

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
 - Resecting 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