

# *The Children's Catechism*

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Special Note: The following has been adapted from *The Children's Catechism: A New, Modern Version* by Philip Rollinson and Mark E. Ross. Summertown Texts: Signal Mountain, TN, 1988. (ISBN # 0-9614303-2-X)

Unfortunately, the original does not appear to be available in print. The Catechism has been modified to reflect the doctrines of the Assemblies of God (Fall 2008—Bradley D. Shedd).

## **Why a Catechism?**

A Catechism is a "direct, simple, and straightforward review of the essentials" of the Christian Faith (taken from the original Children's Catechism subtitle). It does not **replace** the Bible, but it **reinforces** and **organizes** biblical truths in a manner that can easily be retained and expressed. Parents should use this simple interchange as a launching pad to expound upon and clarify the truths that are being learned. Once learned, this will be a source of essential truth that, coupled with the Spirit's work, will penetrate deeply and grow up richly in the hearts of our children.

1. **QUESTION: Who made you?**  
*ANSWER: God.*
2. **Q. What else did God make?**  
*A. God made everything.*
3. **Q. Why did God make you and everything else?**  
*A. For His own glory.*
4. **Q. How can you glorify God?**  
*A. By loving Him and doing what He commands.*
5. **Q. Why should you glorify God?**  
*A. Because He made me and takes care of me.*
6. **Q. Is there more than one God?**  
*A. There is only one God.*
7. **Q. How many persons are in the one God?**  
*A. Three persons.*
8. **Q. Who are they?**  
*A. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*
9. **Q. What is God?**  
*A. God is a spirit and does not have a body.*
10. **Q. Where is God?**  
*A. God is everywhere.*
11. **Q. Can you see God?**  
*A. No. I cannot see God, but He always sees me.*

12. **Q. Does God know everything?**  
*A. Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.*
13. **Q. Can God do everything?**  
*A. Yes. God can do anything He wants.*
14. **Q. Where do you learn how to love and obey God?**  
*A. Only in the Bible.*
15. **Q. Who wrote the Bible?**  
*A. Men who were guided by the Holy Spirit.*
16. **Q. Who were our first parents?**  
*A. Adam and Eve.*
17. **Q. What were our first parents made of?**  
*A. God made Adam's body out of the earth, and He made Eve from Adam's body.*
18. **Q. What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?**  
*A. He gave them spirits that would never die.*
19. **Q. Do you have a spirit as well as a body?**  
*A. Yes, I have a spirit that will never die.*
20. **Q. How do you know that you have a spirit?**  
*A. Because God tells me so in the Bible.*
21. **Q. When God first made Adam and Eve, what were they like?**  
*A. They were holy and happy with God.*
154. **Q. What is heaven?**  
*A. A glorious, happy place where believers are with God.*
155. **Q. What has God promised at the end of time for believers?**  
*A. A new heaven and a new earth, where they can live with God forever.*
156. **Q. What has God promised at the end of time for unbelievers?**  
*A. Eternal torment in the Lake of Fire.*
157. **Q. How should we then live?**  
*A. By faithfully loving God and others and joyfully anticipating Christ's Return.*

145. **Q. What is God's power?**  
*A. Transforming works of healing, signs, and wonders.*
146. **Q. Why is divine healing available?**  
*A. Because "by His stripes we are healed." [Isaiah 53:5]*
147. **Q. What is the Blessed Hope?**  
*A. The glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.*
148. **Q. When will Jesus come again?**  
*A. At the end of time, but no man knows the day or hour except the Father.*
149. **Q. What happens to human beings when they die?**  
*A. Our bodies decay and turn back into earth; our spirits live on, in heaven or hell.*
150. **Q. Will the bodies of the dead be raised to life again?**  
*A. Yes, when Christ returns, the bodies of the dead will be raised and joined to their spirits forever.*
151. **Q. What happens to the wicked?**  
*A. They are thrown into hell.*
152. **Q. What is hell?**  
*A. A place of terrible punishment.*
153. **Q. What happens to the righteous?**  
*A. They go to heaven.*
22. **Q. What is a covenant?**  
*A. A solemn bond between two or more persons.*
23. **Q. What covenant did God make with Adam?**  
*A. The covenant of works.*
24. **Q. What did Adam have to do in the covenant of works?**  
*A. To obey God perfectly.*
25. **Q. What did God promise in the covenant of works?**  
*A. To give Adam life, if he obeyed God.*
26. **Q. What if Adam disobeyed God?**  
*A. He would die.*
27. **Q. Did Adam keep the covenant of works?**  
*A. No. He sinned against God.*
28. **Q. What is sin?**  
*A. Sin is disobeying or not keeping God's law in any way.*
29. **Q. What is disobeying God's law?**  
*A. Doing what God says not to do.*
30. **Q. What is not keeping God's law?**  
*A. Not being or not doing what God requires.*
31. **Q. How did Adam and Eve sin?**  
*A. By eating the fruit God said not to eat.*

32. **Q. Who tempted them to sin?**  
*A. The devil tempted Eve, and she gave the fruit to Adam.*
33. **Q. What happened to Adam and Eve when they sinned?**  
*A. They became sinful and were separated from God.*
34. **Q. Did Adam act for himself alone in the covenant of works?**  
*A. No. He also acted for all his descendants.*
35. **Q. How have Adam's descendants been affected by his sin?**  
*A. Every human being is born with a sinful nature.*
36. **Q. What do we call the sinful nature we get from Adam?**  
*A. Original sin.*
37. **Q. What does every sin deserve?**  
*A. God's anger and punishment.*
38. **Q. Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature?**  
*A. No. Our hearts must be changed before we can go to heaven.*
39. **Q. What is this change of heart?**  
*A. Regeneration or being born again*
40. **Q. Who can change a sinner's heart?**  
*A. Only the Holy Spirit.*
138. **Q. Why does one receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**  
*A. In order to receive power to become witnesses for Christ.*
139. **Q. How does one receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**  
*A. The Father promises to give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him.*
140. **Q. What has Christ commissioned us to do?**  
*A. To 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 obey everything that Christ has commanded us.*
141. **Q. How are we to fulfill this Great Commission?**  
*A. By doing the work of the Kingdom.*
142. **Q. What is the "work of the Kingdom"?**  
*A. Preaching, teaching, and demonstrating the "Good News."*
143. **Q. How can we "demonstrate the Good News"?**  
*A. By showing evidence of God's character and power in our lives.*
144. **Q. What is God's character?**  
*A. God's character includes love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*

130. **Q. What does the cup symbolize?**  
*A. Christ's blood, poured out for the forgiveness of our sins.*
131. **Q. Who should receive Communion?**  
*A. Only those who are truly sorry for their sins and who trust Christ to save them.*
132. **Q. After being crucified, did Christ stay in the grave?**  
*A. No. He rose from the dead on the third day.*
133. **Q. Where is Christ now?**  
*A. In heaven, representing us before God.*
134. **Q. Who did Christ send to be with us?**  
*A. The Holy Spirit.*
135. **Q. What is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**  
*A. A special filling of the Spirit.*
136. **Q. What is the sign of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**  
*A. A person speaks in another tongue as the Spirit gives him utterance.*
137. **Q. Who can receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**  
*A. Anyone who has repented for his sins and received Christ as his Lord and Savior.*

41. **Q. Can anyone be saved through the covenant of works?**  
*A. No one can be saved by works.*
42. **Q. Why can no one be saved through the covenant of works?**  
*A. Because we have all broken it and are condemned by it.*
43. **Q. With whom did God the Father make the covenant of grace?**  
*A. With Christ, His eternal Son.*
44. **Q. Did Christ act for Himself alone in the covenant of grace?**  
*A. No. He acted for all God's chosen people, and He desires all men to be saved.*
45. **Q. What did Christ have to do in the covenant of grace?**  
*A. He had to obey the whole law for His people and to suffer the punishment for their sins.*
46. **Q. Did Jesus ever commit any sin?**  
*A. No. He perfectly obeyed God all the time.*
47. **Q. How did the Son of God suffer?**  
*A. By becoming human and making atonement for our sins.*
48. **Q. What is the atonement?**  
*A. Christ's suffering and dying in the place of His people to pay the price for all their sins.*

49. **Q. What did God promise to do in the covenant of grace?**  
*A. To justify and sanctify those for whom Christ died.*
50. **Q. What happens in justification?**  
*A. God forgives sinners and accepts them "just as if" they had never sinned.*
51. **Q. What happens in sanctification?**  
*A. God makes the hearts and actions of believers holy.*
52. **Q. For whom did Christ obey and suffer?**  
*A. For those the Father has given Him.*
53. **Q. How did Christ live on earth?**  
*A. He was poor and suffered.*
54. **Q. How did Christ die?**  
*A. In pain and disgrace on the cross.*
55. **Q. Who will be saved?**  
*A. Only those who truly repent of their sins and believe in Christ.*
56. **Q. What happens when you repent?**  
*A. You become sorry for your sins. You hate them and stop doing them, because they anger God.*
57. **Q. What happens when you believe in Christ?**  
*A. You trust Christ alone to save you.*

120. **Q. How many ordinances are there?**  
*A. Two.*
121. **Q. What are they?**  
*A. Water Baptism and Communion.*
122. **Q. Who established these ordinances?**  
*A. The Lord Jesus Christ.*
123. **Q. Why did Christ establish these ordinances?**  
*A. To identify, comfort, and strengthen His Body.*
124. **Q. What sign is used in Water Baptism?**  
*A. Immersion in water.*
125. **Q. What does this immersion symbolize?**  
*A. That we have been buried with Christ through baptism into death, and that we now walk in newness of life.*
126. **Q. In whose Name are we baptized?**  
*A. In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*
127. **Q. Who should be baptized?**  
*A. Everyone who personally invites Jesus Christ to be his Lord and Savior.*
128. **Q. What is Communion?**  
*A. Eating bread and drinking from the cup to remember Christ's suffering and death.*
129. **Q. What does the bread symbolize?**  
*A. Christ's body, given for us.*

110. **Q. What is the second request?**  
*A. Your Kingdom come.*
111. **Q. What do we pray for in the second request?**  
*A. That Satan's power may be destroyed and that Christ may be everywhere honored as King over all.*
112. **Q. What is the third request?**  
*A. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*
113. **Q. What do we pray for in the third request?**  
*A. That we on earth may serve and represent God as the angels do in heaven.*
114. **Q. What is the fourth request?**  
*A. Give us this day our daily bread.*
115. **Q. What do we pray for in the fourth request?**  
*A. That God would give us everything we need to live.*
116. **Q. What is the fifth request?**  
*A. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*
117. **Q. What do we pray for in the fifth request?**  
*A. That God would pardon all our sins for Christ's sake, as we also have forgiven others.*
118. **Q. What is the sixth request?**  
*A. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.*
119. **Q. What do we pray for in the sixth request?**  
*A. That God would keep us from sin.*
58. **Q. Can you repent and believe in Christ on your own?**  
*A. No. I must have the Holy Spirit's help.*
59. **Q. How can you get the Holy Spirit's help?**  
*A. God has told us to pray to Him for the Holy Spirit.*
60. **Q. When did Christ die?**  
*A. Almost two thousand years ago.*
61. **Q. How were people saved who lived before Christ?**  
*A. They believed in the Savior that God would send.*
62. **Q. How did those people show their faith?**  
*A. By obeying God and sacrificing to Him in the way He commanded.*
63. **Q. Why did God command these sacrifices?**  
*A. To teach them about Christ, the Lam of God, the perfect sacrifice for sin.*
64. **Q. What are the basic works of Christ?**  
*A. There are three basic works.*
65. **Q. What are they?**  
*A. The works of prophet, priest, and king.*
66. **Q. How is Christ a prophet?**  
*A. By teaching us the will of God.*
67. **Q. How is Christ a priest?**  
*A. By dying for the sins of His people and pleading with God for them.*

68. **Q. How is Christ a king?**  
*A. By ruling over the world and defending His people.*
69. **Q. Why do you need Christ as a prophet?**  
*A. Because I need to know the will of God.*
70. **Q. Why do you need Christ as a priest?**  
*A. Because I am guilty of sin.*
71. **Q. Why do you need Christ as a king?**  
*A. Because I am weak and helpless.*
72. **Q. How many commandments did God give on Mount Sinai?**  
*A. Ten commandments.*
73. **Q. What are the ten commandments called?**  
*A. The Decalogue.*
74. **Q. What do the first four commandments tell us?**  
*A. How to love God.*
75. **Q. What do the last six commandments tell us?**  
*A. How to love ourselves and other people.*
76. **Q. What do the ten commandments basically tell us to do?**  
*A. To love God with all our heart and our neighbors as we love ourselves.*
77. **Q. Who is your neighbor?**  
*A. Everyone else.*
102. **Q. What are the ten commandments for?**  
*A. They tell us how to live and show us that we need a Savior.*
103. **Q. What is prayer?**  
*A. Prayer is communicating with God.*
104. **Q. In whose name should we pray?**  
*A. Only in the Name of Christ.*
105. **Q. What has Christ given us to teach us how to pray?**  
*A. The Lord's Prayer.*
106. **Q. Repeat the Lord's Prayer.**  
*A. "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen." [Matthew 6:9-13 NKJV]*
107. **Q. How many requests are there in the Lord's Prayer?**  
*A. Six.*
108. **Q. What is the first request?**  
*A. Hallowed be Your Name.*
109. **Q. What do we pray for in the first request?**  
*A. That we and everyone else might glorify and sanctify God's Name.*

96. **Q. What does the eighth commandment tell us to do?**  
*A. To be honest and hardworking and to respect what belongs to others.*
97. **Q. What is the ninth commandment?**  
*A. The ninth commandment is: "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor." [Exodus 20:16 NKJV]*
98. **Q. What does the ninth commandment tell us to do?**  
*A. Always to tell the truth.*
99. **Q. What is the tenth commandment?**  
*A. The tenth commandment is: "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's." [Exodus 20:17 NKJV]*
100. **Q. What does the tenth commandment tell us to do?**  
*A. To be satisfied with how God has made us and what God has given us.*
101. **Q. Can anyone perfectly obey the ten commandments?**  
*A. Since Adam's fall, no one except Christ has ever perfectly obeyed the ten commandments or ever can.*
78. **Q. What is the first commandment?**  
*A. The first commandment is: "You shall have no other gods before Me." [Exodus 20:3 NKJV]*
79. **Q. What does the first commandment tell us to do?**  
*A. To worship God alone.*
80. **Q. What is the second commandment?**  
*A. The second commandment is: "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments." [Exodus 20:4-6 NKJV]*
81. **Q. What does the second commandment tell us to do?**  
*A. To worship God in the way He tells us and not with images or idols.*
82. **Q. What is the third commandment?**  
*A. The third commandment is: "You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His Name in vain." [Exodus 20:7 NKJV]*
83. **Q. What does the third commandment tell us to do?**  
*A. To honor God's Name, His Word, and His works.*

84. **Q. What is the fourth commandment?**  
*A. The fourth commandment is: "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it." [Exodus 20:8-11 NKJV]*
85. **Q. What does the fourth commandment tell us to do?**  
*A. To keep the Sabbath holy.*
86. **Q. What day of the week is the Christian Sabbath?**  
*A. Sunday, the first day of the week, called the Lord's Day.*
87. **Q. Why is it called the Lord's Day?**  
*A. Because on that day Christ rose from the dead.*
88. **Q. What should we do on the Sabbath?**  
*A. We should worship God with His people, pray to and praise Him, read and listen to the Bible, and do good to others.*
89. **Q. What is the fifth commandment?**  
*A. The fifth commandment is: "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you." [Exodus 20:12 NKJV]*
90. **Q. What does the fifth commandment tell us to do?**  
*A. To love and obey our parents and everyone in authority over us.*
91. **Q. What is the sixth commandment?**  
*A. The sixth commandment is: "You shall not murder." [Exodus 20:13 NKJV]*
92. **Q. What does the sixth commandment tell us to do?**  
*A. Not to get angry at, hate, or hurt anyone.*
93. **Q. What is the seventh commandment?**  
*A. The seventh commandment is: "You shall not commit adultery." [Exodus 20:14 NKJV]*
94. **Q. What does the seventh commandment tell us to do?**  
*A. To keep ourselves sexually pure in what we think, say, and do, and to help others be the same way.*
95. **Q. What is the eighth commandment?**  
*A. The eighth commandment is: "You shall not steal." [Exodus 20:15 NKJV]*