

Youth Club Memory Work

Eighth Grade Confirmation Questions



As you begin this work and ask “Why do I have to do memory work?” recall the words of Dr. Martin Luther: “Doctrinal sermons in the church do not edify young people. But quizzes at home, definitions of the Catechism, and questions concerning the confession of faith are of much greater benefit. They are, of course, troublesome; but they are very necessary.”

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| 1. What is the Bible? | It is the revealed Word of God. It is God’s teaching word about salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. |
| 2. What’s wrong with saying that the Bible “contains” the Word of God? | Then we would have to look for it. We would not be sure which parts are God’s inspired Word and which parts are not. |
| 3. What is the spiritual purpose of the Bible? | “... to make us wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.” (II Timothy 3:15) |
| 4. Who wrote the Bible? | God is the divine author. He used prophets and apostles as the human authors. He inspired them with the words and message to write. |
| 5. In what languages was the Bible originally written? | The Old Testament was written in Hebrew. The New Testament was written in Greek. |
| 6. What is the Law? | It is that teaching of God which shows us our sinful nature and our sins. It reveals God’s holy will and how we Christians should live. |
| 7. What is the Gospel? | “Gospel” means “the good news.” The Gospel is that sweet message that we are saved by God’s grace through faith in Jesus Christ. |
| 8. Which verse best summarizes the “good news” of the Gospel? | “God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16) |

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| 9. What is a creed? | It is a statement of belief. |
| 10. What are the creeds of the Church? | The Apostles' Creed The Nicene Creed The Athanasian Creed. |
| 11. Which creed is accepted by <u>all</u> Christian churches? | The Nicene Creed. |
| 12. How are the creeds used? | They are tools to teach and to proclaim the faith. They state the <u>true</u> faith when confronted with error or heresy.(false teaching). |
| 13. Who are the three Persons of the Triune God and what work does the creed give to each? | God the Father: creation God the Son: redemption God the Holy Spirit: sanctification |
| 14. What is meant by the "Trinity"? | "Trinity" means "Three-In-One." It describes God's divine being: there are three Persons in the one Godhead; all are equal in power and glory. |
| 15. Why is God called "Father"? | He is the father of all people by the act of creation. He is the divine father of Jesus Christ. He is the spiritual father of all true believers. |
| 16. What are two errors of the theory of evolution? | Human beings are not animals in the Scriptures. The Bible teaches God created all things from nothing in six normal days. |
| 17. How old is the earth according to the Bible? | The Bible gives no such dating. |
| 18. How is God still involved with His creation? | God <u>preserves</u> His world and us. He <u>provides</u> for our necessities. He <u>protects</u> us from physical danger and from the devil. |
| 19. In what ways does God use suffering for our benefit? | Suffering can check our sinful pride, aid our dependence on God, and teach us of God's love. |

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| 20. What are the chief <u>invisible</u> creatures, and what do they do for us? | The angels are messengers from God to us. They protect us, especially little children. |
| 21. What are the chief <u>visible</u> creatures? | Human beings: male and female. |
| 22. How were Adam and Eve created? | By a special act of creation: they were created in God's image, sinless and holy. |
| 23. Do people still have that perfect image of God? | NO! Adam and Eve sinned and their rebellion and disobedience spoiled God's creation. |
| 24. What effect does their sin have on all succeeding generations? | We are all born of sinful parents; we "inherit" their sinful nature. The proof of original sin in us is that we all can die. |
| 25. What does God require of us? | God demands a perfect life, which no one is able to accomplish. |
| 26. What does the <u>name</u> "Jesus" mean? What does the <u>title</u> "Christ" mean? | Jesus means "Savior." Christ means "Anointed One" or "Messiah," God's specially Chosen One to be our Savior. |
| 27. What two natures are united in the person of Jesus Christ? | Divine and human. |
| 28. How do we know that Jesus was really a man? | The Bible says so! He also did things which only human beings do: sleep, eat, cry, suffer, and die. |
| 29. How do we know that Jesus was really God? | The Bible says so! He also did things which only God can do: healings, miracles, and rising from the dead. |
| 30. Why did Jesus descend into hell? | To proclaim His victory over the devil. He did <u>not</u> suffer there or preach salvation to the dead or offer a second chance for salvation. |
| 31. WHAT IS THE CENTRAL TEACHING OF THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION, WITHOUT WHICH OUR FAITH IS USELESS? | JESUS' RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD! |

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| 32. What does Jesus' resurrection teach? | Because Jesus arose we know that our salvation has been completed, that His words are true, and that our bodies shall rise on the last day. |
| 33. Why did Jesus ascend into heaven? | To reclaim His divine glory and honor as the Son of God. |
| 34. What is Jesus doing for us in heaven? | He rules the world and the Church for our good; He prays for us; and He is preparing a place for us in heaven. |
| 35. When will Jesus return to the earth and why? | On the last day He will come again to judge the world and to take believers to heaven. |

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| 36. Who is the Holy Spirit and what does He do? | He is the third Person of the Holy Trinity. He brings us saving faith and keep us in the true faith. |
| 37. Why can we not come to faith in Christ by our own effort or ability? | We are by nature sinful beings — spiritually blind, dead, and enemies of God. |
| 38. When did the Holy Spirit begin His work in you? | When I was baptized. |
| 39. When were you baptized? | (KNOW YOUR BAPTISM DATE!) |
| 40. What do we call that spiritual group which includes all true believers in Christ? | “The holy Christian Church” or “the communion of saints.” |
| 41. Which is the “true” Church? | All people who believe in Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior. |
| 42. In what sense is the Church invisible? | No one can look into the heart of another person to see if he/she has true faith or is a hypocrite. |
| 43. Why do Christians form congregations? | To do the work of Christ together which we cannot do separately as individuals. |

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| 44. What is the "Office of the Keys?" | "Office" means "use." Christ gave the Church the key to open heaven to the penitent by forgiving sins and the key to close heaven to the impenitent by retaining their sins. |
| 45. Who is a penitent sinner? | One who is sorry for his/her sins, confesses them, and believes in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. |
| 46. To whom did Christ give this power? | To all Christians, not just to pastors. |
| 47. What is the chief purpose of confession? | It is the opportunity to hear the word of absolution (forgiveness). |

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| 48. In public confession which sins do we confess? | Publicly we confess all our sins in general, even those which we may not know or recognize. |
| 49. In private confession which sins do we confess? | Before the pastor or another Christian we confess those sins which trouble us, which we feel in our heart, for which we desire a specific word of forgiveness. |
| 50. Is private confession mandatory in the Lutheran Church? | No. It is available to the troubled sinners; it is not required as in the Roman Catholic Church. |

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| 51. Which are the "means of grace"? | The Word, Holy Baptism, the Lord's Supper. |
| 52. What is the purpose of the means of grace? | These are the "means" by which God brings us the blessings of salvation. |
| 53. In the Lutheran Church how is a sacrament defined in the Lutheran Church? | A sacrament is . . . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a sacred act, • instituted by God; • involving visible elements; • using the Word of God; • promising and giving forgiveness. |
| 54. Which are the two sacraments in the Lutheran Church? | Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. |

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| 55. What makes a valid Baptism ? | The Word of God and water, applied to a person in the name of the Triune God. |
| 56. What does the Greek word “baptize” mean? | “To baptize” means “to apply water,” usually by washing. It can mean to immerse, pour, or sprinkle. |
| 57. Is there only one right way to apply the water of Holy Baptism? | NO. The New Testament only commands that water baptism be done “in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.” |
| 58. Is it wrong to insist that Baptism must be done by immersion in order to be valid? | YES. The Bible does not command immersion, even though many of the baptisms recorded in the New Testament were done that way. |
| 59. Should a person be rebaptized? | Not if the first Baptism was done with water and the Word. It is wrong to force people to be rebaptized by immersion. In the Lutheran Church we only rebaptize those who are not sure if they were ever baptized or those who have no proof of their Baptism. |
| 60. What happens spiritually in Holy Baptism? | The Holy Spirit brings salvation through the forgiveness of sins and puts saving faith in heart. |
| 61. Where does the Bible say this? | “Baptism now saves you.” (1 Peter 3:21) “Repent and be baptized and wash away your sins.” (Acts 2:38) |
| 62. Why do we baptize infants? | They are included in Christ’s command to “baptize <u>all</u> nations.” Also, Jesus said: “Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them. . . .” (Mk. 10:14) |
| 63. What two issues cause some churches to deny baptism to babies? | They claim that infants are not born sinful They also reason that babies cannot have saving faith because they are too little to know what’s happening. |
| 64. How does the Bible speak to these issues? | We are all born sinful. Sin is a power that reigns in us, not just bad things we do. Infants can die, which shows they are subject to sin: “The wages of sin is death.” (Romans 6:23) Infants can believe; Jesus says so in Matthew 18:6! Faith is a <u>gift</u> from the Holy Spirit through water and the Word, not just a mental activity. |

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| 65. What is the power in Baptism? | It is <u>not</u> the water: by itself water can do nothing. The power of Baptism is the Word of God, connected to the water, and the faith which believes the Word. |
| 66. What significance does Baptism have for our later life? | It is the cherished promise that we are children of God and that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Through daily repentance we renew the baptismal promise of God's grace to us. |

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| 67. Why are we baptized once but come to the Lord's Supper frequently? | Baptism is our entrance into the kingdom of God and makes us Christians. Holy Communion nourishes, increases, and strengthens our faith; it helps keeps us Christians. | | | | | | |
| 68. What is the Sacrament of the Altar? | It is the true Body and Blood of our Lord, given to Christians to eat and to drink, assuring us of the forgiveness of sins. | | | | | | |
| 69. What are some other names for this sacrament? | <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">Holy Communion</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">Eucharist</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Breaking of the Bread</td> <td style="border: none;">The Lord's Table</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">The Lord's Supper</td> <td style="border: none;">The Mass.</td> </tr> </table> | Holy Communion | Eucharist | Breaking of the Bread | The Lord's Table | The Lord's Supper | The Mass. |
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| 70. What do we believe we received in Holy Communion? | Christ's true Body and true Blood, given with bread and wine. |
| 71. What this union of the bread and wine with Jesus' Body and Blood called? | The Real Presence. |
| 72. What are the two great blessing of the Lord's Supper? | Forgiveness of sins and strengthening of faith. |
| 73. Why should a person receive the Lord's Supper frequently? | Out of obedience to the Lord's command, "Do this"; Because of our need for the blessings received in this sacrament. |

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| 74. Should we ever <u>not</u> come to Holy Communion when it is offered? | Only if we can say to God that we don't need forgiveness or strengthening of faith; or, if we have lost the saving faith. |
| 75. To whom does our congregation offer the Lord's Supper? | To penitent adult Christians who are in fellowship with us in believing Christ's real presence in the sacrament. |
| 76. What is this Lutheran practice called? | Close Communion |
| 77. To whom do we deny the Lord's Supper in our congregation? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To those who misunderstand the meaning and purpose of the sacrament • To infants • To those who cannot examine themselves • To the dead • To those who have been excommunicated |
| 78. Why is it probably best not to take Communion in non-Lutheran churches? | To do so gives public witness that we agree with what non-Lutherans teach about the Lord's Supper — which we do not! Participating at the table with those of other faith give the impression it doesn't matter what people believe or how they misinterpret the Bible. |
| 79. How can Christians spiritually prepare themselves to receive Holy Communion? | By examining their lives using the Ten Commandments; by repentance and confession of sins; and by trusting the Lord's promise that His Body and Blood were given "for me." |
| 80. Why should a person examine him/herself in this way? | The Bible clearly teaches that without repentance and faith a person can eat and drink to his/her judgment and not receive the blessings which Christ offers. |
| 81. Do people have a knowledge of the moral law without knowing the Ten Commandments? | YES — God wrote it into our heart when we were created; we call this the conscience |

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| 82. Why were the Commandments given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai? | The Law written in the heart has become blurred because of sin. |
| 83. What are three uses of the Law? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a <u>curb</u> to stop us from doing evil; • As a <u>mirror</u> to show us our sins; • As a <u>guide</u> to show Christians how to obey God and do His will. |
| 84. Why do Christians need the Ten Commandments? | The Ten Commandments express the will of God and are the moral law that tells us how we should live as His people. God also wants us to see our sin and our great need for a Savior. |
| 85. Can anyone (besides the pastor) obey the Law perfectly? | NO — we are <u>all</u> sinners from our birth. |
| 86. What is the good news of the Gospel? | <p>Christ freed us from the burden and condemnation of the Law and from finding our salvation in the Law.</p> <p>He kept the Law perfectly for us, removing its curse and punishment. Through His death and resurrection we have forgiveness and eternal life.</p> |
| 87. What sins does God forbid in the First Commandment? | All forms of <u>idolatry</u> by which something or someone is set in the place of God in our life. |
| 88. What is the difference between “swearing” and “cursing”? | <p>“Swearing” means “to take an oath,” as in the marriage ceremony or in court. Christians are permitted to do this.</p> <p>“Cursing” includes all misuses of the divine Name: practicing witchcraft, Satanism, fortune-telling, false teaching (heresy), foul talk, and filthy jokes.</p> |
| 89. How are we to use God’s Name properly? | In prayer, praise, and thanksgiving; in worship; and in witnessing to others of His love and grace. |

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| 90. Why do Christians worship publicly on Sunday? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus rose on Sunday. • It is the first day of the week when the Creation was begun. • The Holy Spirit was given to the Church on Pentecost. |
| 91. Is that the only day we can worship? | NO—we can worship God any day, but we need a certain day to do this publicly with fellow believers. |
| 92. In the Fourth Commandment who else is included in the term “mothers and fathers” besides parents? | All persons placed by God in authority over us: pastors, teachers, employers, the police, and government officials. |
| 93. What sins does God forbid in the Fifth Commandment? | All words or deeds that hurt or harm others in any way or wish their destruction: hatred, envy, jealousy, spite, revenge. |

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| 94. What is commanded of all persons in the Sixth Commandment? | Our words and deeds are to be pure and honorable, especially in regards to sexual matters. |
| 95. What is marriage? | Marriage was instituted by God as the lifelong union of a man and a woman into one flesh. |
| 96. What sins does God forbid in the Sixth Commandment? | <p><u>For married persons:</u> breach of promise, divorce, and unfaithfulness.</p> <p><u>For all people:</u> sexual impurity in thoughts, words, and actions; pornography; and immoral amusements.</p> |
| 97. What does the Bible say about sexual relations outside of marriage? | It calls this behavior “fornication.” Along with adultery, it brings God’s judgment and condemnation. |

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| 98. What is forbidden in the Seventh Commandment? | Armed robbery, theft, fraud, embezzlement, charging excessive interest (loan-sharking), and gambling. |
| 99. The Eighth Commandment wants us to guard which part of our body? | The tongue. |
| 100. What is specifically forbidden in the Eighth Commandment? | We should never give false or lying testimony in a court of law (perjury). |
| 101. What are ways we break the Eighth Commandment. | By telling another person's secrets; slander; lying; attacking the good name or reputation of others. |
| 102. What does it mean to "covet." | "To want sinfully." |

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| 103. What is prayer? | It is talking <u>with</u> God, not just <u>to</u> God. |
| 104. To Whom should we pray? | The Triune God. |
| 105. Why do we pray? | God commanded it and has promised to hear us. We need this heart-to-heart talk with our heavenly Father. |
| 106. In what ways does God answer our prayers? | "Yes" "No" "Not yet" "Let's do it My way" |
| 107. What is Confirmation? | A period of formal instruction in the Christian faith and the teachings and practices of the Lutheran Church. |
| 108. Does just being confirmed guarantee you a place in God's Kingdom? | NO! The Bible declares that we are to grow in our faith and in the knowledge of our Lord through regular use of the Word and Sacraments. |
| 109. Do questions contain every possible thing you'd ever need to know to be a Christian? | NO — but they're not a bad start! |