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North Geelong



Presbyterian Church

**2017
NGPC
CATECHISM**

#NGPC-CATECHISM

A MESSAGE TO PARENTS FROM THE MINISTER

"Fathers...bring them up in the discipline, and instruction of the Lord."

Eph. 6:4

The Bible lays the responsibility with parents and specifically fathers to disciple their children in the things of Christ. Though parents may delegate some of this responsibility to schools and the church, they should not surrender it since they alone answer to God for such things.

This catechism has been compiled to assist parents teach their children the truths of God's Word. We suggest you start your children on these questions when they are young. As parents, pray that the Holy Spirit will use the catechism, among other things, to draw your children to Jesus Christ from an early age.

At NGPC, we will ask catechism questions during the Children's Talk at church. Teaching children the catechism will enable them to participate during this time, and more importantly, lay down the foundations of the faith. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you as you work through this catechism with your children.

Darren Middleton, on behalf of the Session.

Acknowledgements

This catechism is based upon "A catechism for boys and girls" published by Carey Publications. This catechism has been adopted and heavily revised by North Geelong Presbyterian Church since 2010.

Bible References

The teaching of the Bible is not proved by just a few texts. Each text of Scripture should be understood in the light of the passage in which it is found. Sometimes a truth is stated clearly in a single verse. When this is the case, just one or two references are given. More usually the truths to which the catechism refer are woven throughout the whole Bible, and when this is so, several references are given.

Part 1
Questions about God, Man and Sin

Q.1 Who made you?

A God made me.

Q.2 What else did God make?

A God made all things.

Q.3 Why did God make you and all things?

A For his own glory.

Q.4 How can you glorify God?

A By loving him and doing his commands.

Q.5 Why should you glorify God?

A Because he made me and takes care of me.

Q.6 Are there more gods than one?

A No, there is only one true God.

Q.7 In how many persons does this one God exist?

A God exists in three persons.

Q.8 Who are the three persons of God?

A God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Q.1 Gen.1:26-27; 2:7; Eccl.12:1; Acts 17:24-29

Q.2 Gen.1 esp. vv. 1 and 31; Acts 14:15; Rom.11:36; Col. 1:16

Q.3 Ps.19:1; Jer. 9:23-24; Rev.4:11; 5:13

Q.4 Eccl. 12:13; Mark 12:29-31; Jn.15:8-10; 1Cor.10:31

Q.5 Rom.11:36; Rev.4:11; cf.Dan.5:23

Q.6 Deut.6:4; Jer.10:10; Mark 12:29; Acts 17:22-31

Q.7 Matt.3:16-17; Jn.5:23; 10:30; 14:9,10;15:26; 1Jn.5:20; Rev.1:4-5

Q.8 Matt.28:19; 2Cor.13:14; 1Pet.1:2; Jude 20-21

Q.9 What is God?

A God is spirit, and does not have a body like men.

Q.10 Where is God?

A God is everywhere.

Q.11 Can you see God?

A No. I cannot see God, but he always sees me.

Q.12 Does God know all things?

A Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.

Q.13 Can God do all things?

A Yes. God can do all that is pleasing to him.

Q.14 Where do you learn how to love and obey God?

A In the Bible alone.

Q.15 Who wrote the Bible?

A Holy men taught by the Holy Spirit.

Q.16 Who were our first parents?

A Adam and Eve.

Q.9 Jn.4:24; 2Cor.3:17; 1Tim.1:17

Q.10 Ps. 139:7-12; Jer.23:23-24; Acts 17:27-28

Q.11 Ex.33:20; Jn.1:18; 1Tim.6:16; Ps.139:1-5; Prov.5:21; Heb.4:12f

Q.12 1Chron.28:9; 11Chron.16:9; Luke 12:6-7; Rom.2:16

Q.13 Ps.147:5; Jer.32:17; Dan.4:34-35; Eph.1:11

Q.14 Job 11:7; Ps.119:104; Is.8:20; Matt.22:29; 2Tim.3:15-17

Q.15 2Pet.1:20-21; Acts 1:16; 2Tim.3:16; 1Pet.1:10,11

Q.16 Gen.2:18-25; 3:20; 5:1-2; Acts 17:26; 1Tim.2:13

Q.17 Of what were our first parents made?

A God made the body of Adam out of the ground, and formed Eve from the body of Adam.

Q.18. What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?

A Souls that could never die.

Q.19 Do you have a soul as well as a body?

A Yes. I have a soul that can never die.

Q.20 How do you know that you have a soul?

A Because the Bible tells me I have a soul.

Q.21 In what condition did God make Adam and Eve?

A Holy and happy.

Q.22 What is a covenant?

A A covenant is an agreement between two or more people.

Q.23 What covenant did God make with Adam?

A The covenant of works.

Q.24 What was Adam bound to do by the covenant of works?

A Adam was bound to obey God perfectly.

Q.17 Gen.2:7, 21-23;3:19; Ps.103:18

Q.18 1Cor.15:45; Eccl.12:7; Zech.12:1

Q.19 Matt.10:28; Mark 8:34-38; 12:30

Q.20 See references for Q.19

Q.21 Gen.1:26-28; Ps.8:4-8

Q.22 e.g. 1Sam.18:3; Matt.26:14-15

Q.23 Gen.2:16-17; Gal.3:10

Q.24 Gen.2:16-17

Q.25 What did God promise in the covenant of works?

A God promised Adam life if he obeyed.

Q.26 What did God threaten in the covenant of works?

A God threatened Adam with death if he disobeyed.

Q.27 Did Adam keep the covenant of works?

A No. Adam sinned against God.

Q.28 What is sin?

A Sin is any transgression of the law of God.

Q.29 What is meant by transgression?

A Transgression is doing what God forbids.

Q.30 What was the sin of our first parents?

A Our first parents ate the forbidden fruit.

Q.31 Why did Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit?

A Because they did not believe what God had said.

Q.32 Who tempted Adam and Eve to this sin?

A The Devil tempted Eve and she gave the fruit to Adam.

Q.25 Gen.2:16-17

Q.26 Gen.2:16-17

Q.27 Gen.3:1-7; Hosea 6:7 (where "men" = Adam); Rom.5:12-14

Q.28 1Jn.3:4; Rom.3:20; James 2:9-11

Q.29 1Sam.13:8-14; 15:22-23; Hosea 6:7; Rom.1:21-32

Q.30 Gen.2:16-17; 3:6

Q.31 Gen.3:1-6; Heb.11:6

Q.32 Gen.3:1-13; 2Cor.11:3; 1Tim.2:13-14; cf.Rev.12:9

Q.33 Did Adam act for himself in the covenant of works?

A No. He represented all mankind.

Q.34 What effect did the sin of Adam have on all mankind?

A All mankind is born in a state of sin and misery.

Q.35 What is that sinful nature we inherit from Adam called?

A Original sin.

Q.36 What does every sin deserve?

A The anger and judgement of God.

Q.37 Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature?

A No. Our hearts must be changed before we can be fit for heaven.

Q.38 What is a change of heart called?

A Regeneration.

Q.39 Who can change a sinner's heart?

A The Holy Spirit alone.

Q.40 Why can no one be saved through the covenant of works?

A Because all have broken it, and are condemned by it.

Q.33 Rom.5:12; Hos. 6:7

Q.34 Rom.5:12; 1Cor. 15:22

Q.35 Psa. 51:3-5; Rom.5:12; Eph.2:3

Q.36 Deut.27:26; Rom.1:18; 2:2; Gal.3:10; Eph.5:6

Q.37 Jer.31:33-34; Ezek.36:25-27; Jn1:12-13; 3:1-10; 1Jn.5:1,4,18

Q.38 Titus 3:5-7

Q.39 Jn.3:3; Rom.8:6-11; 1Cor.2:9-14; 2Thes.2:13-14; Titus 3:5-6

Q.40 Rom.3:10-23; Rom. 5:15

Part 2
Questions about Salvation

Q.41 What is the covenant of grace?

A The agreement God the Father made with Christ concerning his elect people to save them from their sins.

Q.42 Whom did Christ represent in the covenant of grace?

A His elect people.

Q.43 What did Christ undertake in the covenant of grace?

A To keep the whole law for his people, and to suffer the punishment due to their sins.

Q.44 Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever sin?

A No. He was holy, blameless and pure.

Q.45 How could the Son of God suffer?

A He took on flesh and blood, that he might obey and suffer as a man.

Q.46 What is meant by atonement?

A Atonement is Christ satisfying divine justice, by his sufferings and death, in the place of sinners.

Q.41 Gen.17:18; Rom.11:27; Heb.10:16; 17

Q.42 Rom.5:19

Q.43 Rom.5:21; Joh.6:16

Q.44 Heb.7:26; Luk.23:47; Heb.4:15; 1Pet.2:22; 1Jn.3:5

Q.45 Jn.1:14; Rom.8:3; Gal.4:4; Phil.2:7; Heb.2:14; 17; 4:15

Q.46 Mark 10:45; Acts 13:38-39; Rom.3:24; 5:8; 2Cor.5:19; 21; Gal.3:13;

Q.47 What did God the Father undertake in the covenant of grace?

A God the Father undertook to justify and sanctify those for whom Christ should die.

Q.48 What is justification?

A Justification is God forgiving sinners, and declaring them as righteous.

Q.49 What is sanctification?

A Sanctification is God making sinners holy in heart and conduct.

Q.50 For whom did Christ obey and suffer?

A Christ obeyed and suffered for those whom the Father had given him.

Q.51 What kind of life did Christ live on earth?

A Christ lived a life of perfect obedience to the law of God.

Q.52 What kind of death did Christ die?

A Christ died the painful and shameful death of the cross.

Q.53 Who will be saved?

A Only those who repent of sin and believe in Christ will be saved.

Q.47 Rom.8:29-33; Heb.10:9-10; 1Cor.1:8,9; Phil.1:6; 1Thes.4:3,7

Q.48 Zech.3:1-5; Rom.3:24-26; 4:5; 8:33; 2Cor.5:21; Heb.8:12

Q.49 Jn.17:17; Eph.2:10; 4:22-24; Phil.2;12-13; 1Thes.5:23

Q.50 Is.53:8; Matt.1:21; Jn.10:11-16, 26-29; 17:9; Heb.2:13

Q.51 Matt.5:17; Rom.10:4; 1Pet.2:21,22

Q.52 Ps.22; Is.53; the gospel records

Q.53 Mark 1:15; Luke13:3-5; Acts2:37-41; 16:30-31; 20:21; 26:20

Q.54 What is it to repent?

A To be sorry for sin, and to stop it and hate it because it is displeasing to God.

Q.55 What is it to believe in Christ?

A To trust in Christ alone for salvation.

Q.56 Can you repent and believe in Christ in your own power?

A No. Repentance and faith are a gift from God.

Q.57 How were godly persons saved before the coming of Christ?

A By believing in the Saviour to come.

Q.58 How did godly persons show their faith before the coming of Christ?

A By offering sacrifices on God's altar.

Q.59 What did these sacrifices made by godly persons represent?

A Christ, the Lamb of God, who was to die for sinners.

Q.60 What does Christ do for his people?

A The work of a prophet, a priest and a king.

Q.54 Luke 19:8-10; Rom. 6:1-2; 2 Cor. 7:9-11; 1 Thes. 1:9-10

Q.55 Jn. 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim. 2:5; 1 Jn. 5:11-12

Q.56 Jn. 3:5-6; 6:44; Rom. 8:2, 5-11; 1 Cor. 2:9-14; Gal. 5:17-18; Eph. 2:4f

Q.57 Jn. 8:56; Gal. 3:8-9; 1 Cor. 10:1-4; Heb. 9:15; 11:13

Q.58 Ex. 24:3-8; 1 Chron. 29:20-25; Heb. 9:19-23; 10:1; 11:28

Q.59 Ex. 12:46 (cf. Jn. 19:36); Heb. 9 and 10; Jn. 1:29; 1 Cor. 5:7; 1 Pet. 1:19

Q.60 Heb. 1:1-3; Rev. 1:5; Matt. 13:57; Heb. 5:5-10; Jn. 18:37

Q.61 Why is Christ a prophet?

A Because he teaches us the will of God.

Q.62 Why do you need Christ as a prophet?

A Because I do not know the will of God.

Q.63 Why is Christ a priest?

A Because he died for our sins and prays for us.

Q.64 Why do you need Christ as a priest?

A Because I am guilty.

Q.65 Why is Christ a king?

A Because he rules over us and defends us.

Q.66 Why do you need Christ as a king?

A Because I am weak and helpless.

Q.61 Deut.18:15-18; Jn.1:18; 4:25; 14:23-24; 1Jn.2:1,2

Q.62 Job 11:7; Matt.11:25-27; Jn.6:67-69; 17:25-26; 1Cor.2:14-16;
2Cor.4:3-6

Q.63 Ps.110:4; 1Tim.2:5-6; Heb.4:14-16; 7:24,25; 1Jn.2:1-2

Q.64 Prov.20:9; Eccl.7:20; Rom.3:19-23; Heb.10:14,27-28:1; Jn.1:8-9

Q.65 Ps.2:6-9; Matt.28:18-20; Eph.1:19-23; Col.1:13,18; Rev.15:3,4

Q.66 Jn.15:4-5; 2Cor.12:9; Phil.4:13; Col.1:11; Jude 24 and 25

Part 3**Questions about the Ten Commandments**

Q.67 How many commandments did God give on Mount Sinai?

A Ten commandments.

Q.68 What are the ten commandments sometimes called?

A God's moral law.

Q.69 What do the first four commandments teach us?

A Our duty to God.

Q.70 What do the last six commandments teach us?

A Our duty to our fellow men.

Q.71 What is the sum of the ten commandments?

A To love God with all my heart, and to love my neighbour as myself.

Q.72 Who is your neighbour?

A All my fellow men are my neighbours.

Q.73 What is the first commandment?

A "You shall have no other gods before me."

Q.74 What is the second commandment?

A "You shall not make or worship idols."

Q.67 Ex.20:1-17; Deut.5:1-22

Q.68 Luke 20:25-28; Rom.2:14-15; 10:5

Q.69 Deut.6:5-6; 10:12-13

Q.70 Deut.10:19; Micah 6:8; cf. Gal.6:10

Q.71 Deut.6:1-15; 11:1; Matt.22:35-40; James 2:8

Q.72 Luke 10:25-37; 6:35

Q.73 Ex.20:3; Deut.5:7

Q.74 Ex.20:4-6; Deut.5:8-10

Q.75 What is the third commandment?

A "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God."

Q.76 What is the fourth commandment?

A "You shall keep the Sabbath day holy by worshipping and refraining from work."

Q.77 What day of the week is the Christian Sabbath and why?

A The Lord's Day, because on that day Christ rose from the dead.

Q.78 How should the Lord's Day be spent?

A In worship, rest and doing good to our fellow men.

Q.79 What is the fifth commandment?

A "You are to honour your father and mother."

Q.80 What is the sixth commandment?

A "You shall not murder."

Q.81 What is the seventh commandment?

A "You shall not commit adultery."

Q.82 What is the eighth commandment?

A "You shall not steal."

Q.75 Ex.20:7; Deut.5:11

Q.76 Ex.20:8-11; 23:12; Deut.5:12-15

Q.77 Acts 20:7; Rev.1:10; Matt.28:1; Mark 16:9; Luke 4:1-6; Jn.20:1

Q.78 Acts 20:7; 1Cor.16:2; Luke 4:16; Matt.12:10-13

Q.79 Ex.20:12; Deut.5:16

Q.80 Ex.20:13; Deut.5:17

Q.81 Ex.20:14; Deut.5:18

Q.82 Ex.20:15; Deut.5:19

Q.83 What is the ninth commandment?

A "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour".

Q.84 What is the tenth commandment?

A "You shall not covet anything that belongs to somebody else."

Q.85 Can any man keep these ten commandments perfectly?

A Since the fall of Adam, no mere man ever did or can keep the ten commandments perfectly.

Q.86 Of what use are the ten commandments to us?

A They teach us our duty, and show us our need of a Saviour.

Q.83 Ex.20:16; Deut.5:20

Q.84 Ex.20:17; Deut.5:21; Rom.7:7

Q.85 Prov.20:9; Eccl.7:20; Rom.3:19-20; James 2:10; 1John1:8-10

Q.86 1Tim.1:8-11; Rom.3:20; Gal.3:24

Part 4
Questions about Prayer

Q.87 What is prayer?

A Prayer is talking with God.

Q.88 In whose name should we pray?

A We should only pray in the name of Christ.

Q.89 What has Christ given to teach us how to pray?

A The Lord's prayer.

Q.90 Can you repeat the Lord's prayer?

A Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Q.91 How many petitions are there in the Lord's prayer?

A There are six petitions in the Lord's prayer.

Q.92 What is the first petition of the Lord's prayer?

A "Hallowed be your name."

Q.87 Gen.17:22; 18:33; Neh.1:4-11; 2:4; Matt.6:6; Rom.8:26-27

Q.88 John 14:13-14; 16:23-24; Heb.4:14-16

Q.89 Matt.6:5-15; Luke 11:1-13

Q.90 Matt.6:9; Luke 11:2

Q.91 Matt.6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

Q.92 Matt.6:9; Luke 11:2

Q.93 What is the second petition of the Lord's prayer?

A "Your kingdom come."

Q.94 What is the third petition of the Lord's prayer?

A "Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven."

Q.95 What is the fourth petition of the Lord's prayer?

A "Give us this day our daily bread."

Q.96 What is the fifth petition of the Lord's prayer?

A "And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us."

Q.97 What is the sixth petition of the Lord's prayer?

A "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

Q.93 Matt.6:10; Luke 11:2

Q.94 Matt.6:10;

Q.95 Matt.6:11; Luke 11:3

Q.96 Matt.6:12; Luke 11:4

Q.97 Matt.6:13; Luke 11:4

Part 5**Questions about the Word, the Church and the Ordinances**

Q.98 How does the Holy Spirit bring us to salvation?

A He uses the Bible, which is the Word of God.

Q.99 How can we know the Word of God?

A We are commanded to hear, read and search the Scriptures.

Q.100 What is a church?

A The church is an assembly of believers and their children who meet together under the preaching of the Word of God.

Q.101 How many sacraments are there?

A There are two sacraments.

Q.102 What are the two sacraments and who appointed them?

A Jesus Christ appointed baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Q.103 Why did Jesus Christ appoint these sacraments?

A So they would comfort and strengthen God's people.

Q.104 What symbol is used in baptism?

A The sprinkling or pouring with water symbolising the pouring out of the Holy Spirit.

Q.98 1Thes.1:5-6; 2:13; 1Tim.3:15-16; James 1:18; 1Peter 1:22-23

Q.99 1Peter 2:2; Rev.3:22; Matt.21:42; 22:29; 2Tim.3:14-17

Q.100 Matt.18:20; Acts 2:42

Q.101 Matt.28:19; 1Cor.11:23-26

Q.102 Matt.28:19; 1Cor.11:23-26

Q.103 Rom.4:11; Col.2:12; Matt.26:27-28.

Q.104 Acts 10:47; Heb. 9:10

Q.105 What does this signify as a seal of the covenant?

A That through the Holy Spirit we are joined to Christ and all his saving benefits through faith.

Q.106 What is the significance of baptism as a seal of the covenant?

A Baptism is a seal of the righteousness that is had by faith.

Q.107 In whose name are we baptised?

A In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Q.108 Who are to be baptised?

A Believers and their children are to be baptised.

Q.109 What is the Lord's supper?

A The eating of bread and drinking of wine in remembrance of the suffering and death of Christ.

Q.110 What does the bread and wine signify?

A The body and blood of Jesus, given for our salvation.

Q.111 Who should partake of the Lord's supper?

A Only those who repent of their sins and believe in Christ.

Q.105 Ezek.36:25-27; Acts 1:45; 2:12-17; 1Cor 10:1-2; Col.2:11-14;
Rom.4:11

Q.106 Rom.4:11

Q.107 Matt.28:19

Q.108 Acts 2:39; 3:38; 16:1ff; 1Cor 7:14

Q.109 Mark 14:22-24; 1Cor.11:23-29

Q.110 Matt.26:26; 1Cor.11:2

Q.111 Matt.5:21-24; 1Cor.10:16-17; 11:18-20, 27-33;
1John 3:14-17; 4:9-11

Part 6**Questions about the Last Things**

Q.112 Did Christ remain in the tomb after his crucifixion?

A No. He rose from the tomb on the third day after his death.

Q.113 Where is Christ now?

A Christ is in heaven, interceding for his people.

Q.114 Will Christ come again?

A Yes. At the last day, Christ will come to judge the world.

Q.115 What happens to men when they die?

A The body returns to dust, and the soul goes into the world of spirits.

Q.116 Will the bodies of the dead be raised to life again?

A Yes. There will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust.

Q.117 What will happen to the wicked in the day of judgement?

A The wicked shall be cast into hell.

Q.118 What is hell?

A Hell is a place of dreadful and endless punishment.

Q.119 What will happen to the righteous in the day of judgement?

A The righteous will live with Christ for ever in a new heaven and a new earth.

Q.112 Luke 24:45-47; 1Cor.15:3,4

Q.113 Rom.8:34; Heb.4:16, 7:25;

Q.114 Matt.25:31-46; 2Thes.1:7-10; 1Tim.4:1

Q.115 Gen.3:19; Eccl.12:7; 11Cor.5:1-6

Q.116 Acts 24:14-15; John 5:28-29; Dan.12:2

Q.117 Ps.9:16-17; Luke 12:5; Rev.12:12-15

Q.118 Matt.25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 16:19-31

Q.119 Is.66:22; 1Thes.4:16-17; 2Peter 3:10-13; Rev.21:1-4

Teach the children

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Eph. 6:4

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. Deut 6:6-7

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. 2Tim. 3:15

Pray for the children

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.

It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil for he gives to his beloved sleep. Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Psalm 127:1-3

Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble. Matt. 6:34

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