Luther's Small Catechism

MEMORY CARDS

Christian Questions with Their Answers

Do you believe that you are a sinner?

How do you know this?

Are you sorry for your sins?

Do you believe that you are a sinner?
Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.

From *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Other than downloading and reproduction for congregational use, no part of this material may be stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission of Concordia Publishing House. For ordering information, please contact CPH at 800-325-3040 or visit CPH at www.cph.org.

Concordia
Publishing House

Are you sorry for your sins?
Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

How do you know this?
From the Ten Commandments,
which I have not kept.

What have you deserved from God because of your sins?

Do you hope to be saved?

In whom then do you trust?

Who is Christ?

What have you deserved from God because of your sins?
His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation. See Rom. 6:21, 23.

From *Luther's Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

Do you hope to be saved?
Yes, that is my hope.

From *Luther's Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

In whom then do you trust?
In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.

From *Luther's Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

Who is Christ?
The Son of God, true God and man.

From *Luther's Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

How many Gods are there?

What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?

Did the Father also die for you?

How do you know this?

What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?

He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

From *Luther's Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

How many Gods are there?

Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

From *Luther's Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

How do you know this?

From the holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.

From *Luther's Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

Did the Father also die for you?

He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.

From *Luther's Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

What are the words of institution?

Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?

What convinces you to believe this?

What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?

What are the words of institution?

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

From *Luther’s Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?

Yes, I believe it.

From *Luther’s Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

What convinces you to believe this?

The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood.

From *Luther’s Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?

We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

From *Luther’s Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org

Why should we remember and proclaim His death?

What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?

Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?

What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?

What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?

His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners, as it is written in John 14; Romans 5; Galatians 2; and Ephesians 5.

Why should we remember and proclaim His death?

First, so that we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, could do that.

Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious.

Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.

What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?

First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord.

Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.

Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?

That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.

But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?

But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?

To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in Galatians 5 and Romans 7. Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble, as the Scriptures say in John 15–16 and in 1 John 2 and 5.

Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without, as the Scriptures picture him in John 8 and 16; 1 Peter 5; Ephesians 6; and 2 Timothy 2.

From *Luther's Small Catechism* © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. cph.org