

# **Westminster** **Shorter Catechism** *for kids*

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Workbook Three: Christ, Our Redeemer  
Questions 21 – 30

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## **SOLUTIONS MANUAL**

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*Catechism for Kids*  
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## Jesus Christ, Our Redeemer

**What does “redeemer” mean?** A **redeemer** pays the price for someone to be restored or made free.

**Who are God’s elect?** God’s **elect** are those whom he has chosen for salvation.

In *Workbook Two: The Fall*, we talked about how evil came into the world. Adam and Eve broke the covenant of works when they ate the forbidden fruit. Because the covenant was made for all mankind, everyone born after them had a sinful nature—except one. Jesus kept the law of God perfectly. God made a new covenant with Christ Jesus as the covenant head.

## Who is Jesus?

Question 21 of the Catechism tells us that Jesus is the eternal

      **Son**             **of**             **God.**      

Jesus was born as a human baby in the town of Bethlehem.

Is Jesus God?       **Yes**      

Is Jesus a man?       **Yes**      

If you answered ‘yes’ to both those questions, then you are correct! The catechism tells us that Jesus is both God and man, in two distinct natures and one person forever.

Let’s look at two Bible verses that tell us that Jesus is both human and the Son of God.

**Galatians 4:4-5** But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

**John 1:14** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



**Answer the questions below.**

Who is the Word referred to in John 1:14? Jesus

According to Galatians 4:4-5, why did God send his Son?

To redeem those under the law

According to John 1:14, where did the Word make his dwelling?

Among us

We can see in the Bible that Jesus knew that he was both fully a man and also fully God.

**Matthew 16:13-20** When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.



## Let's Think!

In Matthew 6:13-20, Jesus called himself the Son of Man

Peter declared that Jesus was the Son of God

Did everyone who saw Jesus recognize that he was both man and God?

No

What is the theological term that refers to the union of the divine nature and the human nature in Christ?

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**hypostatic union**



Answer the questions below.

What was the incarnation?

The incarnation was Jesus, the Eternal Son of God, taking on  
human form and being conceived in the womb of virgin Mary.

What are some ways in which the Son of God humbled himself?

Jesus humbled himself by being born in a stable and  
becoming obedient to death on the cross.

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**Micah 5:2-4**

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
though you are small among the clans of Judah,  
out of you will come for me  
one who will be ruler over Israel,  
whose origins are from of old,  
from ancient times.

Therefore Israel will be abandoned  
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,  
and the rest of his brothers return  
to join the Israelites.

He will stand and shepherd his flock  
in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they will live securely, for then his greatness  
will reach to the ends of the earth.



## Let's Think!

According to the prophecy, where would the Messiah be born?

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**Bethlehem**

From which tribe (clan) in Israel would the Messiah come?

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**Judah**



What does the prophecy mean when it says that the Messiah's origins are from ancient times?

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**He always existed**

---

**Isaiah 9:6-7**

For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.  
He will reign on David's throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.  
The zeal of the LORD Almighty  
will accomplish this.



**Let's Think!**

According to the prophecy, how long would the Messiah reign?

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**forever**

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The prophecy lists four names for the Messiah. What are those names?

1. Wonderful Counselor

2. Mighty God

3. Everlasting Father

4. Prince of Peace

Sometimes people claim that the Messiah was only supposed to be a man, not God himself. Look at the names listed in the prophecy, and explain why we know from this prophecy that the Messiah is God.

The prophecy calls the Messiah 'Mighty God'  
and 'Everlasting Father'.



## Let's Think!

Did the angels announce the birth of Jesus to the king of Judea?

No

Who received the announcement that the long-awaited Christ had finally arrived?

shepherds in the field

How did this announcement demonstrate Jesus' humility?

The announcement was given to ordinary people, not to kings.

How did this announcement demonstrate Jesus' glory?

Angels from Heaven brought the message that Christ

the Lord was born.

## Jesus Christ, Our Mediator

The Bible tells us that Jesus is the only Mediator between God and man. A mediator is someone who mends a broken relationship between others by helping them resolve a conflict. Our relationship with God was broken because of sin. Jesus brought us back together with God so that we are no longer enemies of God.

Let's look at a Bible verse that tells us that Jesus is our Mediator. The apostle Paul wrote:

**I Timothy 2:5** For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus.

Notice that Paul refers to Jesus as "the man Christ Jesus." Remember that we read in another of Paul's letters that Jesus was eternally God and became man:

**Philippians 2:5-7** In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.



## Let's Think!

Is Jesus God? Yes

Is Jesus man? Yes

What is the theological term that describes the union of God and man in one person? (If you do not remember, look back at page 13 in this workbook.)

hypostatic      union

Why is this union of God and man in the person of Christ Jesus important when we think of Jesus as our Mediator?

God and man come together in the person of Christ.

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## Lesson 2

Question 23: What offices doth Christ execute as our redeemer?

Answer: Christ, as our \_\_\_\_\_, executeth the offices  
of a \_\_\_\_\_, of a \_\_\_\_\_, and of a  
king, both in his estate of \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_.

### Prophet, Priest, and King

Christ is our Mediator. He brings peace between God and man. We who are redeemed are no longer enemies of God. As our Mediator, Christ takes upon himself certain responsibilities and roles. This is what the Shorter Catechism means when it says that Christ **executes offices**.

What offices does Christ execute? Christ executes the offices of a

\_\_\_\_\_ **prophet,** \_\_\_\_\_ **priest,** and \_\_\_\_\_ **king.**

Consider the second part of the catechism answer:

Christ, as our Redeemer, executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, **both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.**

**What does the Westminster Shorter Catechism mean when it speaks of Christ's *humiliation*?** It is referring to the ways in which Jesus humbled himself (brought himself low) when he became man and died for us.

**What does the Westminster Shorter Catechism mean when it speaks of Christ's *exaltation*?** It is referring to the ways in which Christ was exalted (raised up) when he rose from the dead, ascended to heaven, and was seated at the right hand of the Father.

In both **humiliation** and **exaltation**, Christ is our prophet, our priest, and our king.



**Read the following sentences and indicate whether each sentence is referring to Christ's humiliation (H) or to his exaltation (E).**

    **E**     1. Jesus ascended to heaven.

    **H**     2. Jesus died on the cross.

    **E**     3. Jesus rose from the dead.

    **H**     4. Jesus was born in a stable.

    **E**     5. Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Father.

## Jesus Christ, Our Prophet

A **prophet** is someone who speaks the words of God to people. There are many prophets in the Bible. They revealed the will of God to the people of Israel by telling everyone what God said.



**Do you remember some of the prophets?  
List the names of five prophets  
mentioned in the Bible.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **Answers may vary**
2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Answers may vary**
3. \_\_\_\_\_ **Answers may vary**
4. \_\_\_\_\_ **Answers may vary**
5. \_\_\_\_\_ **Answers may vary**

Jesus is also a prophet, but not just any prophet. He is the Great Prophet, the revelation of God to man. The gospel of John introduces Jesus as the Word.

**John 1:14** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jesus showed God to us through everything he said and did, because Jesus is God. *Everything* about the life of Jesus was a revelation of God to us.





## Let's Think!

Think about the life of Jesus. What are some ways in which Jesus revealed God's character and will to everyone around him?

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**Answers may vary**

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You are not living during the time in which Jesus walked the earth preaching and working miracles.

Is Jesus still your prophet? Yes

How do you learn about what Jesus said and did on earth so that you can know God?

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**I can read about it in the Bible.**

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## Lesson 2

Question 24: How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

Answer: Christ executeth the \_\_\_\_\_ of a prophet, in  
\_\_\_\_\_ to us, by his \_\_\_\_\_ and Spirit, the  
will of God for our \_\_\_\_\_ .

### The Holy Spirit

In the last lesson, we talked about how the life of Jesus reveals God to us. Jesus showed God's character and God's will to us through everything he said and did.

After Jesus rose from the dead, he ascended into heaven. However, Jesus is still our Prophet. He speaks to the world today through the preaching of the gospel.

There is one more way in which Jesus is still our Prophet today. Before he ascended into heaven, Jesus told his disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is given to every believer.

The apostle Paul wrote that the Spirit is given to us so that we may better know God. The Spirit opens the eyes of our hearts so that we may see God's glory revealed in the gospel.

**Ephesians 1:17-18** I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.



## Let's Think!

Read each of the Bible verses below and explain how the Holy Spirit reveals the will of God for our salvation.

**John 16:7-8** But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment.

The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ **convicts us of sin** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Titus 3:4-6** But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.

The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ **washes and renews us** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 8:15-16** The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "*Abba*, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ **testifies with our spirit that we are God's** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **children** \_\_\_\_\_

did with the bull's blood: He shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it. In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been. He is to do the same for the tent of meeting, which is among them in the midst of their uncleanness. No one is to be in the tent of meeting from the time Aaron goes in to make atonement in the Most Holy Place until he comes out, having made atonement for himself, his household and the whole community of Israel."

**Atonement** means **payment for sin**. Aaron the priest was atoning (paying for) the sins of the people by offering sacrifices to God. Aaron must offer two sacrifices—one for himself and his household and one for the people of Israel. Aaron was a sinner like everyone else. Before he could atone for the sins of the people, he had to first atone for his own sins.

There was no end to the sacrifices in Israel before Christ. The priests had to offer sacrifices all the time because everyone kept sinning, including the priests themselves.



**Answer the questions below.**

What do we mean when we talk about **atonement**?

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**payment for sin**

Who offered the sacrifices in the Old Testament?

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**the priests**

Look back at the Bible passage that we read in Leviticus. Did God allow Aaron to come into the Most Holy Place whenever Aaron wanted to go?

No

What would happen to Aaron if he entered the Most Holy Place wrongfully?

he would die

Were the priests in the Old Testament sinless? No

What did the priests have to do before they offered a sacrifice to atone for the sins of the people?

The priests had to offer a sacrifice for their own sin.

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**What does the catechism mean when it says that Christ's sacrifice reconciles us to God?** It means that we are not enemies of God anymore. Jesus paid for our sins, and now we are friends of God.

In the Bible, the book of Hebrews tells us that Jesus is our High Priest. The Israelites had many high priests, but Jesus is different from all of them. Hebrews explains why Jesus is a far greater High Priest than any who had yet existed.

**Hebrews 7:26-28** Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests men in all their weakness; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.



**Let's Think!**

How is Jesus different from other high priests?

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**Jesus never sinned.**

Since Jesus never sinned, what could he do that other priests could not do?

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**Sacrifice himself for our sins once and for all.**

Do you offer sacrifices today for your sins? No

Why do you not need to offer any sacrifice?

Jesus already made the perfect sacrifice for our sins.

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**Hebrews 7:23-25** Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

Jesus Christ is the perfect priest. He atoned for our sins with his own blood, and now he intercedes for us. Since Jesus is sinless and eternal, he saves us completely and forever.



**Answer the questions below.**

What do we mean when we say that Christ intercedes for us?

**Jesus prays for us.**

The high priest Aaron died many, many years ago, and someone else became high priest. Later, that high priest also died, and another person became high priest. How did Jesus change this?

**Jesus is our priest forever.**

## Jesus Christ, Our King

We have learned that Christ is our Prophet who shows us God's will for our salvation, and we have also learned that Christ is our Priest who offered himself as the sacrifice for our sins and intercedes for us. In this section, we will talk about the third office of Christ: He is our King.

What does a king do? A king rules over his people and  
defends them.

The prophets of the Old Testament had foretold that the Messiah would be a great king. Let's review one of those prophecies:

### Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.  
He will reign on David's throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.  
The zeal of the LORD Almighty  
will accomplish this.

The people of Israel knew this prophecy, and they waited for their Messiah King. However, they did not truly understand the sort of king that Jesus would be. Many of the Jews believed that the Messiah would overthrow the Roman government. They hated the Romans who ruled over them, and they expected Jesus to raise an army and fight. Jesus was arrested by the Romans after he was betrayed by Judas. Pilate (the Roman governor) asked Jesus whether he was king of the Jews.

**John 18:36-37** Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

“You are a king, then!” said Pilate.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

Jesus is our King, but he did not overthrow the Roman government as many people expected. He explained to Pilate that his kingdom is not of this world. Jesus is King today, but we do not elect him president of the United States. He is another sort of king. We will study in the next lesson how Jesus reigns as our King.



**Let's Think!**

Read Isaiah's prophecy about the Messiah. For whom is the child born?

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**for us**

Which portions of the prophecy tell us that the Messiah will be our king?

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**He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom.**

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Jesus told Pilate, "For this reason, I was born." To what reason was he referring?

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**He was born to die for our sins.**

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Jesus also told Pilate, "Now my kingdom is from another place." What place did he mean?

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**Christ's kingdom is from heaven.**

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## Lesson 2

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Question 26: How doth Christ execute the office of a king?

Answer: Christ \_\_\_\_\_ the office of a \_\_\_\_\_ ,  
in \_\_\_\_\_ us to himself, in \_\_\_\_\_ and  
defending us, and in \_\_\_\_\_ and conquering  
all his and our \_\_\_\_\_ .

### Subduing, Defending, Conquering

The Westminster Shorter Catechism speaks of three ways in which Jesus reigns as our King. Can you list them?

1. **He subdues us to himself.** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. He defends us.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. He restrains and conquers all of his and our enemies.

\_\_\_\_\_

Very good! Now we will discuss each of these.

1. **Jesus subdues us to himself.** This means that Jesus causes us to stop rebelling against him. He makes us willing to serve him.
2. **Jesus rules and defends us.** He makes laws for us, protects us from evil, and he intercedes for us.
3. **Jesus restrains and conquers all of his and our enemies.** To **restrain** means **to hold back**. Jesus holds back and conquers enemies—both his enemies and our enemies.



**Let's Think!**

Read each of the Bible verses and explain how the verse shows Jesus reigning as King.

**I Corinthians 15:55-57** “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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**Jesus conquered death.**

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**Isaiah 44:5** Some will say, “I belong to the LORD”; others will call themselves by the name of Jacob; still others will write on their hand, “The LORD’s,” and will take the name Israel.

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**We are his people.**

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**Colossians 2:15** And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

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**He triumphed over Satan.**

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**Revelation 17:14** They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.

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**He defends his people.**

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Now read the account in Luke of the events that occurred after Jesus was born.

**Luke 2:21-24** On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”



**Let's Think!**

During his entire life on earth, Jesus kept the law of God perfectly. How does this story in Luke demonstrate that Jesus kept the law of God even as a baby?

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**Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day, and the**

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**sacrifice was made.**

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Consider the sacrifice that Joseph and Mary brought when they took Jesus to the temple for his dedication. Look at the law given in Leviticus. Do you think Joseph and Mary were rich or poor? Why?

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**They were poor. They could not afford a lamb.**

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Can you think of another story about Jesus that shows that he kept the law of God?

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**Answers may vary**

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## Let's Think!

Read each Bible verse and explain how the verse shows Jesus suffering in the same ways in which you and I suffer.

**John 11:33-35** When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" he asked.  
"Come and see, Lord," they replied.  
Jesus wept.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Jesus cried.** \_\_\_\_\_

**John 4:6** Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Jesus was tired.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark 11:12** The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Jesus was hungry.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark 14:32-34** They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch."

**Jesus was distressed and troubled.**

### Lesson 3

Question 27: Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist?

Answer: Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ consisted in his being \_\_\_\_\_, and that in a low \_\_\_\_\_, made under the \_\_\_\_\_, undergoing the miseries of this \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, and the cursed \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_; in being \_\_\_\_\_, and continuing under the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ for a time.

Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."

And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.



## Let's Think!

Was Jesus surprised when Judas Iscariot betrayed him?     No    

How do you know that Jesus could have escaped? What did he say when his companion started fighting the soldiers?

Jesus said he could call down an army of angels to defend him.

Do you think that Judas believed that Jesus would be killed when he betrayed Jesus? Why or why not?

No. Judas hanged himself when Jesus was condemned.

Who mocked Jesus while he was dying?

**The soldiers, chief priests, people who walked by,**

---

**and the robbers.**

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After Jesus died, he was buried in a tomb, and a huge stone was rolled in front of the entrance of the tomb. For three days, his body lay in the tomb. The disciples had not expected Jesus to die. Now they were about to be surprised again—but this time in a wonderful way!

## The Resurrection

The Westminster Shorter Catechism speaks of Christ's **exaltation**—the ways in which Jesus was raised on high. Jesus had made himself low in his birth, suffering, and death. Now he would be raised up again. The catechism names four ways in which Jesus was (and will be) **exalted**. Can you name them?

1. Jesus rose from the dead
2. Jesus ascended
3. Jesus sat down at the right hand of God the Father
4. Jesus will return to judge the world

The first and most obvious of these is that Christ was raised up in the resurrection. He rose from the dead. Let's read the story.

**Luke 24:1-8** On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be

delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " Then they remembered his words.



Answer the questions below.

Who were the first to discover that Jesus had risen from the dead?

Women who went to the tomb.

Who did the women see in the tomb? Two men in gleaming

clothes.

What did the angels tell the women? They told the women

that Jesus had risen from the dead.



**Acts 1:1-11** In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."



**Answer the questions below.**

How many days did Jesus appear to his disciples? 40

What did he talk to them about? The kingdom of God

---

Where did Jesus tell them to stay? In Jerusalem

What did Jesus tell them would happen when the promised Holy Spirit arrived?

That they would receive power and they would be his witnesses.

---

The Westminster Shorter Catechism says that Jesus sat down at the right hand of God the Father. What is Jesus doing now at the right hand of the Father? (Look back at page 51 in this workbook if you do not remember.)

He makes intercession for us.

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will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

When Paul spoke of those who had **fallen asleep**, he was talking about those who had died. (This is similar to the way people today talk about those who have "passed away.") Paul told the Thessalonian church not to grieve without any hope, but rather to remember that we will all rise from the dead when Christ returns.

The apostle John wrote about the return of Christ as well.

**Revelation 1:7** "Look, he is coming with the clouds," and "every eye will see him, even those who pierced him"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him." So shall it be! Amen.



**Let's Think!**

Jesus was born in a small town to a poor family. He was born in a stable. Very few people even knew about his birth. How will his return be different?

**Everyone will see him.**

What does the Westminster Shorter Catechism tell us that Jesus will do after he returns?

He will \_\_\_ **judge** \_\_\_ the world.

John tells us that the world will mourn because of Christ's return. Why will the world mourn?

**Because he will judge them for their sin.**

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Although John talks about the world mourning when Christ returns, Paul tells us that we should encourage each other by talking about the return of Christ. Why can we be encouraged?

**Our sins are forgiven in Christ and we do not need to be afraid.**

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## Redemption



Let's review!

In this workbook, we began by stating that the only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you remember what redeemer means? (If you do not remember, look at page 11 in this workbook.)

A redeemer pays the price for someone to be restored or set free.

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Next we studied the offices of Christ. What are Christ's three offices?

1. Prophet
2. Priest
3. King

Finally, we looked at the life of Christ in his humiliation and exaltation. We reviewed how Jesus was born, suffered, and died, and then how he rose from the dead and ascended to heaven.

Now we will discuss how this applies to us. God redeemed us through the work of Christ. How do we receive this redemption? Read Question 29 in the Westminster Shorter Catechism once more.

**Question 29: How are we made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ?**

Answer: We are made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ by the effectual application of it to us by his Holy Spirit.

**What does the Westminster Shorter Catechism mean when it calls us *partakers of the redemption*? A **partaker** is someone who takes part in something or receives something. We **partake** (receive) the redemption purchased by Christ.**

**What does *purchased* mean? Purchased means **bought**. Christ bought our redemption through his sacrifice on the cross when he paid for our sins, and he redeemed us.**

**What is *effectual application*? Effectual means that something produces the result that was wanted. Application means it is brought to us and affects us. God applies redemption to his elect effectually—so that it always produces a good result. It always works, because God is infinitely powerful. He is able to redeem us.**

Who applies the redemption purchased by Christ to us?

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### **The Holy Spirit**

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In the next lesson, we will talk more about the Holy Spirit.

Do you remember? (What was the problem that the Synod of Dordt discussed? (If you do not remember, look back at page 83 in your previous workbook.)

**Some people were teaching that salvation is our own choice.**

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One of the things that the Synod wrote about was the work of the Holy Spirit in applying the redemption of Christ to us. Let's read what they said.

**Canons of Dordt, Third and Fourth Main Points of Doctrine, Article 11:**

Moreover, when God carries out this good pleasure in his chosen ones, or works true conversion in them, he not only sees to it that the gospel is proclaimed to them outwardly, and enlightens their minds powerfully by the Holy Spirit so that they may rightly understand and discern the things of the Spirit of God, but, by the effective operation of that same regenerating Spirit, he also penetrates into the inmost being of man, opens the closed heart, softens the hard heart, and circumcises the heart that is uncircumcised. He infuses new qualities into the will, making the dead will alive, the evil one good, the unwilling one willing, and the stubborn one compliant; he activates and strengthens the will so that, like a good tree, it may be enabled to produce the fruits of good deeds.

The Canons explain that the Holy Spirit changes our hearts. God makes sure that we hear his word, and through the work of the Holy Spirit, he also helps us to understand it. However, even understanding the word is not enough. Our hearts must be softened so that we will receive it. The Holy Spirit gives us faith in

Jesus, and the Holy Spirit also gives us the desire to obey God's word.



## Let's Think!

Read the story below and answer the questions.

*Mike had been stealing money out of his mother's purse for a long time. He liked to buy candy bars from the snack machine at school, and he knew his mother would not like it. So Mike would open her purse when she was not looking, and he would sneak away with fifty cents or a dollar.*

*One day, Mike was listening to Mr. Davis, his Sunday school teacher, talk about the Ten Commandments. "God tells us not to steal," Mr. Davis said. "It does not matter whether it is something small or something large—it is wrong to steal. Even if no one else knows, God sees what we do, and we must remember to obey him."*

*Mike thought about the money that he took from his mother. He had never thought of it as "stealing" because it was only a little money, but now he realized how wrong he was. Mike prayed and asked God to forgive him for his sins, and then he went home and confessed to his mother. "I am very sorry that I took your money, Mom," said Mike. "I will do extra chores to make up for the money I took from your purse. I will not ever steal from you again."*

In what ways did the Holy Spirit change Mike's heart?

**The Holy Spirit helped Mike realize that he was sinning**

**and to be sorry.**



## United to Christ

In the last lesson, we learned that the redemption purchased by Christ is applied to us by the Holy Spirit. Now we will take that idea a little further to learn how the Holy Spirit unites us to Christ in our **effectual calling**.

**What do we mean when we say that we are *united to Christ*?** This means that we are **brought together with Christ and joined with him**.

**What is *effectual calling*?** Remember that **effectual** means something **produces the desired result**—it does not fail. **Calling** refers to the work of the Holy Spirit **calling the elect to faith in Christ**. The **calling** of the Holy Spirit is always **effectual**—it always brings the elect to Christ.

The apostle Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus about their union with Christ.

**Ephesians 3:16-19** I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.



## Let's Think!

In the letter to the Ephesians, Paul tells the Ephesians that he is praying for certain things for them. What are those things?

**He prayed that they would be strong and know the love of Christ.**

Where does Christ dwell through faith? in our hearts

According to this Scripture passage, how does Christ dwell in our hearts through faith?

Christ dwells in our hearts through the power of the

Holy Spirit

Having Christ in our hearts (and so being united to him), what are we now able to grasp?

How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.

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## Lesson 2

Question 30: How doth the Spirit apply to us the redemption purchased by Christ?

Answer: The \_\_\_\_\_ applyeth to \_\_\_\_\_ the redemption purchased by \_\_\_\_\_, by working \_\_\_\_\_ in us, and thereby \_\_\_\_\_ us to Christ in our effectual \_\_\_\_\_ .

### Effectual Calling

The Westminster Shorter Catechism tells us that we are united to Christ in our effectual calling.

Remember: What do we mean when we talk about our effectual calling? If you do not remember, look back at page 99.)

**Always bring the elect to Christ.**



## Let's Think!

Can you be sure that God has called you? Yes

How can you be sure? I love God and want to obey him,

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If God calls you, will he always change your heart? Yes

According to Philippians 1:6, why can we be confident?

God will complete the good work that he begins.

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