



Memory Program
2018 – 2019

MEMORY PROGRAM 2018/2019

God says that His Word is perfect and pure, will make one wise, and is more to be desired than the most precious of things (Psalm 19). How can a young man keep his way pure? God says, by taking heed to His Word (Psalm 119:9). God commands that His Word be memorized (Psalm 119:11) to the end that He will be known, loved, honored and glorified and we will be blessed (Psalm 119:2). Knowing and using God's Word will thoroughly equip our children for every good work (II Timothy 3:16, 17). Let us obey God's command with joy and truly say with the Psalmist, "O, how I *love* Thy law!" (119:97)

The Westminster Shorter Catechism is one of the most beautiful documents written by man. It is in no way equal to Scripture, which is God's holy and inspired Word, but it is a wonderful summary of the major doctrines of Scripture. It was written for the purpose of assisting and encouraging people to know and love God and His ways so that they may truly glorify Him as He deserves. It is laid out in a form that is easy to memorize, and when the student has accomplished that task, he or she will have laid an excellent foundation for biblical thinking. We memorize about one fourth of the catechism each year. We will sometimes add key memory verses in to the program to round out the weeks of the school year.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism is essentially laid out in three divisions. The first division (questions 1-38) concerns the doctrine of God and salvation. The second division (questions 39-81) includes the Ten Commandments, with many questions being the exact Scripture from Exodus 20 and the other questions concerning the duties required and the sins forbidden. These are important to know since the Lord Jesus Christ Himself said that these commandments were not to be seen as an end in themselves, but rather are a "sum of all the Law and the Prophets." In other words, all other laws that God gives fall under one of these commandments. The third division (questions 82-107) involves the means of grace (the Word, sacraments and prayer) and focuses on the Lord's Prayer as Christ's example of prayer to us.

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The first through twelfth grade students will have one catechism question and one or more Scripture verses each week (first graders memorize Scripture only). Ordinarily, memory work is tested each MONDAY, unless specified differently in the memory booklet. Parents are encouraged to assist their children with the memory work due each week. Consider incorporating these verses and catechism questions into your daily family devotions or practice while riding in the car. You may want to set up a system of rewards in your home to encourage your child(ren) to memorize well and accurately. Remember to set a tone of joy as you help your child(ren) with this program, recalling that God's commands are not burdensome (I John 5:3) but rather are a delight! (Psalm 119:35).

For testing, students in first grade (Scripture only) through fifth grades (second – twelfth grades memorize answers and Scripture) will recite the memory work; while sixth through twelfth grades will write it. *The students do not have to memorize the catechism question. The question is asked of them, and they are accountable to memorize the answer and scripture only.*

The Scripture is in the ESV and is in a particular form. The students are to state the reference, then the text of the Scripture, and then the reference again.

Bible memory grades will count as part of the Bible grade they receive on their report card, so it is very important that they keep up with it and take it seriously. Students are expected to memorize the material *word perfectly*. Points will be deducted for any missed words.

If a seventh through twelfth grade student is absent, it is his or her responsibility to make up the assignment the day he or she returns to school. Failure to make up the assignment on the day of return will result in a lower grade. Failure to complete the assignment before the next quiz will result in a zero. In the case of prolonged absence other arrangements will be made.

All work must be memorized according to the wording of this booklet.

If there is inclement weather and a Monday is missed, the work is still due the first day back, and we will proceed according to schedule.

FIRST QUARTER

Due Tuesday, September 4

School Verse for the Year:

1 Corinthians 10:31

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

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Due Monday, September 10

Question 33: *What is justification?*

Answer: Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein He pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in His sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

Galatians 2:16

Yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

Galatians 2:16

Due Monday, September 17

Question 34: What is adoption?

Answer: Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges of the sons of God.

1 John 3:1

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 1 John 3:1

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Due Monday, September 24

Question 35: What is sanctification?

Answer: Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

Ezekiel 36:27

And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. Ezekiel 36:27

Due Monday, October 1

Question 36: What are the benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification?

Answer: The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification, are, assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, increase of grace, and perseverance therein to the end.

Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:6

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Due Tuesday, October 9

Question 37: What benefits do believers receive from Christ at death?

Answer: The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory; and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves till the resurrection.

John 5:28 - 29

Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

John 5:28 - 29

Due Monday, October 15

Question 38: What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?

Answer: At the resurrection, believers being raised up in glory, shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the day of judgment, and made perfectly blessed in the full enjoying of God, to all eternity.

Matthew 25:34b

‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’

Matthew 25:34b

SECOND QUARTER

Due Monday, October 22

Question 39: What is the duty which God requires of man?

Answer: The duty which God requires of man, is obedience to his revealed will.

Micah 6:8

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

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Due Tuesday, October 30

Question 40: What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?

Answer: The rule which God at first revealed to man for his obedience, was the moral law.

Romans 2:14-15

For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them

Romans 2:14-15

Due Monday, November 5

Question 41: Wherein is the moral law summarily comprehended?

Answer: The moral law is summarily comprehended in the Ten Commandments.

Deuteronomy 4:13

And he declared to you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, that is, the Ten Commandments, and he wrote them on two tablets of stone.

Deuteronomy 4:13

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Due Monday, November 12

Question 42: What is the sum of the Ten Commandments?

Answer: The sum of the Ten Commandments is, to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind; and our neighbor as ourselves.

Matthew 22:37-40

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the Prophets."

Matthew 22:37-40

Due Monday, December 3

Question 43: What is the preface to the Ten Commandments?

Answer: The preface to the Ten Commandments is in these words, “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.”

Isaiah 41:10

...Fear not, for I am with you;
be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

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Due Monday, December 10

Question 44: What doth the preface to the ten commandments teach us?

Answer: The preface to the ten commandments teaches us, that because God is the Lord, and our God and Redeemer, therefore we are bound to keep all his commandments.

Luke 1:74-75

To grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life.

Luke 1:74-75

THIRD QUARTER

Due Monday, January 7

Question 45: Which is the first commandment?

Answer: The first commandment is, “You shall have no other gods before me.”

Psalm 99:1-3

The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!

Psalm 99:1-3

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Due Monday, January 14

Question 46: What is required in the first commandment?

Answer: The first commandment requires us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify him accordingly.

1 Chronicles 28:9

“And you, Solomon my son, know the God of your father and serve him with a whole heart and with a willing mind, for the Lord searches all hearts and understands every plan and thought. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will cast you off forever.”

1 Chronicles 28:9

Due Tuesday, January 22

Question 47: What is forbidden in the first commandment?

Answer: The first commandment forbids the denying, or not worshipping and glorifying, the true God as God and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other, which is due to him alone.

Psalm 81:10 - 11

I am the Lord your God who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it. "But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me." Psalm 81:10 - 11

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Due Monday, January 28

Question 48: What are we specially taught by these words "before me" in the first commandment?

Answer: These words "before me" in the first commandment teach us, that God, who sees all things, takes notice of, and is much displeased with, the sin of having any other god.

Deuteronomy 30:17 - 18

But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. Deuteronomy 30:17 - 18

Due Monday, February 4

Question 49: Which is the second commandment?

Answer: The second commandment is, “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or 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 or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Exodus 20: 4 - 6

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Due Monday, February 11

Question 50: What is required in the second commandment?

Answer: The second commandment requires the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinances as God has appointed in his Word.

Deuteronomy 12:32
“Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it.” Deuteronomy 12:32

Due Tuesday, February 19

Question 51: What is forbidden in the second commandment?

Answer: The second commandment forbids the worshipping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his Word.

Romans 1:22 – 23

Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Romans 1:22 – 23

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Due Monday, February 25

Question 52: What are the reasons annexed to the second commandment?

Answer: The reasons annexed to the second commandment are God's sovereignty over us, his propriety in us, and the zeal he has to his own worship.

Psalm 95:2-3

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Psalm 95:2-3

Due Monday March 4

Question 53: Which is the third commandment?

Answer: 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.”

Psalm 113:2-3

Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!
From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be
praised! Psalm 113:2-3

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Due Monday, March 11

Question 54: What is required in the third commandment?

Answer: The third commandment requires the holy and reverent use of God's names, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.

Revelation 4:11

“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.” Revelation 4:11

FOURTH QUARTER

Due Monday, March 18

Question 55: What is forbidden in the third commandment?

Answer: The third commandment forbids all profaning or abusing of anything whereby God makes himself known.

James 5:12

But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. James 5:12

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Due Monday, March 25

Question 56: What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

Answer: The reason annexed to the third commandment is, that however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

1 Samuel 3:13

And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. 1 Samuel 3:13

Due Monday April 1

Hosea 6:1-3

“Come, let us return to the Lord;
for he has torn us, that he may heal us;
he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.

After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.

Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord;
his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth.”

Hosea 6:1-3

Due Monday April 8

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23

Due Monday April 15

Isaiah 53:4-6

Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:4-6

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Due Monday, May 6

1 Peter 3:15-16

But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

1 Peter 3: 15-16

Due Monday, May 13

Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

“For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?”

“Or who has given a gift to him
that he might be repaid?”

For from him and through him and to him are all things.

To him be glory forever. Amen.

Romans 11:33-36

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Due Monday, May 20

Proverbs 3:5-8

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.

Be not wise in your own eyes;
fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

It will be healing to your flesh
and refreshment to your bones.

Proverbs 3:5-8

Well done! By God's grace, you've memorized twenty-nine catechism answers and sixty-two verses of Scripture this year. May God use these truths to guide your heart, draw you to Him, and to bring glory to Himself.

References:

The Shorter Catechism with scripture proofs: Banner of Truth Trust

Westminster Shorter Catechism with Scripture: www.reformed.org

Scripture: ESV, Crossway Bibles