

The Sunday School of **Calvary Orthodox Presbyterian Church** | Middletown, Pennsylvania

Adult Class ***CURRICULUM Guide***

2016-18

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[Guidelines on Levels of Christian Education]

LEVEL ONE means of Christian Education (**L1**)

The Holy Bible

The whole counsel of God.

Ideally directed by the deacons, ruling elders and pastor.

Includes the Sunday school as a means of neighborly outreach and witness.

It should be noted that all levels of Christian education are to be based solely on the infallible authority of the Holy Scripture. The driving difference between **L1** and **L2-L4** is the necessary leadership and direct guardianship of the adult Sunday school by the officers of Calvary. This is not meant in any way to exclude non-officers from participating as teachers and/or leaders in regards to **L1** means.

LEVEL TWO means of Christian education (**L2**)

The Westminster Confession of Faith

33 chapters

The Larger Catechism

196 questions

The Shorter Catechism

107 questions

LEVEL THREE means of Christian education (**L3**)

The Tenants of Calvinism

Commentary and Detailed Analysis of Scripture and/or Doctrinal Topics

Literary or Video

example (*The Enemy Within* by Lundgaard)

example (*War of Words* by Tripp)

LEVEL FOUR means of Christian education (**L4**)

Church History

example (History of the Reformation)

example (video biography of C.S. Lewis)

example (photographic study of the holy land)

Fictional Works

Literary or Video

example (*Pilgrim's Progress* by Bunyan)

[Guidelines on 10 and 2 Year Cycles]

10-YEAR Cycle Definition

40 quarters (4 quarters per calendar year)

L1 – 13 quarters over 10 years

L2 – 10 quarters over 10 years

L3 – 9 quarters over 10 years

L4 – 8 quarters over 10 years

The primary goal of the **10-YEAR Cycle** is to reach a total of twenty-three quarters (just short of 6 years worth) of adult Sunday school education which will be primarily drawn from **L1** and **L2** means of Christian education, with a slight preference for the directional leadership of the church officers based on **L1**.

For example, in order to reach this goal, four out of every twelve quarters (1/3 when reduced) will need to be spent on **L1** means of Christian education.

The intent of the **10-YEAR Cycle** is to reinforce both scripture and the doctrines of the reformed faith (the WCF and the catechisms) twice a generation (generation being defined as roughly 20 years) by occupying greater than half of the set timeline (5 3/4 years out of 10 years, or 11 1/2 years of a 20-year generation). While **L1** and **L2** means serve as the foundation, **L3** and **L4** means (specific commentaries, history, fictional works, etc...) offer both variation from, and reinforcement to the primary goal of the **10-YEAR Cycle**. As part of **L1** means, it is hoped that the whole counsel of God will be proclaimed through scriptural teaching within the Sunday school once a generation.

The **10-YEAR Cycle** (as a guide) will be broken down into five distinct **2-YEAR Cycles** (see next page) of topic specific curriculums, to be determined no less than two months prior to the start of the next cycle. It is not imperative that the **2-YEAR Cycle** be entirely predetermined, but the officers of the church, as well as notable gifted teachers within, will be interviewed for possible ideas and recommendations as each curriculum is formed. This would go as far as to propose specific topics for quarters yet to be assigned to a teacher, but some quarters will be left open for suggested and volunteered material.

2-YEAR Cycle Definition

8 quarters (4 quarters per calendar year)

L1 – 2-3 quarters over 2 years

L2 – 2-3 quarters over 2 years

L3 – 1-2 quarters over 2 years

L4 – 1-2 quarters over 2 years

As a part of the greater **10-YEAR Cycle**, the purpose of the **2-YEAR Cycle** will be to maintain a balance of all four levels of Christian education (**L1-L4**), while also keeping the adult class on track to meet the targeted goals of the underlying **10-YEAR Cycle**.

Each **2-YEAR Cycle** will be carefully organized by committee in order to fulfill the obligations of the **10-YEAR Cycle**, as well as noticeable and specific needs within the church body.

As each **2-YEAR Cycle** is being formed, it will certainly be welcomed and encouraged for any communicant member of the congregation to take part in the organizational process of the curriculum. This can be as much as serving on the committee, or as little as writing an anonymous suggestion for a specific topic or material.

While open to all communicant members, each committee that is formed to generate a **2-YEAR Cycle** shall incorporate and be inherently led by church officers.

Proposed **2-YEAR Cycle for 2016-2018**

2016-17

Spring (Mar-May 2016): *How to Teach / He Gave Us Prophets (L4) / (L1)*

Teacher: **NEEDED**

Summer (Jun-Aug 2016): *Christian Living in the Home* (Book and Study Guide)
by Jay Adams **(L3)**

Teacher: **NEEDED**

Fall (Sep-Nov 2016): *Westminster Shorter Catechism – Part 1* (online
resources and Williamson) **(L2)**

Teacher: **NEEDED**

Winter (Dec '16-Feb 2017): *Westminster Shorter Catechism – Part 2* (online
resources and Williamson) **(L2)**

Teacher: **NEEDED**

2017-18

Spring (Mar-May 2017): *Practical Theology Topic / The Letters of John
Newton (L3)*

Teacher: **NEEDED**

Summer (Jun-Aug 2017): *...On Christian Life Series* (Leader Biographies) **(L4)**

Teacher: **Harold Keener**

Fall (Sep-Nov 2017): *The Church of Christ* (Bannerman, McGraw) / *The
Glorious Body of Christ* (R.B. Kuiper) – **Part 1 (L1)**

Teacher: **NEEDED**

Winter (Dec '17-Feb 2018): *The Church of Christ* (Bannerman, McGraw) / *The
Glorious Body of Christ* (R.B. Kuiper) – **Part 2 (L1)**

Teacher: **NEEDED**

For additional information please refer to the **2-YEAR Cycle Chart** which is hanging on the Sunday school bulletin board in the main stairwell.

Each **2-YEAR Cycle** will always be open for adjustment based on certain factors and availability. If you would like to propose a change at any time, please never hesitate to do so.

[Additional Information]

Contact

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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. 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.

II Timothy 3:14-17