

HOW TO USE THIS CATECHISM:

1. Get in a group of 2 or more people
2. One person needs to be the designated teacher
3. The teacher needs to get hold of the 'Teacher's Guide'
4. Before meeting up with the group, the teacher, reads through the necessary questions in the 'Teacher's Guide.'
5. When meeting up, everyone tries to answer the questions
6. The Teacher explains what all the pictures mean
7. The songs, can either be listened to (or sang) at the end of the session, or can be listened to later
8. The videos are optional and should ideally be watched at a different time (to avoid information overload)
9. All the resources required can be obtained on our website www.urbanministries.org.uk
10. We also have a training program on our website which takes people deeper into understanding the teaching in this catechism, as well as tips for taking people through it.

Urban Ministries exists to help make disciples who make disciples in the urban context. For more information please visit our website www.urbanministries.org.uk

This catechism is a work in progress, and we hope to improve the artwork over time.

Some of the present images are courtesy of www.123RF.com

URBAN CATECHISM PREVIEW

Version 105

PART 1

A: INTRODUCTION

INSTRUCTIONS CAN BE
FOUND ON BACK COVER
BY DUNCAN FORBES
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URBAN MINISTRIES
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1. WHAT IS THE BASIC CHRISTIAN STORY?

God created a good world [1], and gave his law to show how people should live [2]. Adam rebelled against God's law (at the Fall) [3], and messed up creation [4]. God sent his son Jesus to pay for the rebellion of anyone who believes in him [5]. Jesus died and rose again [6]. One day Jesus will return and fairly judge us all [7]. All those who broke his law will be punished for eternity in hell [8], but those who believed in him and had their sins forgiven will live with him forever [9] in a new world where everything will be perfect [10].

[1] Gen 1:31, How did God describe the world when he first made it?

[2] Gen 2:16-17, What law did he give Adam?

[3] Gen 3:1-6, How did Adam and Eve rebel against God?

[4] Gen 3:16-19, What were some of the results of their rebellion?

[5] John 3:16, How can we avoid perishing?

[6] 1 Cor 15:3-4, What happened after Christ died?

[7] Matt 16:27, What will Jesus look at when he judges people?

[8] Matt 13:41-42; 25:41, How is the punishment described?

[9] John 3:16

[10] Rev 21:1-5, Will there be any suffering in the new world?

Q What part stands out the most to you? Why?

2. HOW CAN WE KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT GOD?

Both creation [1] and conscience [2] point to God. But we suppress this truth [3]. Because we are biased, we need God to reveal himself through his word [4] by his Spirit [5].

[1] Rom 1:20

How does creation point to God?



[2] Rom 2:14-15, What does it reveal when people naturally know it is wrong to lie?

[3] Rom 1:18-20, What do people do to the truth?

Rom 3:11-12, How many people suppress the truth?

Luke 16:27-31, Do people just need to see more evidence to believe?



[4] Rom 10:17, What do people need to hear to believe in Christ?

[5] 1 Cor 2:12-14, Who do we need to help us accept and understand God's words?

Q. Can you think of ways God has revealed truth to you?

Q. Can you think of ways you've suppressed the truth?

Video to watch:
Unbelief

**You have now reached the end of this preview,
please contact us at www.urbanministries.org.uk
if you would like to use the full version of the catechism**

6. DOES GOD UNDERSTAND WHAT IT IS LIKE TO LIVE IN THIS WORLD?

Yes, whilst still being God, God the son became a man, Jesus Christ [1], and lived a hard life [2], experiencing much temptation [3] and suffering, even death on the cross [4]. During this time, Jesus trusted his Father’s will [5].

- [1] Phil 2:6-8, What did Jesus do to himself?
 - [2] Is 53:3, What was Jesus’s earthly life like?
 - [3] Heb 4:15, In how many ways was Jesus tempted?
 - [4] John 19:1-30
 - [5] Luke 22:42, Whose will for his life does Jesus trust?
- Luke 23:46, Who was Jesus trusting as he died?



Q. Are you trusting the Father’s will right now in your life?

♪ Songs: ‘I Cry out to you’
‘You’re Always Here’
‘Put your Hope in’

Videos to watch:
Street Essentials: ‘Alone’
Cry out

B: GOD

3. WHO IS GOD?

God is spirit [1], one being [2], eternally existing [3] in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit [4]. God is other person centered [5].

- [1] John 4:24, What is God described as here?
- [2] Deu 6:4, How many beings is God described as?
- [3] Ps 90:2, For how long has God existed?
- [4] Gen 1:26, Does God refer to himself in singular or plural?

Matt 3:16-17, How many persons of God are working at the same time here?

Matt 28:19, How many persons of God are believers baptized into?

John 20:28, How is Jesus described here?

Acts 5:3-4, In verse 3 he says he has lied to the H.S, what other word does he use to describe the H.S in v.4?

1 Pet 1:2, What part do the 3 persons play in salvation?

John 1:3, According to this verse could Jesus have been created?

[5] John 17:1, Why does Jesus want to be glorified?

John 17:4-5,24, What was the Father doing to the son before creation?

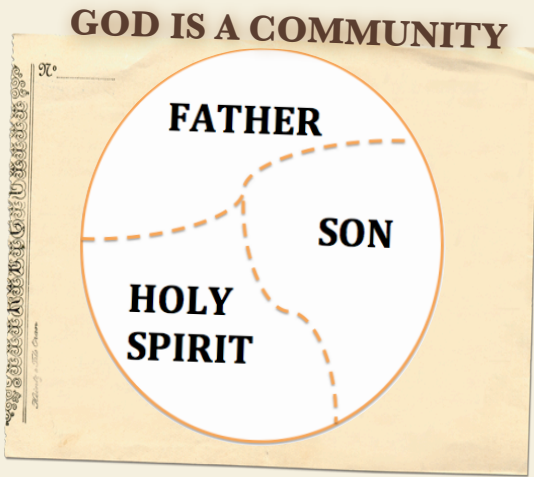
John 16:13-14, What does the Spirit do to the Son (v.14)?

Q. How do you feel about God wanting to have a relationship with you?

Q. How other person centered are you?

♪ Song: ‘Trinity’

Videos to watch:
Essentials: ‘Trinity’
Essentials: ‘Did Jesus claim to be God?’



4. WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

God is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, rich in love and faithfulness, forgiving and just [1], holy and glorious [2].

[1] Ex 34:6-7

[2] Is 6:3, In what ways can you see God's glory on the earth?

Q. Is this how you think of God?

Q. Do any of these qualities surprise you, or stand out to you? Why?

♪ Song: 'Holy are you'

Videos to watch:

Street Essentials: 'Dad'
Dad Issues
Father heart of God pt.1
Father heart of God pt.2
Father heart of God pt.3
Father heart of God pt.4

5. IN WHAT WAY DOES GOD CONTROL THE WORLD?

God is in control of everything that happens, and runs the world according to his good and wise will [1]. He does this without overriding our self will, or taking away our responsibility [2] or ever committing evil [3]. Everything he does is for both his glory [4] and the good of those who love him [5].

[1] Eph 1:11, How many things does God work out according to his plan?

Acts 4:27-28, Who ultimately planned the crucifixion?

[2] Gen 50:20, Did God's planning eliminate the brothers' intentions?

Jas 1:13-14, Do people do evil because God makes them? Why do they do evil?

[3] 1 John 1:5, Why is God not able to commit evil?

[4] Eph 1:11-12, What is the purpose of God's planning?

[5] Rom 8:18, 28, What is another purpose of God's planning?



Lam 3:32-33, Does God willingly bring bad things into our lives?

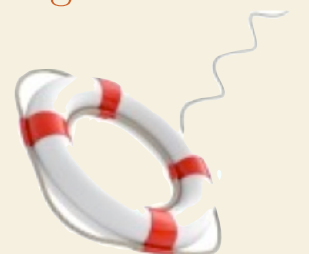


Q. Can you think of any examples of good coming out of bad in your life?

Q. Do you understand that when bad things have happened in your life, even though God has been in control and has a purpose in these things, they have still made God sad?

Q. Can you think of times when you wanted something, and you didn't get it, but it turned out for good that you didn't get it?

Q. Some people mistakenly underemphasize God's sovereignty, others underemphasize human responsibility - which side do you tend to err on?



♪ Song: 'Jesus is on the Throne'

Videos to watch:
Joseph's Suffering
No more drama
This is Where I Live