

Overview Unit #1 Where do we start?

Outline

A Statement of Fact

An Invitation

To a Hope

Faith and Sight / Now and Not Yet

“The Life of the World to Come”

To a Faith

The Christian World View

The King and His Kingdom

Life in the Kingdom

To a Family

“Our Father”

Overview Unit #2: The Christian World View

Outline

The Way Things Ought to Be

Obligations of God and Neighbor

Elemental Realities

God

Creation

Human Beings

God’s Providence and Provision

The Way Things Are

Corruption

God’s Continued Care

God’s Judgments

Sources

From the Liturgies

From the Scripture

Unit #3 Introduction to the Commandments

Outline

Commandments and the Character of God

The Number and Numbering of the Commandments

Commandments as Broad Categories

The Double Commandment

The Two Tables of the Law

The Basic Paradigm: Merit, Threats and Promises

A Larger Paradigm: “Keeping Covenant”

Sources

From the Catechism

From the Liturgies

From the Scriptures:

Unit #4: The First Commandment

Outline

You shall have a God

The Fundamental Requirement: Faith

The Fear of God

The Love of God

Trusting God

The “Super-Commandment”

The Fundamental Prohibition: Idolatry

Sources

- From the Small Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures:

Unit #5: The Remaining Commandments of the First Table

Outline

- The Practice of Faith: Religion and Piety
- Our Relationship with God
- The Things of God

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Scriptures

Unit #6 The Second Commandment: Respect for God's Name (Reputation)

Outline

- Titles and Names
- Attributes, Works
- How God wishes to be known
- The Use and Misuse of our Relationship to God

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures:

Unit #7 The Third Commandment: Respect for God's Word

Outline

- The Sabbath Day and the Lord's Day
- Respecting the Sacred
- Remembering, Observing and Sanctifying
- The Holy Things of God

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures:

Unit #8 The Second Table, Obligations to One Another

Outline

- Narrow and Broad
- Authority
- Physical Well-Being
- Marriage, Sex and Children
- Property
- Reputation
- The Inner Life

Prohibitions and Commands

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- The Scripture

Unit #9 The Fourth Commandment: Respect for Authority

Outline

- A Bridge Commandment: God in Our Neighbor
- A unique relationship

The Primacy of Family

Passing on the Faith

Passing on the culture

First line care for one another

A deeply “conservative” commandment

Respecting Elders, Superiors

Respecting the Structures and Customs of Society

Respecting Heritage

Sources

The Catechism

The Scripture

Unit #10 The Fifth Commandment: Respect for Life I, Our Neighbor’s Physical Well-being

Outline

The Sanctity of Human Life

Prohibited

“Hurt or Harm”

Negligence and Degrees of Criminality

Abortion, Euthanasia

Indifference to Suffering

Office, Justice and Personal Retaliation

Eye for an eye

Turn the other cheek

Special cases

War

Defense of the Innocent

Self-Defense

Capital Punishment

Commanded: The Active Support for Human Well-Being

The Poor and Vulnerable

The Fight against Human Suffering

Sources

The Catechism

The Scripture

Unit #11 The Sixth Commandment: Respect for Life II, Sex, Marriage and Procreation

Outline

Sex and the Sanctity of life

The Nature and Purpose of Marriage

A Divine Ordinance

Unique Purpose: Procreation and Rearing of Children

Personal Well-Being

Social Order and Well-Being

The Kingdom of God

The Rule of Chastity

Our Culture and Sex

Self at the Center

Marriage apart from procreation

Sex apart from procreation

Sources

The Catechism

From the Liturgies

The Scripture

Unit #12 The Seventh Commandment: Respect for our Neighbor's Material Security

Outline

Ownership and Stewardship

Greed, Security and Idolatry

Property and Our Neighbor's Well-Being

Sources

The Catechism

The Scripture

Unit #13 The Eighth Commandment: Respect for Justice and our Neighbor's Reputation

Outline

Speaking Truth in the Abstract

Truth Telling and our Neighbor's Reputation

Justice and the Corruption of Truth

Sources

The Catechism

The Scripture

Unit #14 The Ninth and Tenth Commandments: The Control of our Own Thoughts and Desires

Outline

The Inner Life

Contentment

When Desire Goes Bad

Sources

The Catechism

The Scripture

Unit #15 The Law and its Uses

Outline

Law and Gospel

What the Law Can Do

Curb

Mirror

Guide

What the Law Cannot Do

Sources

From the Liturgies

From the Scriptures

Unit #16: Realities and Relationships

Outline

Religion and Reality

A Theocentric Reality

"Theism" and "Christian Theism": A Personal, Good, and

Immanent God

Sources

Scripture

Unit #17 Creation and its Orders

Outline

Creation Ex-Nihilo

Initial

Ongoing

Order of the Physical Creation

“Laws of Nature” and the Hand of God

Natural Order, Reason and the Birth of Science

Biblical Cosmology: Earth at the Center

Hierarchy in Nature: Humans at the Top

A Good and Active God

Divine Provision

Divine Providence

Sources

From the Catechism

From the Liturgies

From the Scriptures:

Unit #18 Human Beings

Outline

Human Beings

Physical Beings

“A little lower than the angels”: The Image of God

“Male and female He created them”

Hardwired: Conscience, Religion and Morality

God’s Agents: Tend, Multiply, Subdue

Order Among Human Beings: Social Order

Hierarchy of Authority

Government

Vocation

Sources

From the Catechism

From the Liturgies

From the Scriptures:

Unit #19 The Fall and its Consequences

Outline

Broad Consequences

Corruption of Mind, Will and Body

Corruption of the Social Order

Corruption of the Physical World

The Post-Fall Human Condition

Aging, Illness and Death

Metaphysical Blindness

Idolatry

“Incurvatus in se”

Suffering

Futility

Fighting Futility: The Order of Preservation

Labor, Economics, Law, Government, Justice, War,

Medicine, Science

Marriage, Family

Religion

The Wrath of God

Penultimate Judgments

The Final Judgment—A Bad End

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #20 Alternative World Views

Outline

- Metaphysical Naturalism
- Materialism
- Darwinianism
- Nihilism
- Existentialism
- Deism
- Paganism
- Pantheistic Monism
- Non-Christian Theistic World Views
- Judaism
- Islam

Unit #21 The Culture and the Christian World View

Outline

- Separating Church and State
- What that Meant
- What that Came to Mean
- Religious “neutrality” in education
- Theological Liberalism

Overview Unit #22 The King

Unit #23 The Incarnation

Outline

- Question: Who is Jesus?
- “The Word was God”
- “And the Word became flesh”
- Two Natures, One Jesus
- Jesus in the State of Humiliation

Sources

- From the Small Catechism
- From the Liturgies:
- From the Scriptures:

Unit #24 The Atonement

Outline

- Question: What did Jesus do?
- Estrangement and Reconciliation
- A Sacrifice for Sin: The Lamb of God
- A Victory, a Ransom, a Purchase
- A Pardon
- A Great Exchange
- A Unilateral End to Hostilities

Sources

- From the Small Catechism
- From the Liturgies:
- From the Scriptures:

Unit #25 Resurrection

Outline

What was the Resurrection?
Validation of the Atonement
Beginning of the New Creation
The Sign of Jonah

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Unit #26 Exaltation

Outline

Ascension: "All Authority in Heaven and on Earth"
Our Brother Deified: Jesus in the State of Exaltation
The Right Hand of God: "Jesus is Lord"
"Until I make your enemies a footstool"

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Unit #27 Return

Outline

Return or Appear?
When?
What will happen before, and what after?

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Unit #28 The Trinity

Outline

Confessing the Truth: "God of God . . . of One Substance with the Father"
Preserving the Mystery:
Without Dividing the Substance (One God)
Without Confusing the Persons (Three Persons)

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Unit #29 Jesus Earthly Ministry

Outline

The Prophets to John
The Galilean Ministry: Miracles and Parables
Journey to Jerusalem and Predictions
From Palm Sunday to Easter Morning
The Triumphal Entry
Thursday: Upper Room, Gethsemane, Betrayal, Arrest
Friday: Trials, Scourging, Crucifixion, Death and Burial
Sunday Morning: The Empty Tomb
Post-Resurrection

Forty Days of Appearances
The Great Commission
Ascension
The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

Sources

From the Catechism and Liturgies
The Structure and Organization of the Church's Calendar
From the Scriptures

Unit #30 The Offices of the Christ

Outline

Prophet
Priest
King

Sources

From the Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Overview Unit #31 The Kingdom of God

Unit #32 Holy Spirit

Outline

The Promise of the Holy Spirit and Pentecost
The Active ingredient in the Word of God
The Proper Work of the Holy Spirit: Calls, Gathers,
Enlightens and Keeps
The "Alien" Work of the Holy Spirit: Convicts

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scripture

Unit #33 The Gospel

Outline

The Meaning of the word "Gospel"
What the Good News Is:
 Narrowly Considered: "Christ Alone"
 Broadly Considered: The Entire Person and Work of
 Christ
The Special Tool of the Holy Spirit to Create and Maintain
 Faith
The Original Meaning of the word "Evangelical"
 Theological Focus: Christ Alone
 Theological Focus: The Word Alone

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scripture

Unit #34 The Church

Outline

Created by the Gospel
The Body of Christ
The Bride of Christ
The Temple of the Holy Spirit
The Communion of Saints

One
Holy
Catholic
Apostolic
The Church Militant
The Church Triumphant

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scripture

Unit #35 The Mission of the Church

Outline

Make Disciples, Baptize, Teach
To the ends of the earth
To the End of the Age

Sources

From the Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Unit #36 The Means of Grace

Outline

The Message about Christ
Words: "Faith comes by hearing"
Actions: A sacramental washing and a sacramental meal

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Unit #37 The Forgiveness of Sins

Outline

Forgiveness, Pardon
Deliverance from Death and Hell, Salvation
Peace, Life, Eternal Life

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Unit #38 The General Resurrection and the World to Come

Outline

The "End Times"
From Christ's Ascension until His Return
Amnesty, Faith, Obedience, and Spiritual Warfare
Life and Death
Spiritual Death
The First Death
The First Resurrection
The Second Resurrection
The World to Come
The Second Death
Between Death and the Resurrection
The World to Come
"A new heaven and new earth"

"The home of righteousness"

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #39 The Apostolic Witness

Outline

- Preaching and Teaching
- Scripture
 - Inspiration
 - The Canon
 - Principles of Interpretation
 - "Sola Scriptura"
- Creeds, Confessions, Doctrine and Dogma
- Congregations, Denominations and the Holy Christian Church

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Overview Unit #40 Life in the Kingdom

Unit #41 Prayer

Outline

- Prayer and the Word
- The Nearness of God
- Our Constant Need for God
- Not our tool to use God, but God's way of using us.
- The Power and Danger of Set Prayers
- The Power and Danger of Ex Corde Prayer

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #42 The Lord's Prayer and The Christian Congregation—"Our Father"

Outline

- Corporate Prayer; Corporate identity: "Our"
- The Prayer of a family: "Father"

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #43 The Lord's Prayer and Discipleship

Outline

- God's Mission and Ours. Why we aren't in heaven yet.
- The Content of the Lord's Prayer: What the Disciple Prays for.

Sources

- From the Scriptures

Unit #44 The Lord's Prayer and Spiritual Warfare

Outline

Sources

Unit #45 What to Pray for: The Things of the Kingdom

Unit #46 First Petition: God's Name

Outline

God's Name

Sources

From the Catechism

From the Liturgies

From the Scriptures

Unit #47 Second Petition: God's Kingdom

Outline

The means by which God's person and works will be made known

The Holy Spirit and the Word of God

The Holy Spirit and Conversion

The Holy Spirit, Faith and Obedience

Sources

From the Catechism

From the Liturgies

From the Scriptures

Unit #48 Third Petition: God's Will

Outline

God's Enemies:

The Devil

The World

Our Own Sinful Flesh

The Goal of God's Enemies

Breaking and Hindering through Faith, Faithfulness and Obedience

Sources

From the Catechism

From the Liturgies

From the Scriptures

Unit #49 What to Pray for: The Needs of the Disciple

Unit #50 Fourth Petition: Daily Bread (Physical Sustenance)

Outline

What we need . . .

To Achieve Our Plans and Desires

To Accomplish God's Proposes

To Survive on the Spiritual Battleground

What God promises and what He does not promise

Sources

From the Catechism

From the Liturgies

From the Scriptures

Unit #51 Fifth Petition: Forgiveness of Trespasses

Outline

The Forgiveness we are assuming here: "Our Father"

The Forgiveness we are asking for here: Mercy, Patience, "Do not treat us as our sins deserve!"

The Forgiveness we are promising to extend to others: The same!

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #52 Sixth Petition: Strengthening against Temptation

Outline

How to understand this petition: “Lead us not . . . but deliver us”

Temptation and Testing

The Tools

- Deceive
- Mislead

The Objective

- False Belief
- Despair
- Other great shame and vice

The Target(s)

- Christ
- The Church
- Others Christians
- Other People
- You

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #53 Seventh Petition: Deliverance from Evil

Outline

Really one petition: “and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

Daily deliverance and rescue: “He defends us against all danger and guards and protects us from all evil.”

As the sum of all: “A blessed end”

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #54 Other Prayer Forms

Outline

The Kyrie and its forms

Simple

Triple

St. John Chrysostom

The Litany

Psalms

Prayer Services

Matins and Vespers

Compline

Other Orders

Collects

Confessions

Hymns

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #55 The Practice of Daily Prayer

Outline

- Combine with the Word
- Frequency and Complexity
- Balance
 - From the Forms and From the Heart
 - Petition and Praise
 - For the Kingdom and for the Disciples
 - For the World and the Nation
 - For the Church, the Denomination, the Congregation, Pastor
 - For yourself and your family

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #56 Baptism, Part I

Outline

- Baptism and Conversion
- God's Promise in Baptism: Forgiveness, Life and Salvation
- The Three "Solas": Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Christ Alone
- "Simul Justus et Peccator"
- Valid Baptisms
- The Baptism of Infants

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #57 Baptism, Part II

Outline

- The Baptismal Life:
 - The New Adam, and the Old One
 - Hard Work, Sin, Grace, Repentance, Confession, Restoration, Hard Work
- The Privileges of the Baptized
 - Scripture
 - Prayer
 - The Church
 - Assurance
 - A blessed end

Sources

- From the Catechism
- From the Liturgies
- From the Scriptures

Unit #58 Absolution

Outline

The Power and Duty of the Church to Forgive Sins
Absolution: A Personal Application of the Gospel
General Confession and Absolution
A Troubled Conscience: Private Confession and Absolution
The withholding of forgiveness, of communion, of fellowship

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Unit #59 The Sacrament of the Altar, Part I

Outline

The Words of Institution and Christian Worship
The Very Real Presence
The Fellowship

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Catechism and Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Unit #60 The Sacrament of the Altar, Part II

Outline

Sources

From the Catechism
From the Liturgies
From the Scriptures

Unit #61 Principles of Corporate Worship

Outline

Unit #62 The Divine Service

Outline

The Divine Service
The Lectionary
The Sacred Calendar