

Rooted & Ready

Deep Discipleship through the New City Catechism

Prepare before class

Daily:

- Read or listen to assigned catechism questions/answers
- Reflect: on the scripture connection
- Journal or discuss and take a few notes: what does this teach me about God? What does this teach me about Jesus? What does this mean to you and how do you apply it to your life?
- Pray
- Memorize at least one of the seven Q&A. Why did you choose the one you did?

WEEK 1: God, Creation, and Our Purpose

Questions 1–7

Q1. What is our only hope in life and death?

What am I tempted to place my hope in besides Christ?

How would my week look different if I truly believed I belong to Jesus?

Q2. What is God?

Which attribute of God comforts me most right now?

Which attribute do I tend to forget?

Q3. How many persons are there in God?

How does knowing God is Father, Son, and Spirit affect my relationship with Him?

Describe the trinity in your own words.

Q4. How and why did God create us?

Where am I living for my own glory instead of God's?

Do I know how to live for God?

Q5. What else did God create?

What part of creation helps me worship God?

How should I steward creation?

Q6. How can we glorify God?

How did I glorify God today? How can I call this out daily?

Where did I fail to honor Him?

Q7. What does the law of God require?

Which is harder for me right now: loving God or loving my neighbor?

Weekly Application

Identity and Purpose

- What does it mean to belong to God?
- Living for God's glory in ordinary life.
- What is one actionable way to apply this to your life this week?

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WEEK 2: God's Law

Questions 8–14

Q8. What is the law of God stated in the Ten Commandments?

Which commandment do I most easily ignore?

Which commandments are second nature to me?

Q9. What does God require in the first, second, and third commandments?

What idols compete for my worship?

Do I treat God's name with fear and reverence?

Q10. What does God require in the fourth and fifth commandments?

How am I honoring the Sabbath? Am I giving myself a day of rest?

How am I honoring not only my parents, but also my bosses, coworkers, and those who hold authority over me?

Q11. What does God require in the sixth, seventh, and eighth commandments?

How do my actions affect others?

What do I struggle with? How can I lift others up to better align with His commands?

Q12. What does God require in the ninth and tenth commandments?

What desires reveal discontentment in my heart?

How do I deal with that discontentment?

Q13. Can anyone keep the law of God perfectly?

Why do I still try to justify myself?

How do I stay encouraged?

Q14. Did God create us unable to keep His law?

How have I used my freedom well or poorly?

Weekly Application

Why God's commands are good

- Law as gift, not burden.
- Revealing our need for grace.
- What is one actionable way to apply this to your life this week?

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WEEK 3: Sin and the Human Condition

Questions 15–21

Q15. Since no one can keep the law, what is its purpose?

Where did I resist God's will today?

Q16. What is sin?

What receives more affection than God?

What tools can I put into place to change that?

Q17. What is idolatry?

Do I take sin as seriously as God does?

What is an idol in my life or what was an idol in my life?

Q18. Will God allow our disobedience and idolatry to go unpunished?

How does God's justice shape my view of Him?

Does God's justice bring me comfort?

Q19. Is there any way to escape punishment and be brought back into God's favor?

What does God's mercy mean to me personally?

Where have I experienced God's mercy in my life?

Q20. Who is the redeemer?

What aspect of Christ's work amazes me most?

What does it mean to me that Jesus bore my penalty?

Q21. What sort of redeemer is needed to bring us back to God?

Why must Jesus be both God and man?

Weekly Application

The seriousness of sin and greatness of grace

- What is one actionable way to apply this to your life this week?

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WEEK 4: Christ Our Redeemer

Questions 22–28

Daily Prompts

Q22. Why must the redeemer be truly human?

Why do you think it was important that Jesus experienced life as a human being? How does that affect your trust in Him?

What struggles or temptations do you face that Jesus also understands from His earthly life?

Q23. Why must the redeemer be truly God?

Why would an ordinary human be unable to save the world from sin?

What does Jesus' divine nature teach you about who God is?

Q24. Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die?

What does Christ's death reveal about the seriousness of sin?

How should remembering Christ's death affect the way I live today?

Q25. Does Christ's death mean all our sins can be forgiven?

Is there a sin or failure I find difficult to bring to God? Why?

What does it mean to personally trust Christ for forgiveness?

Q26. What else does Christ's death redeem?

Besides forgiving sins, what broken things in the world do you long for God to restore?

How does the promise of a renewed creation encourage you when life is difficult?

Q27. Are all people, just as they were lost through Adam, saved through Christ?

What is the difference between knowing about Jesus and trusting in Jesus?

How can you pray for friends or family members who do not yet know Christ?

Q28. What happens after death to those not united to Christ by faith?

What emotions surface when thinking about eternity?

How should the reality of eternal consequences influence the way you live and share your faith?

Weekly Application

Finding security in Jesus instead of ourselves

- What is one actionable way to apply this to your life this week?

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WEEK 5: Grace, Faith, and Justification

Questions 29–35

Daily journaling themes:

Q29. How can we be saved?

Am I trusting Jesus or my performance?

Why is salvation something I receive rather than something I earn?

Q30. What is faith in Jesus Christ?

Where do I need to trust God more?

What is the difference between knowing facts about Jesus and trusting Him personally?

Q31. What do we believe by true faith?

Which truth of the gospel is hardest to believe personally?

What gospel promise brings me the most comfort today?

Q32. What do justification and sanctification mean?

Where do I see God changing me?

How does knowing I am justified by Christ encourage me when I struggle with sin?

Q33. Should those who have faith in Christ seek their salvation through their own works, or anywhere else?

What good work can I do this week?

Are there some ways I sometimes try to earn God's acceptance?

Q34. Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through Christ alone, must we still do good works and obey God's word?

What sin am I tolerating that God is calling me to address?

What is one specific step of obedience I can take this week?

Q35. Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through faith alone, where does this faith come from?

How does knowing faith is God's gift encourage humility?

In what ways have I see God strengthen my faith over time?

Weekly Application

The difference between earning and receiving

- What is one actionable way to apply this to your life this week?

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WEEK 6: The Holy Spirit and Prayer

Questions 36–42

Q36. What do we believe about the Holy Spirit?

What does it mean to me that God is present with His people through the Holy Spirit?

How can I become more aware of the Spirit's work in my daily life?

Q37. How does the Holy Spirit help us?

Where have I seen the Spirit's help this week?

When have I sensed God giving me strength, wisdom, or comfort recently?

Q38. What is prayer?

What am I bringing before God today?

Does prayer help me grow my relationship with God? How?

Q39. With what attitude should we pray?

What attitudes hinder my prayer life?

What does it look like to pray with confidence while submitted to God's will?

Q41. What is the Lord's prayer?

Which phrase of the Lord's Prayer speaks most to me today? Why?

What does the Lord's Prayer teach me?

Q42. How is the word of God to be read and heard?

What helps me listen carefully and attentively when God's Word is read or taught?

Weekly Application

Developing a life of dependence on God

- What is one actionable way to apply this to your life this week?

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WEEK 7: Sacraments and the Church

Questions 43–49

Q43. What are the sacraments or ordinances?

How do baptism and the Lord's Supper help believers remember the gospel?

Why do you think God gave visible signs to strengthen our faith?

Q44. What is baptism?

What does baptism teach about belonging to Christ?

How does baptism point to the new life God gives His people?

Q45. Is baptism with water the washing away of sin itself?

Why is it important to understand the difference between a symbol and the reality it represents?

What does this question teach about God's grace and salvation?

Q46. What is the Lord's Supper?

How does reflecting on Christ's sacrifice strengthen your faith?

Why is remembering God's promises important for spiritual growth?

Q47. Does the Lord's Supper add anything to Christ's atoning work?

What does this question teach about the completeness of Christ's sacrifice?

Are there some ways you act as though you need to earn God's favor? How?

Q48. What is the church?

How has God used the church to encourage or strengthen your faith?

Why is being part of a community of believers so important?

Q49. Where is Christ now?

What concerns or fears can you entrust to Jesus, who rules over all things?

How does Christ's present reign give you hope for the future?

Weekly Application

The Christian life is not meant to be lived alone

- What is one actionable way to apply this to your life this week?

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WEEK 8: Restoration and Eternal Hope

Questions 50–52 + Review Week

Q50. What does Christ's resurrection mean for us?

Where do I need resurrection hope?

What does Christ's resurrection teach me about God's power to bring new life and change?

Q51. Of what advantage to us is Christ's ascension?

How does knowing Jesus reigns encourage me?

What worries or burdens can I entrust to Christ, who rules over all things?

Q52. What hope does everlasting life hold for us?

How would my priorities change if I lived with eternity in view?

How can the hope of eternity shape the way I treat others and make decisions today?

Additional Review Days

- Most challenging question
- Most encouraging question
- Most transformative question
- Questions you still wrestle with

Weekly Application

Living now in light of eternity

- What is one actionable way to apply this to your life this week?
- How does being 'armed' with this information help to defend your faith?

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