

Unit 2 – Sunday September 27th, 2020 – The Misery of Sin

Step 1 – Parents watch Pastor Andrew's video for the week (link is on the church website: www.palmerstoncrc.com)

Step 2 - Reading: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 3-8

Q & A 3

Q. How do you come to know your misery?

A. The law of God tells me.¹

¹ Rom. 3:20; 7:7-25

Q & A 4

Q. What does God's law require of us?

A. Christ teaches us this in summary in Matthew 22:37-40:

“You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind.’¹
This is the greatest and first commandment.

“And a second is like it:

‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’²

“On these two commandments hang
all the law and the prophets.”

¹ Deut. 6:5

² Lev. 19:18

Q & A 5

Q. Can you live up to all this perfectly?

A. No.¹

I have a natural tendency
to hate God and my neighbor.²

¹ Rom. 3:9-20, 23; 1 John 1:8, 10

² Gen. 6:5; Jer. 17:9; Rom. 7:23-24; 8:7; Eph. 2:1-3; Titus 3:3

Q & A 6

Q. Did God create people
so wicked and perverse?

A. No.

God created them good¹ and in his own image,²
that is, in true righteousness and holiness,³

so that they might

truly know God their creator,⁴
love him with all their heart,
and live with God in eternal happiness,
to praise and glorify him.⁵

¹ Gen. 1:31

² Gen. 1:26-27

³ Eph. 4:24

⁴ Col. 3:10

⁵ Ps. 8

Q & A 7

Q. Then where does this corrupt human nature come from?

A. The fall and disobedience of our first parents,

Adam and Eve, in Paradise.¹

This fall has so poisoned our nature²
that we are all conceived and born
in a sinful condition.³

¹ Gen. 3

² Rom. 5:12, 18-19

³ Ps. 51:5

Q & A 8

Q. But are we so corrupt
that we are totally unable to do any good
and inclined toward all evil?

A. Yes,¹ unless we are born again
by the Spirit of God.²

¹ Gen. 6:5; 8:21; Job 14:4; Isa. 53:6

² John 3:3-5

Source: (<https://www.crcna.org/welcome/beliefs/confessions/heidelberg-catechism>)

Step 3 – Discuss these talking points as a family; feel free to adapt the questions depending upon the age and stage of your child's development.

- **MISERY** - Think of a time in your life when you felt “miserable”. What did it feel like? What led to your misery?
- **SIN** – What is sin? Why do you suppose the authors of the Catechism described the impact of sin on our lives as “misery”?
- **BORN AGAIN** – What does it mean to be born the first time? What does it mean to be born again?

Step 4 – Close the discussion with a time of family prayer.