

Unit 4 – Sunday, October 11th, 2020 – Jesus, the God-Man

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

Step 2 – Read Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 14-19 aloud with your family:

Q & A 14

Q. Can another creature—any at all—pay this debt for us?

A. No.

To begin with,

God will not punish any other creature for what a human is guilty of.¹

Furthermore,

no mere creature can bear the weight of God's eternal wrath against sin and deliver others from it.²

¹ Ezek. 18:4, 20; Heb. 2:14-18

² Ps. 49:7-9; 130:3

Q & A 15

Q. What kind of mediator and deliverer should we look for then?

A. One who is a true¹ and righteous² human, yet more powerful than all creatures, that is, one who is also true God.³

¹ Rom. 1:3; 1 Cor. 15:21; Heb. 2:17

² Isa. 53:9; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 7:26

³ Isa. 7:14; 9:6; Jer. 23:6; John 1:1

Q & A 16

Q. Why must the mediator be a true and righteous human?

A. God's justice demands

that human nature, which has sinned, must pay for sin;¹

but a sinful human could never pay for others.²

¹ Rom. 5:12, 15; 1 Cor. 15:21; Heb. 2:14-16

² Heb. 7:26-27; 1 Pet. 3:18

Q & A 17

Q. Why must the mediator also be true God?

A. So that the mediator,
by the power of his divinity,
might bear the weight of God's wrath in his humanity
and earn for us
and restore to us
righteousness and life.¹

¹ Isa. 53; John 3:16; 2 Cor. 5:21

Q & A 18

Q. Then who is this mediator—
true God and at the same time
a true and righteous human?

A. Our Lord Jesus Christ,¹
who was given to us
to completely deliver us
and make us right with God.²

¹ Matt. 1:21-23; Luke 2:11; 1 Tim. 2:5

² 1 Cor. 1:30

Q & A 19

Q. How do you come to know this?

A. The holy gospel tells me.

God began to reveal the gospel already in Paradise;¹
later God proclaimed it

by the holy patriarchs² and prophets³
and foreshadowed it

by the sacrifices and other ceremonies of the law;⁴
and finally God fulfilled it

through his own beloved Son.⁵

¹ Gen. 3:15

² Gen. 22:18; 49:10

³ Isa. 53; Jer. 23:5-6; Mic. 7:18-20; Acts 10:43; Heb. 1:1-2

⁴ Lev. 1-7; John 5:46; Heb. 10:1-10

⁵ Rom. 10:4; Gal. 4:4-5; Col. 2:17

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

Step 3 – Discuss these talking points together as a family; feel free to adapt the questions based upon the age and developmental stage of your children.

- **MEDIATOR** – What or who is a mediator? What does it mean to mediate between two parties? How is the idea of a “mediator” similar to or different from a “deliverer”?
- **WRATH** – What is wrath? Why do you suppose that the Catechism uses a strong word like wrath rather than something like “anger”?
- **HOLY GOSPEL** – What is the gospel? Does the Catechism use this word just in the sense of the four “gospels” of the New Testament? Or the gospel something bigger?

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