Scripture, or pray.

Special: If you finish the Geyer Catechism with your children, do something special at the end of the month. Take your children to the park or for ice cream. This will be a motivator for your children. Of course, do not place the focus on it being a reward for doing "spiritual things." It is really more of a time to celebrate something special your family has completed together. Plus, your children will enjoy the time with you more than the swings or the sundae!

Psalm 78:4 says, "We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and His might, and the wonders that He has done." May the Lord bless you as you seek to proclaim His Word to the next generation through your children.



D A Y 1

Question: Where can you learn to know God?

Answer: Only in the Bible.

Scripture: "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." 2 Timothy 3:14-15

D A Y 2

Question: What is the Bible?

Answer: God's Word.

Scripture: "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness." 2 Timothy 3:16

D A Y 3

Question: Who wrote the Bible?

Answer: Men helped by the Holy Spirit.

Scripture: "For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." 2 Peter 1:21

D A Y 4

Question: Who made God?

Answer: No one. He is eternal.

Scripture: "'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God,' Who is and Who was and Who is to come, the Almighty.'" Revelation 1:8

D A Y 5

Question: How many gods are there?

Answer: There is one true God.

Scripture: "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is One." Deuteronomy 6:4

D A Y 6

Question: Who are the persons in the Godhead?

Answer: The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Scripture: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." 2 Corinthians 13:14

DAY 7

Question: What did God create?

Answer: Everything and everyone.

Scripture: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1

DAY 8

Question: How did God create everyone?

Answer: In His image.

Scripture: "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." Genesis 1:27

DAY 9

Question: Why did God make everything and everyone?

Answer: For His glory.

Scripture: "Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created." Revelation 4:11

DAY 10

Question: What is sin?

Answer: Disobeying God's law.

Scripture: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

DAY 11

Question: What did Adam's disobedience give to us?

Answer: A sinful nature.

Scripture: "Therefore, just as sin came into the world through man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned." Romans 5:12

DAY 12

Question: What does every sin deserve?

Answer: God's punishment.

Scripture: "And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment." Hebrews 9:27

DAY 13

Question: Can people be saved from sin by themselves?

Answer: No. People cannot be good enough.

Scripture: "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."
Ephesians 2:8-9

DAY 14

Question: What was Jesus like when He was on earth?

Answer: Fully man and fully God.

Scripture: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."
John 1:14

DAY 15

Question: Did Jesus ever sin?

Answer: No. He lived a perfect life.

Scripture: "He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in His mouth." 1 Peter 2:22

DAY 16

Question: Why did Jesus come to earth?

Answer: To die on the cross for sin and rise from the dead.

Scripture: "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures." 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

DAY 17

Question: How can a person be saved?

Answer: Repent of sin and believe in Christ.

Scripture: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."
Mark 1:15

DAY 18

Question: Can people lose their salvation?

Answer: No. God keeps their salvation safe.

Scripture: "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, Who has given them to Me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand." John 10:28-29

DAY 19

Question: What is a way people can know they are saved?

Answer: They will obey God's Word.

Scripture: "And by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. Whoever says 'I know Him' but does not keep His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him."
1 John 2:3-4

DAY 20

Question: What is prayer?

Answer: Talking to God.

Scripture: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Philippians 4:6

DAY 21

Question: What is the church?

Answer: Believers who gather for worship.

Scripture: "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Acts 2:42

D A Y 2 2

Question: What does Jesus tell us to do in the Great Commandment?

Answer: Love God and love others.

Scripture: "And He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37-39

D A Y 2 3

Question: What does Jesus tell us to do in the Great Commission?

Answer: Make disciples.

Scripture: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

D A Y 2 4

Question: What is baptism?

Answer: Dipping a person in water as a picture of salvation.

Scripture: "Having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised Him from the dead." Colossians 2:12

DAY 25

Question: What is the Lord's Supper?

Answer: Remembering Jesus' death through the bread and cup.

Scripture: "And when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, 'This is My body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.'" 1 Corinthians 11:24-25

DAY 26

Question: What happens to someone when they die?

Answer: Their body is buried and their soul goes to heaven or hell.

Scripture: "And the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it." Ecclesiastes 12:7

DAY 27

Question: When will Jesus return?

Answer: No one knows.

Scripture: "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." Matthew 25:13

DAY 28

Question: What will Jesus do when He returns?

Answer: He will judge everyone.

Scripture: "I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, Who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom."

2 Timothy 4:1

DAY 29

Question: What will happen to the lost on Judgment Day?

Answer: The lost go to hell forever.

Scripture: "They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His might." 2 Thessalonians 1:9

DAY 30

Question: What will happen to the saved on Judgment Day?

Answer: The saved go to heaven forever.

Scripture: "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." Revelation 21:4

