



BIBLE MEMORY BOOK 2014

GRADES 1-8

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GRADE 1

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INTRODUCTION:

1. Each grade is responsible for the memory work listed under its grade and all previous grades. For example, Grade 4 is responsible for the memory work listed under Grades 1-4. The purpose of this is to have the student annually memorize the same passages, so that they will become more deeply embedded in the student's memory.
2. The text for the Bible verses is the English Standard Version (ESV), copyright 2001, 2007 by Crossway Bibles. The text for the catechism is taken from the new edition of Luther's Small Catechism, published in 1986/2007. The purpose of this is to have the student memorize texts written in modern English, in order to increase their understanding of what they are memorizing.

GRADE 1

1. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23
2. The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works. Psalm 145:13
3. Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Proverbs 3:5
4. Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice. Psalm 32:11
5. You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. Matthew 1:21
6. Through love serve one another. Galatians 5:13

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7. Christ died for our sins. 1 Corinthians 15:3
8. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Matthew 19:14
9. God says, "I have called you by name, you are Mine." Isaiah 43:1
10. "Follow Me," Jesus said. "I have come to call sinners to repentance." Luke 5:27, 32
11. "You are My witnesses," declares the Lord. Isaiah 43:10
12. Make me to know your ways, O LORD...Lead me in your truth and teach me. Psalm 25:4-5
13. The Lord your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9
14. Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Psalm 100:2
15. Give thanks to the LORD, for his steadfast love endures forever. 2 Chronicles 20:21
16. God said, "You shall have no other gods before Me." Exodus 20:3
17. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalm 119:105
18. Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. Matthew 6:8

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19. The Lord is near to all who call on Him. Psalm 145:18
20. As I have loved you, you also are to love one another. John 13:34
21. Go...and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how He has had mercy on you. Mark 5:19
22. Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4
23. The Lord is my helper; I will not be fear. Hebrews 13:6
24. Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57
25. All things are possible with God. Mark 10:27
26. Jesus said, "As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40
27. Jesus said, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you. John 15:16
28. Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31
29. The word of God...is at work in you who believe. 1 Thessalonians 2:13
30. Jesus said, "I have called you friends." John 15:15
31. Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19

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32. The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin. Numbers 14:18
33. I will not leave you or forsake you. Joshua 1:5
34. The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. Psalm 145:15
35. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure. Psalm 147:5
36. 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. Matthew 28:19
37. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. Jeremiah 23:24
38. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Luke 6:36
39. He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Romans 8:32
40. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13

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41. The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Psalm 24:1
42. Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise. Psalm 95:1
43. God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7
44. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1
45. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16
46. Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Ephesians 6:1
47. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7
48. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Psalm 106:1
49. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. Psalm 91:11
50. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life. John 3:36
51. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13
52. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

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53. The blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 John 1:7
54. God wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 Timothy 2:4
55. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21
56. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace. Ephesians 1:7
57. The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. Psalm 34:7
58. Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD! Jeremiah 17:7
59. Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. James 1:12
60. Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." John 3:5
61. Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Romans 6:3
62. He saved us, not because of works done by us in

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- righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit. Titus 3:5
63. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? 1 Corinthians 10:16
64. Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers. Psalm 1:1
65. Come, Lord Jesus, be our Guest,
And let your gifts to us be blest. Amen.
66. The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. Genesis 2:7
67. In Christ Jesus you are all children of God, through faith. Galatians 3:26
68. We know that for those who love God all things work together for good. Romans 8:28
69. Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will glorify me. Psalm 50:15
70. Do not fear, for I am with you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. Isaiah 41:10
71. Worship the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!. Psalm 100:2

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72. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1
73. Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Philippians 3:20
74. I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" Psalm 122:1
75. Love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. John 13:34
76. Jesus said, "Because I live, you also will live." John 14:19
77. Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19
78. You are the light of the world. Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:14, 16

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

79. First Commandment: You shall have no other gods.
80. Second Commandment: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
81. Third Commandment: Remember the Sabbath Day, by keeping it holy.
82. Fourth Commandment: Honor your father and your mother.
83. Fifth Commandment: You shall not murder.
84. Sixth Commandment: You shall not commit adultery.
85. Seventh Commandment: You shall not steal.
86. Eighth Commandment: You shall not give false testimony

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87. Ninth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
88. Tenth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

89. THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy 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 those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever
and ever. Amen.

90. APOSTLES' CREED

- I Believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth.
91. And in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, Our Lord, Who Was Conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was Crucified, Died and Was Buried. He Descended into Hell. The Third Day He Rose Again from the Dead. He Ascended into Heaven and Sits at the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty. From Thence He Will Come to Judge the Living and the Dead.
92. I Believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of Sins the Resurrection of the Body, and the Life Everlasting. Amen.

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93. THE MORNING PRAYER

All through the day, I humbly pray,
Be thou my guard and guide;
My sins forgive and let me live,
Blest Jesus, near Thy side.

94. THE EVENING PRAYER

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord, my soul to keep;
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord, my soul to take;
And this I ask for Jesus' sake. Amen.

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BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT

95. Books of Moses

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

96. Books of History

Joshua
Judges
Ruth
1 Samuel
2 Samuel
1 Kings
2 Kings
1 Chronicles
2 Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther

97. Wisdom Books

Job
Psalm
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon

98. Major Prophets

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel

99. Minor Prophets

Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

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NEW TESTAMENT

100. Gospels

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

Acts

II Thessalonians

I Timothy

II Timothy

Titus

Philemon

102. General Letters

Hebrews

James

I Peter

II Peter

I John

II John

III John

Jude

Revelation

101. St. Paul's Letters

Romans

I Corinthians

II Corinthians

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

I Thessalonians

103. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Psalm 119:105

104. There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12

105. 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 3:15

106. No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except in the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:3

107. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? 1 Corinthians 3:16

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108. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude.

Love never ends. 1 Corinthians 13:4, 8

109. Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

110. We, though many, are one body in Christ, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:5

111. To all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God John 1:12

112. Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1

113. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Romans 3:23-24

114. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins. 1 John 1:9

115. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

116. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9

117. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever

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believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.” John 11:25

APOSTLES' CREED

THE FIRST ARTICLE and MEANING

118. **I Believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth.**

What Does This Mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

119. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.
120. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

THE SECOND ARTICLE and MEANING

121. **And in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, Our Lord, Who Was Conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was Crucified, Died and Was Buried. He Descended into Hell. The Third Day He Rose Again from the Dead.**

122. He Ascended into Heaven and Sits At the Right Hand of God, the Father Almighty. From Thence He Will Come to Judge the Living and the Dead.
123. What Does This Mean? I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true

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- man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord,
124. who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,
125. that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

THE THIRD ARTICLE and MEANING

126. **I Believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of Sins, the Resurrection of the Body, and the Life Everlasting. Amen.**

127. What Does This Mean? I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.
128. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.
129. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

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130. "'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: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37-39
131. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. Galatians 4:4, 5
132. Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! John 1:29
133. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8
134. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Galatians 3:27
135. Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:39
136. Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
137. If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Romans 8:31-32

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138. pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. James 5:16
139. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.. Philipians 4:13
140. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Psalm 51:10
141. "I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." Jeremiah 31:34
142. Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it. Luke 11:28

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS and MEANINGS

143. First Commandment: **You shall have no other gods.**
What Does This Mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.
144. Second Commandment: **You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.**
What Does This Mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.
145. Third Commandment: **Remember the Sabbath Day, by keeping it holy.**
What Does This Mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

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146. Fourth Commandment: **Honor your father and your mother.**

What Does This Mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

147. Fifth Commandment: **You shall not murder.**

What Does This Mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

148. Sixth Commandment: **You shall not commit adultery.**

What Does This Mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

149. Seventh Commandment: **You shall not steal.**

What Does This Mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

150. Eighth Commandment: **You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**

What Does This Mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

151. Ninth Commandment: **You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**

What Does This Mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or

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house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

152. Tenth Commandment: **You shall not covet you neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

What Does This Mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

153. **LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

154. **LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

155. **PSALM 23**

The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not be in want.

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- He makes me lie down in green pastures.
156. He leads me beside quiet waters.
He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
157. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
158. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
159. Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
160. **CONFESSION OF SIN**
Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
161. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment.
162. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
163. **THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS** (spoken by the Pastors)
Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the Name of the father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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164. 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. Matthew 28:19,20
165. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him. John 3:36
166. The blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:7b, 8, 9
167. we, though many, are one body in Christ, and each member belongs to all the others. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us Romans 12:5,6b
168. 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 can boast. Ephesians 2:8,9
169. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38,39
170. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of

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life. Revelation 2:10

171. In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:19
172. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2
173. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23
174. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. 1 Corinthians 10:13
175. Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. James 2:17
176. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
177. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23
178. If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Mark 8:34-35

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THE LORD'S PRAYER and MEANING

179. THE INTRODUCTION

Our Father who art in heaven.

What Does This Mean? With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

180. THE FIRST PETITION

Hallowed be Thy name.

What Does This Mean? God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

181. *How Is God's Name Kept Holy?* God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

182. THE SECOND PETITION

Thy Kingdom Come

What Does This Mean? The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.

183. *How Does God's Kingdom come?* God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.

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184. THE THIRD PETITION

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What Does This Mean? The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

185. *How Is God's Will Done?* God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

186. THE FOURTH PETITION

Give us this day our daily bread.

What Does This Mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

187. *What Is Meant By Daily Bread?* Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

188. THE FIFTH PETITION

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What Does This Mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them.

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189. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

190. THE SIXTH PETITION

And lead us not into temptation.

What Does This Mean? God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

191. THE SEVENTH PETITION

But deliver us from evil.

What Does This Mean? We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

192. THE CONCLUSION

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

What Does This Mean? This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen, which means, "yes, yes, it shall be so."

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THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

193. **FIRST:** *What is Baptism?* Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.
194. *Which Is That Word Of God?* Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)
195. **SECOND:** *What Benefits does Baptism give?* It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.
196. **THIRD:** *How Can Water Do Such Great Things?* Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism.
197. **FOURTH:** *What Does Such Baptizing With Water Indicate?* It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.
198. *Where Is This Written?* St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." (Romans 6:4)

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CONFESSION

199. *What is confession?*
Confession has two parts.
First that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.
200. *What sins should we confess?*
Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.
201. *Which are these?*
Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

OFFICE OF THE KEYS

202. *What is the Office of the Keys?*
The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.
203. *Where is this written?*
This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they

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are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." [John 20:22–23]

204. *What do you believe according to these words?*

I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

205. FIRST: *What is the Sacrament of the Altar?* It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

206. *Where Is This Written?* The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

207. In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament, in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

208. SECOND: *What Is The Benefit Of This Eating and Drinking?* These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us

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through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

209. THIRD: *How Can Bodily Eating And Drinking Do Such Great Things?* Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."

210. FOURTH: *Who Receives This Sacrament Worthily?*

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."

211. But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

GRADES 7-8: TO BE ASSIGNED IN CONFIRMATION

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