

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Luther's Small Catechism | Lesson 23: Sanctification

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

The Work of the Holy Spirit

182. Who is the Holy Spirit? **2 Corinthians 13:14** (*see also: Matthew 28:19*)
183. How does the Bible emphasize that the Holy Spirit is God?
- a. **Acts 5:1-11** (*see also: Matthew 28:19 and 1 Corinthians 3:16*)
 - b. **Psalms 139:7-8 Hebrews 9:14 1 Corinthians 2:10**
 - c. **Genesis 1:1-2 Titus 3:5 Romans 8:27**
184. What is the focus of the work of the Holy Spirit?
1 Corinthians 12:3 2 Timothy 1:9 (*see also: 1 Timothy 2:4; 1 Peter 2:9, 11; and 1 Corinthians 1:2*)
185. What is the work of the Holy Spirit called?
2 Thessalonians 2:13 (*see also: 1 Corinthians 6:11*)
186. Why is the work of the Holy Spirit so important to us?
1 Corinthians 2:14 Romans 8:7 (*see also: Ephesians 2:1 and 1 Corinthians 12:3*)
187. How does the Holy Spirit call us to faith?
Acts 2:38 2 Timothy 3:15 Matthew 26:26-28 (*see also: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14, Romans 10:17, John 17:17, and Acts 10:1-48*)
188. Why do we say that the Holy Spirit deserves all credit for bringing us to faith?
Ephesians 2:8-9 (*see also: 1 Corinthians 12:3*)

189. In what different ways does the Bible describe the miracle the Holy Spirit works when he calls us to faith?
- Acts 3:19 1 Peter 2:25 Acts 15:3 (see also: Jeremiah 31:18, Psalm 51:13, and Acts 11:21)*
 - John 3:3, 6 (see also: 1 Peter 1:3, 23 and Titus 3:5)*
 - Ephesians 2:4-5 (see also: Colossians 2:13)*
190. Why is the term *enlightened* used to describe the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts?
1 Peter 2:9 2 Corinthians 4:4-6 (see also: Ephesians 5:8 and Acts 26:17-18)
191. What gifts are we able to see clearly because of the Holy Spirit's work in our hearts?
1 Corinthians 12:3 John 17:3 Romans 8:16 Ephesians 1:7 Romans 15:13 Romans 5:1-4 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 1 Peter 1:3-4 (see also: Isaiah 32:17, Romans 8:24-25, Luke 2:10, and Psalm 119:50)
192. What ongoing work does the Holy Spirit do after our conversions?
1 Thessalonians 2:13 Isaiah 41:10 1 Peter 1:5 1 Peter 5:10 (see also: Ephesians 3:16 and Philippians 1:6)
193. Why is the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit to keep us in the true faith so necessary?
1 Peter 5:8 2 Corinthians 11:3 1 John 2:15 Galatians 5:17 (see also: Ephesians 6:11-12)
194. Because the new person within us understands the importance of the work of the Holy Spirit, what attitude do we as Christians properly display toward hearing the Word of God and using the sacraments?
Romans 1:16 Acts 2:42 Revelation 1:3 (see also: John 8:47, John 15:5, and Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23)

Acts 8:26-39

- In what ways is the faith story of the Ethiopian eunuch similar or different to your own?

For discussion...

- How does today's study speak to...
 - decision theology?*
 - the doctrine of election?*

Recommended memory work: The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed