



Redeemer Smaller Catechism

Part One: Apostles' Creed

with Instructions for Parents for Home Use

Questions taken from *To Be a Christian* (Crossway, 2020)

Part I. Learning the Apostles' Creed

Instructions for Each Week

Step 1. Read the Apostles' Creed. Hopefully, you can know it by heart at the end of 12 weeks.

Step 2. Read and consider the Catechism Question and Answer (CQA) appointed for instruction for that week. This is to aid in your child's understanding of the Creed.

Step 3. Read several times for memorization whichever CQA your child is currently committing to heart. CQA's committed to heart can form the core doctrinal convictions that will aid your child to think theologically and act morally in everyday life. See the separate memorization chart.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

1. Who is God?

God is one divine Being eternally existing in three divine Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This is the Holy Trinity.

(Deuteronomy 6:4–7; Psalm 86:8–10; Isaiah 44:6–8; Matthew 3:16–17; 28:19; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 2 Corinthians 13:14) (#36)

2. What does Holy Scripture tell us about the character of God?

God is both loving and holy. God mercifully redeems fallen creation, while righteously opposing all sin and evil. The Lord Jesus Christ is the fullest revelation of God's holy love.

(Exodus 34:6–7; Psalm 145; John 1:14–18; 14:9–10; Romans 5:6–11; Hebrews 1:1–3) (#37)

3. Why do you call God the Father "Creator"?

I call God the Father "Creator" because he made all things. He creates and sustains all things through his Word, and gives life to all creatures through his Spirit.

(Genesis 1:1–2:3, 7; Psalm 104:24–30; John 1:1–3; Acts 17:24–28; Colossians 1:16–18) (#42)

4. Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is the eternal Word and Son of God, the second Person of the Holy Trinity. He took on human nature to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world, the only Mediator between God and fallen humanity.

(Psalm 2; Malachi 3:1; John 1:1–18; Philip-pians 2:5–11; 1 Timothy 2:5–6) (#48)

5. What do you mean when you call Jesus Christ “Lord”?

I acknowledge Jesus’ divine authority over the Church and all creation, over all societies and their leaders, and over every aspect of my life, both public and private. I surrender my entire life to him and seek to live in a way that pleases him.

(Daniel 7:13–14; Matthew 7:21–23; Luke 9:23–26; Ephesians 1:15–23; Colossians 1:16–18) (#52)

6. What happened at Jesus’ conception in Mary’s womb?

The eternal Son, whom God named Jesus, assumed a fully human nature from his mother, the Virgin Mary, at the moment of conception in her womb.

(John 1:1–3, 14; 8:56–58; Philippians 2:6–8; Colossians 2:9) (#54)

7. What does Jesus’ death mean for you?

Jesus bore my sins and died the death that I deserve, so that I could be saved from sin and eternal condemnation and reconciled to God.

(Psalm 32:1–2; Isaiah 53:10–12; Matthew 20:28; Romans 5:8–10; 2 Corinthians 5:17–21) (#65)

8. What does Jesus do for you as he sits at the Father’s right hand?

Because Jesus intercedes for us as our great high priest, I may now boldly approach the Father and offer my confessions, praises, thanksgivings, and requests to him.

(Exodus 33:7–17; Psalm 80; Hebrews 4:14–16; 7:24–8:2) (#74)

9. How does the Holy Spirit strengthen you for life in Christ?

The Holy Spirit bears witness that I am a child of God, stirs my heart continually to worship and to pray, and inspires me to holiness and good works in Christ.

(Job 27:2–4; Matthew 10:19–20; John 14:12; 16:12–15; Acts 6:10; 13:2; Romans 8:15–17, 26–27) (#87)

10. How does Holy Scripture teach you to view the Church?

Holy Scripture teaches me to view the Church as God's family, as the Body and bride of Christ, and as the temple where God in Christ dwells by his Spirit. (*Isaiah 54:5–8; Hosea 2:16–20; Matthew 12:46–50; 1 Corinthians 3:16–17; 2 Corinthians 6:14–7:1; Revelation 5:9–10; 19:6–10*) (#93)

11. What are sins?

Sins are intentions, acts, or failures to act that arise out of my corrupted human nature and fall short of conformity to God's revealed will.

(*Psalms 53; Isaiah 59:1–15; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:23; James 4:17; 1 John 3:4–10*) (#105)

12. What do you know about the unending resurrected life of believers?

I know that it will be an eternal life of joyful fellowship with our triune God, together with all his saints and angels, singing his praises and serving him in the renewed creation.

(*John 17:20–24; Revelation 7:9–17; 21:1–4; 21:22–22:5*) (#119)

