



Provided by the Church of the Lutheran Confession - Board of Missions

A Teacher's Guide to Lutheran Confirmation

APPENDIX: CATECHISM EXAMINATION REVIEW

For questioning the students prior to their confirmation. They should be able to recite appropriate Bible passages, from memory, for the topics being discussed.

These questions are adapted from those originally written by Pastor Michael Sydow of the CLC-USA

1. The Catechism

- a. What is Luther's Small Catechism?
- b. From which book did Luther take the material in the Catechism?
- c. What are the Six Chief Parts covered in the Catechism?

2. The Bible

- a. What is the Bible?
- b. What two major parts is the Bible divided into?
- c. In what languages was the Bible written?
- d. Who wrote the Bible?

3. The Bible – Inspiration

- a. What is the way that God used to give us His word?
- b. What does the word "inspiration" mean?
- c. Why do we speak of "verbal" inspiration?
- d. Are there any mistakes in the Bible? Why or why not?

4. Law and Gospel

- a. What are the two main doctrines of the Bible?
- b. What is the Law?
- c. What is the summary of God's Law called?
- d. What is the Gospel?

- e. What is the difference between Law and Gospel?

5. First Commandment

- a. What is the First Commandment about?
- b. Who is the true God?
- c. What does "triune" mean?
- d. What is the sin against the First Commandment called? (give examples).

6. Second Commandment

- a. What is the Second Commandment about?
- b. Give some examples of the name of God.
- c. In what larger sense do we speak of God's name?

[A: his "good name" – his reputation – everything we know that is true about him]

- d. What are some of the ways people misuse God's name?
- e. How should we use God's name (Luther's explanation)?

7. Third Commandment

- a. What is the Third Commandment about?
- b. What does the word "Sabbath" mean?
- c. Which day(s) are our Sabbath days? Why?

[A: We have the rest of forgiveness of sins every day]

d. How do people break this commandment?

8. Fourth Commandment

a. How does the Fourth Commandment differ from the first three?

b. What is the Fourth Commandment about?

c. In what areas of our lives do we have parents and superiors?

9. Fifth Commandment

a. What is the Fifth Commandment about?

b. What are some of the ways people break this commandment?

c. What is our time of grace?

[A: It is the time in this life when we can come to faith in Jesus]

d. Why doesn't God want us to murder anyone?

10. Sixth Commandment

a. What does God protect in the Sixth Commandment?

b. What is marriage?

c. What is adultery?

d. What is divorce? What does God say about divorce?

11. Seventh Commandment

a. What does God protect in the Seventh Commandment?

b. From whom do we receive all our possessions?

c. How does God get our property and possessions to us?

d. How are we to use our possessions?

12. Eighth Commandment

a. What does God protect in the Eighth Commandment?

b. What is false witness?

c. How is it possible to tell the truth and still sin against this commandment?

13. 9th and 10th Commandment

a. What is coveting? Give an example.

b. How does the Tenth Commandment differ from the Ninth?

c. How does coveting differ from ordinary desire?

14. Original Sin

a. What is sin?

b. What are the two types of sin?

[A: Things we do which God forbids (commission), and things we fail to do which God commands (omission)]

c. What is original sin?

d. What effect does original sin have on us?

15. Actual Sin

a. What is actual sin?

b. What is the punishment for sin?

c. What is death (physical, spiritual, and eternal)?

d. How is a person saved from sin?

16. First Article – Creation

a. What is a creed?

b. What creed do we study in our Catechism?

c. Who is God the Father?

d. What is His primary work called?

e. What is creation? How did God create everything?

17. Preservation and Protection

a. What does it mean that God preserves us?

b. What are natural means? Example.

c. What does the Father do for our protection?

d. Why does the Father preserve and protect us (Luther's explanation)?

e. What should be our reaction to all God's goodness to us?

18. Second Article – Redemption

a. Who is Jesus Christ?

b. How do we know that Jesus is true GOD?

c. Why did Jesus have to be true God to save us?

d. Why did Jesus have to be true Man to save us?

e. What does our Savior's personal name (Jesus) mean?

f. What does our Savior's official name (Christ) mean?

19. The Offices of Christ

a. What are the offices of Christ?

b. What is a prophet? How is Jesus our Prophet now?

c. What is a priest? How is Jesus our Priest now?

d. How does Christ rule as our King now?

e. What was the primary purpose of Christ's coming?

20. The Work of Christ

a. What is the work of Christ called?

b. What is redemption?

c. Why did Christ redeem the world?

d. What price did Christ pay?

e. Who has been redeemed?

f. Since everyone has been redeemed, why isn't everyone going to heaven?

21. The Humiliation of Christ

a. What is Christ's state of humiliation?

b. What period of Christ's life includes His humiliation?

c. What was the purpose of Christ's humiliation?

d. Why did He have to humble Himself in this way?

e. How did Christ substitute Himself for us to set things right?

f. When did this take place?

22. The Exaltation of Jesus

a. What is the exaltation of Jesus?

b. What is resurrection?

e. What are 3 important things that Jesus' resurrection PROVES to us?

e. What occurred at the ascension of Jesus?

f. What is Christ doing right now?

23. Third Article – The Holy Spirit

a. Who is the Holy Spirit?

c. What is the work of the Holy Spirit called?

d. Why do we need the Holy Spirit to do His work?

e. What does the Spirit use to create faith? (What is the "means of grace"?)

24. Conversion

a. What is conversion?

b. What is regeneration?

c. How are people converted or regenerated?

d. Who receives the credit when a person becomes a believer?

e. Whose fault is it when a person is lost?

25. Fruits of Faith

a. What are "fruits of faith"?

b. What does God consider to be a good work?

c. As Christians, what makes us want to keep God's commandments?

d. Can good works **save** anyone? Why do them then?

26. The Holy Christian Church

- a. What is the Holy Christian Church?
- b. Why is the Church called "holy?"
- c. Why is the Church called "Christian?"
- d. Where can the Holy Christian Church be found?
- e. How do we know that the Church is found there?

27. Church Fellowship

- a. Compare a local congregation and the Holy Christian Church. How are they alike, or different?
- b. What is church fellowship?

[A: everything people do together as spiritual partners:

worship, prayer, Lord's Supper, etc.]

- c. With whom should one worship?
- d. What's the difference between an orthodox and a heterodox church?

28. Religious Unionism

- a. What determines which church is the "right" church?
- b. What is religious unionism?

[A: To practice fellowship without agreement about the Bible's teachings]

- c. What should a person do if he/she discovers false doctrine?
- d. To what type of church should a person belong?

29. Justification

- a. What does the word justify mean?
- b. What is universal justification?
- c. What is personal justification?

30. Last Things

- a. When is the last day?
- b. What's going to happen on the last day?

- c. What will be the outcome of the judgment?

31. The Sacraments Baptism

- a. What is a sacrament?
- b. List four things that the sacraments have in common with each other.
- c. Which are the two sacraments?

32. Baptism

- a. What does the word baptize mean?
- b. What is Baptism?
- c. Who is to be baptized?
- d. Why do we baptize infants (3 reasons)?

33. The Blessings of Baptism

- a. What are the blessings of baptism?
- b. What are the old Adam and the new man?
- c. How is the old Adam killed and how does the new man come forth?
- d. How is your own baptism a great COMFORT?

[See Galatians 3:27]

- e. How is your own baptism a great CHALLENGE?

[See Romans 6:3-4]

34. The Office of the Keys

- a. What are the keys of the kingdom?
- b. Who has the power of the keys?
- c. What is the difference between a penitent and an impenitent sinner?
- d. To whom should we lock heaven? To whom should be unlock heaven?
- e. In church life, who normally uses the keys? Why?

35. Church Discipline

- a. What is church discipline? What is its purpose?
- b. What are the steps of church discipline?

36. Confession and Absolution

- a. What is confession?
- b. To whom should a person confess his or her sins?
- c. What is absolution?

37. Holy Communion

- a. What is the Sacrament of Holy Communion?
- b. What are the earthly elements?
- c. Which church teaches that the bread and wine are changed into the physical body and blood of Christ?
- d. Which churches teach that the bread and wine are only symbols of Jesus' body and blood?
- e. What is the Bible's teaching about the real presence of Jesus' body and blood with the bread and wine?

38. Holy Communion – Blessings

- a. What are the blessings of Holy Communion?
- b. What should a person be able to do before coming to the Sacrament?
- c. Who should not come to the Sacrament? (4 answers) Why not?

39. Prayer

- a. What is prayer?
- b. To whom do we pray?
- c. Who only can offer a proper prayer? Why?
- d. What promise do we have from God when we pray?

40. The Lord's Prayer

- a. Where did the Lord's Prayer come from?
- b. What are the three sections of the Lord's Prayer?

41. Lord's Prayer Summaries

Explain the meaning for each petition:

- **“Our Father in heaven”** – [A: *Through Christ we come to you in confidence, as Your dear children.*]
- **“Hallowed be Your name”** – [A: *Let Your true identity from Your Word shine IN us and THROUGH us.*]
- **“Your kingdom come”** – [A: *Rule in our hearts and throughout the world, and come quickly in glory!*]
- **“Your will be done on earth as in heaven”** – [A: *What YOU want is what WE want (not the will of the devil, the world, or our sinful flesh).*]
- **“Give us today our daily bread”** – [A: *Provide for all our needs, and make us content.*]
- **“And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us”** – [A: *Free us from our sins and move us to forgive.*]
- **“And lead us not into temptation”** – [A: *Keep us from falling into sin and give us strength to overcome.*]
- **“But deliver us from evil”** – [A: *Defeat the devil's purposes and lead us to heaven.*]
- **“For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours Now and forever”** – [A: *You can do all these things – we praise you for it!*]
- **“AMEN”** – Yes, it shall be so!