

## **Unit 7 – Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 – What Do We Believe About God the Father?**

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

**Step 2** – Read Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 25-28 aloud with your family:

### **Q & A 25**

Q. Since there is only one divine being,<sup>1</sup>  
why do you speak of three:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

A. Because that is how

God has revealed himself in his Word:<sup>2</sup>  
these three distinct persons  
are one, true, eternal God.

<sup>1</sup> Deut. 6:4; 1 Cor. 8:4, 6

<sup>2</sup> Matt. 3:16-17; 28:18-19; Luke 4:18 (Isa. 61:1); John 14:26; 15:26; 2 Cor. 13:14; Gal. 4:6; Tit. 3:5-6

### **Q & A 26**

Q. What do you believe when you say,  
“I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth”?

A. That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who out of nothing created heaven and earth

and everything in them,<sup>1</sup>

who still upholds and rules them

by his eternal counsel and providence,<sup>2</sup>

is my God and Father

because of Christ the Son.<sup>3</sup>

I trust God so much that I do not doubt

he will provide

whatever I need

for body and soul,<sup>4</sup>

and will turn to my good

whatever adversity he sends upon me

in this sad world.<sup>5</sup>

God is able to do this because he is almighty God<sup>6</sup>  
and desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Gen. 1-2; Ex. 20:11; Ps. 33:6; Isa. 44:24; Acts 4:24; 14:15

<sup>2</sup> Ps. 104; Matt. 6:30; 10:29; Eph. 1:11

<sup>3</sup> John 1:12-13; Rom. 8:15-16; Gal. 4:4-7; Eph. 1:5

<sup>4</sup> Ps. 55:22; Matt. 6:25-26; Luke 12:22-31

<sup>5</sup> Rom. 8:28

<sup>6</sup> Gen. 18:14; Rom. 8:31-39

<sup>7</sup> Matt. 7:9-11

## Q & A 27

Q. What do you understand  
by the providence of God?

A. The almighty and ever present power of God<sup>1</sup>

by which God upholds, as with his hand,

heaven  
and earth

and all creatures,<sup>2</sup>

and so rules them that

leaf and blade,  
rain and drought,  
fruitful and lean years,  
food and drink,  
health and sickness,

prosperity and poverty—<sup>3</sup>  
all things, in fact,  
come to us

not by chance<sup>4</sup>

but by his fatherly hand.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Jer. 23:23-24; Acts 17:24-28

<sup>2</sup> Heb. 1:3

<sup>3</sup> Jer. 5:24; Acts 14:15-17/a>; John 9:3; Prov. 22:2

<sup>4</sup> Prov. 16:33

<sup>5</sup> Matt. 10:29

## Q & A 28

Q. How does the knowledge  
of God's creation and providence help us?

A. We can be patient when things go against us,<sup>1</sup>

thankful when things go well,<sup>2</sup>

and for the future we can have

good confidence in our faithful God and Father

that nothing in creation will separate us from his love.<sup>3</sup>

For all creatures are so completely in God's hand

that without his will

they can neither move nor be moved.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Job 1:21-22; James 1:3

<sup>2</sup> Deut. 8:10; 1 Thess. 5:18

<sup>3</sup> Ps. 55:22; Rom. 5:3-5; 8:38-39

<sup>4</sup> Job 1:12; 2:6; Prov. 21:1; Acts 17:24-28

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.

- **PROVIDENCE** – What kinds of things does God the Father provide for us? (Read Q&A 27 carefully!)
- **CHANCE** – How is believing in “chance” the opposite of trusting in God's providence?

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