

# **Bible Basics – Lesson 5**

## **The Small Catechism – Part 2**

*4 – Baptism*

*5 – Confession*

*6 – Supper*

*Appendix*

# The Small Catechism

## Section 1:

- a. The **Ten Commandments** *(shows our sin)*
- b. The **Creed** *(saves us from our sins)*
- c. The **Lord's Prayer** *(God is now our Father...)*
- d. The **Sacrament of Holy Baptism** *(how God clothed us with Jesus)*
- e. **Confession** *(how we continue to remember our sin and God's forgiveness)*
- f. The **Sacrament of the Altar** *(how God individually assures us that we are forgiven)*

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sacraments in General*

The *Lutheran* Definition of a Sacrament:

**A Sacrament is a Sacred Act:**

- 1.** Instituted (established) by God.
- 2.** In which *God Himself has joined His Word of promise to a visible element.*
- 3.** By which *God offers, gives, and seals the forgiveness of sins earned by Christ.*

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sacraments in General*

Let's Understand these Terms:

Greek → Latin → English

μυστήριον (Greek) translates into sacramentum (Latin)  
translates into sacrament (English).

Greek → English

μυστήριον (Greek) translates into mystery (English).

Therefore, ***sacraments are mysteries!***

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fourth Chief Part – Baptism*

### Baptism Basics:

1. We all began with sin (Ps. 51:5; Rom. 5:12).
2. No one can save himself (Rom. 3:20).
3. God sent His Son to save us (Mt. 1:21; 1 Pet. 3:18).
4. God works through baptism to give us the benefits of Jesus' work (Titus 3:5; Gal. 3:27).

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fourth Chief Part – Baptism*

### **First: What is Baptism?**

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.

*Which is that word of God?* Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: “Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19).

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fourth Chief Part – Baptism*

### **Second: What benefits does Baptism give?**

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned” (Mark 16:16).

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fourth Chief Part – Baptism*

### Baptism is Connected to the Forgiveness of Sins:

- <sup>NIV</sup> **Mark 1:4** ...John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
- <sup>NIV</sup> **Acts 2:38** ...“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins...”
- <sup>NIV</sup> **Acts 22:16** [Ananias said to Saul:] “...Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away...”



# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fourth Chief Part – Baptism*

### We are Helpless to Go to God:

- Spiritually Blind: <sup>NAU</sup> 1 Corinthians 2:14 ...a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.
- Spiritually Dead: <sup>NAU</sup> Ephesians 2:1 ...you were dead in your trespasses and sins...
- Spiritual Enemies of God: <sup>NAU</sup> Romans 8:7 ...the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so...*

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fourth Chief Part – Baptism*

**Third:** *How can water do such great things?*

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three...

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fourth Chief Part – Baptism*

**Third:** *How can water do such great things?*

... “He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.” (Titus 3:5-7).

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fourth Chief Part – Baptism*

**Fourth:** *What does such baptizing with water indicate?* It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

*Where is this written?* St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: “We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life” (**Romans 6:4**).

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fourth Chief Part – Baptism*

### Why Baptize Infants:

1. OT – circumcision (8<sup>th</sup> day); NT – baptism (Col. 2:9-12)
2. When switching from circumcision to baptism, God commanded John to baptize (John 1:32-33).
3. Since no one had been baptized, the Bible records adults and households being baptized (Acts 16:33).
4. Jesus told us the normal order going forward: baptize first, teach second (Mt. 28:19-20).
5. Everyone needs God's word (Mt. 4:4; Acts 20:32).

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

*Note How the Father Does Everything for His Son!*



# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fifth Chief Part – Confession*

### *What is confession?*

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fifth Chief Part – Confession*

### **A Divine Service Confession:**

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.



# God's Boundless Mercy

**MURDER**

**Lying**

**Stealing**

**Gossip**

**ADULTERY**

# God's Boundless Mercy

**MURDER**

**Lying**

**Stealing**

**Gossip**

**ADULTERY**

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fifth Chief Part – Confession*

### **A Divine Service Absolution:**

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead (*as a representative of*) and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fifth Chief Part – Confession*

### *What is the Office of the Keys?*

The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Fifth Chief Part – Confession*

What is the Office of the Keys?

...

Where is this written?

This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: “The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven’” (John 20:22-23).

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## How We Receive God's Forgiveness

### 1. Through Baptism

<sup>NIV</sup> Acts 2:38 ...“Repent and be baptized...for the forgiveness of your sins.”

### 2. Through the Bible

<sup>NIV</sup> James 1:18 [God] chose to give us birth through the word of truth...

### 3. Through Absolution

<sup>NIV</sup> John 20:22-23 ...he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven...”

### 4. Through the Lord's Supper

<sup>NIV</sup> Matthew 26:26-28 ...Jesus took bread...and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.” Then he took the cup...saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sixth Chief Part – Sacrament of the Altar*

### The Nature of the Sacrament of the Altar

#### First Question: *What is the Sacrament of the Altar?*

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

**Bible:** Matthew; Mark; Luke; 1 Corinthians

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sixth Chief Part – Sacrament of the Altar*

### The Four Elements:

<sup>NIV</sup> 1 Corinthians 10:16 Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

Cup (wine)

Blood

Bread

Body

*Boards and Locks*



# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sixth Chief Part – Sacrament of the Altar*

### What Does Each Church Body Teach?

→ Roman Catholic Churches

*only body and blood*

→ Lutheran Churches

*bread, wine, body and blood*

→ Most Other Protestant Churches

*only bread and wine*

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sixth Chief Part – Sacrament of the Altar*

**Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins!**

- **Given and shed** – *Jesus gave His body and shed His blood!*
- **...for you** – *Jesus gave and shed for ME and every single person!*
- **...for the forgiveness of sins** – Jesus' work has a specific purpose → to forgive, cleanse, remove my sins as well as the eternal punishment that I deserve because of my sins!

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sixth Chief Part – Sacrament of the Altar*

### The **Benefit** of the Sacrament of the Altar

**Second Question:** *What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?*

These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sixth Chief Part – Sacrament of the Altar*

### The Benefit of the Sacrament of the Altar

“...you were redeemed ... with the precious blood of Christ...”

(1 Peter 1:18-19)

“The blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.”

(1 John 1:7)

“... by His wounds you have been healed.”

(1 Peter 2:24)

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sixth Chief Part – Sacrament of the Altar*

### The **Power** of the Sacrament of the Altar

**Third Question:** *How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?*

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: “forgiveness of sins.”

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sixth Chief Part – Sacrament of the Altar*

### How to Receive this Sacrament **Worthily**

**Fourth Question:** *Who receives this sacrament worthily?*

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## *The Sixth Chief Part – Sacrament of the Altar*

### LORD'S SUPPER SELF-EXAMINATION:

“...a man must examine himself” (1 Cor. 11:28 NAU).

1. I believe the Bible is God's Word!
2. I am baptized (*God clothed me in Christ and I still am*)!
3. I am sorry for my sins!
4. I believe in Jesus for eternal life!
5. I desire to live for Christ!
6. I believe the Lord's Supper is Jesus' very body and blood, along with the bread and wine, to assure me of God's forgiveness!

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## The Appendix – Pages 246-295:

1. Luther's Preface: *Addressing Issues of his Time*
2. Books of the Bible: *Categories, Book Order, and Pronunciation*
3. Creeds and Confessions: *Important Documents Based on the Bible*
4. Explanation of Luther's Seal: *The Meaning of Each Part of the Seal*



# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## The Appendix – Pages 246-295:

5. Salvation Outline: *7-Point Summary of Our Sin and God's Work to Save Us*
6. The Church Year: *The Three Times, Six Seasons, and Various Festivals*
7. Fifty Terms Relating to Worship and God's House: *Learn the Meaning of Key Words*
8. The Time Between the Testaments: *Learn What Happened from 432 to 5 BC*

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

## The Appendix – Pages 246-295:

9. Symbols and Their Meanings: *Learn the Meaning of Key Symbols*
10. Index of Biblical Quotations: *Learn Where Key Verses are Referenced in the Catechism*
11. Index of Topics: *Learn Where Key Topics are Referenced in the Catechism*

# An Explanation of The Small Catechism

**➔ Next Week**

**Our Church and Others**

**Divine Service**

**➔ Questions? Please let me know!**