

# CATECHISM QUESTIONS TO GUIDE DISCUSSION – SERIES B

## *MARTIN LUTHER – A MAN OF GOD*

- 1.) When and where was Martin Luther born?
- 2.) Martin was a diligent student. Where did Luther go to university and what was he going to become?
- 3.) What troubled Luther?
- 4.) Why did he become a monk?
- 5.) Luther tortured himself at the monastery. Why?
- 6.) What was Luther studying that was a turning point for him in his understanding of what God freely gives?
- 7.) What is the message of the gospel?
- 8.) What is an indulgence? Who was selling them and why?
- 9.) Why did Luther post the Ninety-five Theses? (October 31, 1517)
- 10.) Diet of Worms - 1521: Luther would only admit he was wrong if...
- 11.) While Luther was "Knight George" in the Wartburg Castle, what important important task did he complete?
- 12.) What were the two central thoughts of Luther's writings?
- 13.) Why did Luther write the Small Catechism?
- 14.) What makes the Catechism different from the Bible?
- 15.) What are the main parts of the Catechism? (six answers)

16.) When and where did Martin Luther die?

17.) Why do we call ourselves Lutheran?

## *THE BIBLE*

1. Why should it be clear to everyone that there is a God?

2. What can we learn about God from the things he created?

3. How does the conscience within each of us testify to the truth that there is a God?

4. Why do we still need the Bible?

5. According to the Bible, what has spoiled my relationship with God?

6. What is the result of this sin in my life?

7. What does God tell me in his Word that brings peace to my relationship with him?

8. Can I trust what the Bible tells me?

9. How can the words of the Bible be God's Word if human writers wrote them?

10. Why is the Bible so important?

11. What does God forbid anyone to do with the Bible?

111. How does God give his law to us?

112. How does God give his gospel to us?

113. What does God teach us through the law?

114. What does God teach us through the gospel?

115. What is the work of the law? What is the work of the gospel?

116. How does the gospel change our attitude about obeying God's law?

117. What is God's ultimate purpose in giving us these teachings?

## ***NEW PERSON VS. OLD PERSON***

232. How does the Bible describe those the Holy Spirit has brought to faith?

233. Why do we have these sinful desires?

Define sinful nature.

234. In what ways does our sinful nature show itself to be our enemy?

235. What does God want us as Christians to understand when we see the wickedness of our own sinful flesh?

236. How does God bring us comfort when we struggle?

237. What important role does this gospel comfort play as we struggle against our sinful nature?

238. How does that reality influence the way we live our lives? (three answers)

Define repentance.

## ***THE LORD'S PRAYER***

239. What is prayer?

240. What has God revealed about himself that encourages us to come to him in prayer?

241. Why is trust in the true God the foundation of our prayers?

242. To whom only do we pray?

243. Why does God only hear the prayers of Christians?

244. What confidence do we have whenever we pray for something God has promised?

245. What confidence do we have when our prayers include a request for something God hasn't specifically mentioned?

246. What kind of prayers does God invite us to bring to him?

247. Why is it proper for us to call God our Father?

248. What does God do for us as our Father?

249. What makes our Heavenly Father differently from earthly fathers?

250. As we make those requests, why is it comforting for us to remember that God is our Father?

251. What attitude does God invite us to have as we pray the petitions of the Lord's Prayer?

252. What are we confessing when we acknowledge that our Father is in heaven?

Write a definition for "hallow".

253. What is God's name?

254. What special connection do we have with God's name?

255. In what ways do we keep God's name holy in our lives?

256. As we recognize our own weaknesses, what promises from God give us confidence as we look forward to doing good works?

257. How is God's name dishonored?

258. As children of God, why are we eager to honor God's name?

259. What does God tell us about his kingdom?

260. How does God's kingdom come to us?

261. What are we praying for when we ask that God's kingdom come to us?

262. God's kingdom already has a stronghold in Christian hearts. Why, then, do we continue to pray that God's kingdom come?

263. What role do regular worship, the study of God's Word, the Lord's Supper, and Baptism play in God's kingdom coming to us?

264. What is God's will? (four answers)

265. How is God's will done in heaven?

266. Who opposes God's will here on earth?

267. How is God's will done for us as we experience the spiritual struggles of life on earth? (three answers)

268. What is meant by daily bread?

269. For what purposes does God give us our daily bread?

270. To whom does God give daily bread?

271. If God gives daily bread to all creatures, why does he teach us to pray this petition?

272. What does God teach us by inviting us to ask for daily bread?

273. What attitude does God want us to have regarding the way we use the physical blessings he has given us?

274. What do we confess about ourselves when we pray the Fifth Petition?

275. What are we asking when we pray this petition?
276. Why can we be confident that this petition will be granted?
277. What blessings are ours because we have the forgiveness of sins?
278. What are we eager to do when others sin against us?
279. In what way does this petition provide the foundation for all of our requests to God?
280. What is temptation?
281. Who are these spiritual enemies that attempt to lure us away from God?
282. What are the goals of these enemies when they entice us with temptations?
283. Who is responsible when we give in to temptation?
284. What, then, are we asking when we pray that our Father in heaven lead us not into temptation?
285. What is meant by evil?
286. What is the cause of all the evil in the world?
287. What are some of the effects of evil in our lives?
288. In what ways does God answer our prayers to rescue us from evils that threaten our bodies and souls, properties and reputations?
289. What final deliverance from evil do we ask the Lord to bring us?
290. What is our Christian response as we see the evil in the world?
291. Why are we confident that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven?
292. Why can we be confident that our Father in heaven will hear and answer our petitions?

293. Why do we conclude our prayers with the word Amen?

## *THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM*

294. What is the natural condition of all people?

295. What has God graciously done for all people?

296. How do I receive the blessings of this grace?

297. What is the power that creates faith in our hearts?

298. Through what means does God apply the power of the gospel to human hearts?

Write the definition of the "Means of Grace".

299. Why is the means of grace - the gospel in Word and sacraments - so important for Christians?

300. Because of the great, saving power of the gospel in Word and sacraments, what attitude does God want us to have toward the means of grace?

301. When did God institute the Sacrament of Baptism?

302. What does the word "baptize" mean?

303. Why do we say that the Sacrament of Baptism is not just plain water?

304. What does Jesus mean when he commands us to baptize in the name of the triune God?

305. What is Jesus teaching us when he commands us to baptize "all nations"?

306. Why is it important that little children also are baptized?

307. Why are adults instructed before being baptized?

308. What blessings does God give through Baptism?

309. Why do we say Baptism works these blessings?

310. What comfort does my baptism give me?

311. Why is baptism able to offer and give such great blessings?

312. What does the Holy Spirit use to work through Baptism?

313. What does the Holy Spirit do through the Word of God connected with water in Baptism?

314. Why is Baptism called a gracious water of life and washing of rebirth?

315. What change did the Holy Spirit bring about in my life through my baptism?

316. What new attitude characterizes the new person within each of us?

317. In what ways does the old Adam battle against the new person within us?

318. In what ways does Baptism equip us to battle the old Adam in our daily lives?

Write a definition for contrition. Write a definition for repentance.

319. How do we drown the sinful nature in our daily lives?

320. How does Baptism strengthen the new person within us for Christian living every day of our lives?

## ***THE MINISTRY OF THE KEYS & CONFESSION***

321. What are the keys?

322. To whom has God given the special power and right to use these keys?

323. How valid and certain is the use of the keys by believers?



324. When does God want us to use the loosing key?

325. Why does Jesus want us to use the loosing key?

326. When does God want us to use the binding key?

327. Why does Jesus command us to use the binding key?

328. Why do Christians gather together in congregations?

329. How do members of a Christian congregation use the keys to encourage one another?

330. How does God guide Christian congregations as they use the keys publicly?

All Christians have the same rights and responsibilities...what is different about leaders who serve a congregation publicly?

331. What qualifications has God established for those who serve in the public ministry?

332. Who may serve as pastors (shepherds) in congregations?

333. What are some ways in which a pastor serves the congregation that has called him?

334. How will the congregation with its called shepherd use the binding key?

Excommunication is...

335. How will the congregation with its called shepherd use the loosing key?

336. How are we to view the public use of the keys by a congregation with its pastor?

337. Why do we confess our sins?

338. What do we acknowledge in our confessions to God?

339. How does God lead us to confess our sins?

340. When God has led us to confess our sins, what announcement does he then make?

341. When does the pastor regularly proclaim this comforting announcement?

Confession as two parts. What are those parts?

342.) When is it beneficial to confess our sins privately to our pastor?

343.) How should we receive the announcement of forgiveness from the pastor?

344.) When does God want us to confess our sins to a fellow Christian?

345.) How are we to receive the announcement of forgiveness from our fellow Christian?

## *THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION*

346. What did Jesus say the disciples were receiving along with the bread and wine?

347. What, then, do we receive in the Lord's Supper?

348. How is it possible for Jesus to actually give his body and blood to all who receive this sacrament?

349. When did Jesus institute this special Supper?

350. For whom did Jesus institute his Supper?

351. What blessing did Jesus promise to give through the Sacrament?

352. How did Jesus accomplish the forgiveness of sins?

353. What further blessings are ours because of the forgiveness of sins?

354. What makes receiving the Sacrament so very comforting as well?

355. How do we know that we receive the great blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation through eating and drinking in the Sacrament?
356. How do we know that God's Word is powerful and that it is able to give us these blessings?
357. What does the Word of God accomplish in the Lord's Supper?
358. Because of the power of God's Word, what is the Lord's Supper?
359. Why is it important that we are properly prepared to receive the Lord's Supper?
360. How might fasting or other outward preparations help us prepare to receive the Lord's Supper?
361. What, however, is at the heart of being properly prepared to receive the Lord's Supper?
362. Why are we careful about whom we invite to receive the Lord's Supper?
363. Whom does God want us to invite to the Lord's Supper?
364. Why will we want to receive Communion often?

## VERY IMPORTANT CHAPTERS

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|---|---|
| <i>Creation:</i> Genesis 1                | <i>Signs of the End of Times:</i> Matthew 24-25 |
| <i>Marriage:</i> Genesis 2                | <i>The Lord's Supper:</i> Matthew 26            |
| <i>Fall into Sin:</i> Genesis 3           | <i>The Resurrection:</i> Matthew 28             |
| <i>Cain &amp; Abel:</i> Genesis 4         | <i>Christmas:</i> Luke 2                        |
| <i>The Flood:</i> Genesis 6-9             | <i>The Good Samaritan:</i> Luke 10              |
| <i>Tower of Babel:</i> Genesis 11         | <i>The "Lost" Chapter:</i> Luke 15              |
| <i>Abraham:</i> Genesis 12                | <i>Palm Sunday:</i> Luke 19                     |
| <i>Sodom &amp; Gomorrah:</i> Genesis 19   | <i>Maundy Thurs./Good Friday:</i> Luke 22-23    |
| <i>Abraham Tested:</i> Genesis 22         | <i>Jesus' First Miracle:</i> John 2             |
| <i>Jacob's Ladder:</i> Genesis 28         | <i>Jesus Feeds the 5,000:</i> John 6            |
| <i>Joseph's Colorful Coat:</i> Genesis 37 | <i>Jesus, the Good Shepherd:</i> John 10        |
| <i>Joseph Rules:</i> Genesis 41           | <i>Christ's High-Priestly Prayer:</i> John 17   |
| <i>Baby Moses:</i> Exodus 2               | <i>Ascension:</i> Acts 1                        |
| <i>The Burning Bush:</i> Exodus 3-4       | <i>Pentecost:</i> Acts 2                        |
| <i>The Passover:</i> Exodus 12            | <i>Saul's Conversion:</i> Acts 9                |
| <i>The 10 Commandments:</i> Exodus 20     |   |

*Jericho's Walls Fall:* Joshua 6  
*David & Goliath:* 1 Samuel 17  
*David & Bathsheba:* 2 Samuel 11-12

*Solomon's Wisdom:* 1 Kings 3  
*Chariots of Fire:* 2 Kings 2  
*Good Shepherd Psalm:* Psalm 23  
*God - Refuge & Strength:* Psalm 46

*The "Hills" Psalm:* Psalm 121  
*Christ Our Substitute:* Isaiah 53  
*The Sermon on the Mount:* Matt. 5-7

*The Marks of a Disciple:* Matthew 10  
*Church Discipline:* Matthew 18  
*Jesus on Marriage & Divorce:* Matt. 19

*Righteous through Faith:* Romans 3  
*More than Conquerors:* Romans 8  
*Government:* Romans 13

*Marriage, Divorce, Single:* 1 Cor. 7  
*"Agape" Love Chapter:* 1 Cor. 13  
*Paul's "Resurrection" Chapter:* 1 Cor. 15

*The Roles in Marriage:* Ephesians 5  
*Instructions on Worship:* 1 Timothy 2  
*The Antichrist:* 2 Thessalonians 2

*Heroes of Faith:* Hebrews 11  
*Taming the Tongue:* James 3  
*Christ's Second Coming:* 2 Peter 3  
*Heaven:* Revelation 21

## **VERY IMPORTANT PASSAGES**

John 3:16  
John 8:31  
Matthew 28:18-20  
Malachi 3:6  
2 Timothy 3:16-17  
John 20:31  
Hebrews 11:1  
Romans 8:28  
1 John 2:2  
Psalm 51:5  
John 14:6  
Romans 10:17  
2 Peter 1:21  
2 Corinthians 5:21  
Ephesians 2:8,9  
Hebrews 10:24,25  
1 Timothy 2:4  
Titus 3:5  
1 Corinthians 11:27  
1 Peter 3:15  
Psalm 50:15  
James 1:19  
Isaiah 55:11  
Hebrews 4:12  
1 Corinthians 6:19,20  
Matthew 5:28  
Hebrews 13:4  
Proverbs 13:20  
1 Corinthians 10:12  
Titus 3:10  
2 Corinthians 6:14