

The Solar System

A 5-DAY JOURNEY THROUGH THE FIVE SOLAS

TEACHER'S GUIDE



Catechism for Kids

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Teacher's Guide

Overview

The Sola System workbook is designed as a five-day study guide to understanding the five Reformation Solas:

1. Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone)
2. Sola Fide (Faith Alone)
3. Sola Gratia (Grace Alone)
4. Solus Christus (Christ Alone)
5. Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God Alone)

The five Solas formed the rallying cry of the Reformation and summarized the distinctive doctrines of the Reformers—that salvation is found only in Christ by grace through faith, that Scripture is the only inspired and authoritative revelation of God, and that all glory belongs to God alone.

The Sola System workbook presents these lessons in a fun-filled 5-day format ideal for Vacation Bible School or summer Sunday School programs. Each lesson focuses on one of the Solas, beginning with Sola Scriptura on Day 1 and ending with Soli Deo Gloria on Day 5. The space travel theme provides children with a sense of adventure and discovery, while teaching them important theological concepts.

Each lesson is composed of three parts. The first asks the student to decode a secret message. The Decoder Handbook is located in the front of each workbook. Using the Decoder Handbook, the child can decode the secret message to reveal one of the Reformation Solas. The second portion of the lesson explains the theological concept and provides a memory verse for study. The third part teaches the child a story from the life of Christ to illustrate the theological concept. Additionally, there are exciting pictures in each lesson which may be used in coloring activities, especially for younger children.

Lesson 1: Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone)

The secret message in this lesson may be decoded using the numerical code in the Decoder Handbook at the beginning of the workbook. Once decoded, the message reads: *Sola Scriptura*. As the teacher, you should explain to the students that this is a Latin phrase which translates to 'Scripture Alone.'

The second part of the lesson explains that Scripture is our guide in life (like a map) and that we could never know God without the revelation found in Scripture. Go over the memory verse with the children, having them repeat it several times.

The third part of the lesson is the story of Simeon waiting expectantly for the Messiah. Emphasize to the children that it was through the revelation of Scripture (the prophecies of the Old Testament) that Simeon and others knew that the Messiah was coming.

Lesson 2: Sola Fide (Faith Alone)

The secret message in this lesson may be decoded using the pictorial code in the Decoder Handbook at the beginning of the workbook. Once decoded, the message reads: *Sola Fide*. Explain to the students that this is a Latin phrase which translates to 'Faith Alone.'

The second part of the lesson explains that faith is trust in God. Emphasize to the students that they must believe the Bible as they read it. They must believe that God's Word is true and put their faith in Christ for salvation. Repeat the memory verse with the children.

The third part of the lesson tells the story of Jesus calling Simon and Andrew to be His disciples. Explain to the students that Simon and Andrew followed Jesus because they put their faith in Him. They believed that Jesus was the Son of God.

Lesson 3: Sola Gratia (Grace Alone)

The secret message for Day 3 may be decoded by using the punctuation code in the Decoder Handbook at the beginning of the workbook. Once decoded, the message reads: *Sola Gratia*. Explain to the students that this is a Latin phrase which translates to 'Grace Alone.'

The second part of the lesson explains that salvation is a free gift of God. We do not earn salvation. Jesus paid for our sins, and we receive forgiveness through Him. Repeat the memory verse with the children.

The third part of the lesson tells the story of Jesus healing a paralyzed man. However, the emphasis of the story should be on the forgiveness of sins. Explain to the children that Jesus forgave the man's sins first, and then healed him to demonstrate His divine authority to forgive sins. Only God can forgive sins, and Jesus revealed His divine nature through the forgiveness of sins. Through Christ, our sins are forgiven, just like Jesus forgave the sins of the paralyzed man. It was not through his good works that the man was forgiven, but he was forgiven as a free gift of God through faith in Christ.

Lesson 4: Solus Christus (Christ Alone)

The secret message for Day 4 must be selected out of several fake messages. The real message reads: *Solus Christus*. Explain to the students that this is a Latin phrase which translates to 'Christ Alone.'

The second part of the lesson for Day 4 proclaims Christ as the only way to God and declares the importance of following Him. Repeat the memory verse with the children, explaining that there are many false religions and that salvation is only found in Christ as He is revealed through Scripture.

The story for Day 4 is the account of the crucifixion. Emphasize to the children that Christ knew that He would die. He had been born for this purpose, and He died to save us from our sins.

Lesson 5: Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God Alone)

The final secret message may be decoded using the Morse code in the Decoder Handbook at the beginning of the workbook. Once decoded, the message reads: *Soli Deo Gloria*. Explain to the students that this is a Latin phrase which translates to 'Glory to God Alone.'

The second part of the lesson declares that all glory belongs to God alone. He has created us and redeemed us. Salvation is not from ourselves, but from Him. Repeat the memory verse with the children.

The third part of the lesson tells about Christ's resurrection and ascension. Explain to the children that Christ will return someday in great glory to judge the world.

Modifications for Young Children

This workbook is generally intended for children ages 6-12. With modifications, it may be used with younger children as well. Children who are not of reading age may not be able to decode the secret messages. However, the concepts and memory verses can be used. Instead of decoding secret messages, teachers may encourage young children to color the pictures as an activity related to the lesson.

Do you have questions? Visit our website at www.catechismforkids.com
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