

Christian Questions with their Answers

Prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament



Why ask these questions?

1 Corinthians 11:-27-29

²⁷ Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.



Why ask these questions?

2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? -- unless indeed you are disqualified.



Why ask these questions?

Repentance:

- 1 John 1:8-9
- Matthew 3:8
- James 4:10
- 1 Peter 5:5-7



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 1 & 2

1. Do you believe that you are a sinner?
Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.

 2. How do you know this?
From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.
- Romans 3:19-20
Galatians 3:10-12



The Ten Commandments: The First



You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love and trust in God above all things

**The Ten Commandments:
The First**



LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"

Verse 1
These are the holy Ten Commands
God gave to us by Moses' hands
When high on Sinai's mount he stood,
Receiving them for our good.
Have mercy, Lord!



Verse 2
"I am alone your God the Lord;
No other gods shall be adored.
But you shall fully trust in Me
And love Me whole-heartedly."
Have mercy, Lord!



**The Ten Commandments:
The First (1 of 2)**



- In what or whom do I trust above all else?
- In what or whom do I trust most for financial security, physical safety, or emotional support?
- Do I fear God's wrath, avoiding every sin?

Psalm 115:3-8; Isaiah 42:8; John 14:1

[Questions for Self-examination using the Ten Commandments of our Lord (Lutheran Service Book: Pastoral Care Companion. St. Louis: CPH, 2007, p658-663)]

**The Ten Commandments:
The First (2 of 2)**



- Is my love for and trust in God evident in my daily living?
- Do I expect only good from God in every situation, or do I worry, doubt, complain, or feel unfairly treated when things go wrong?
- Do I withhold from God what is rightfully His?

Psalm 4:5; 136:1; Numbers 16:1-11, 22-22

The Ten Commandments: The Second



You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

The Ten Commandments: The Second



LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"



Verse 3

"Do not My holy name disgrace,
Do not My Word of truth debase.
Praise only that as good and true
Which I Myself say and do."
Have mercy, Lord!



The Ten Commandments: The Second



- Is the Lord's Word evident in my daily speech and conduct, or do I curse, speak carelessly, or misuse God's name? Jeremiah 23:28; Colossians 3:1-11
- Do I keep all the vows I have made in the Lord's name, such as confirmation, marriage, or legal vows, etc.? Psalm 50:14; Matthew 12:37
- Am I diligent and sincere in my prayers, or have I been lazy, bored, or distracted? Do I trust that the Lord God will answer them according to His good and gracious will? Psalm 50:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:17

**The Ten Commandments:
The Third** 

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

**The Ten Commandments:
The Third** 

LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"



Verse 4

"You shall observe the worship day
That peace may fill your home, and pray,
And put aside the work you do,
So that I may work in you."
Have mercy, Lord!

**The Ten Commandments:
The Third (1 of 2)** 

- Do I despise the Word by neglect or by paying little or no attention when it is read or preached? John 10:16, 27; 8:31-32, 47; 14:23-24; Luke 11:28
- Do I attend the Church's worship faithfully, or do I attend sporadically because I prefer to be elsewhere? Psalm 122:1; Hebrews 10:23-25; Matthew 18:20; John 12:26
- Do I pray for my pastor and other church workers and support their efforts in service to the Word? Galatians 6:6-7; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; Hebrews 13:7, 17

The Ten Commandments: The Third (2 of 2)



Do I, as a pastor of God's flock, fulfill my calling through diligent preparation and faithful preaching of God's Word?

1 Timothy 3:2-4; Titus 3:1-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4

The Ten Commandments: The Fourth



Honor your father and your mother.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

The Ten Commandments: The Fourth



LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"



Verse 5

"You are to honor and obey
Your father, mother, ev'ry day,
Serve them each way that comes to hand;
You'll then live long in the land."
Have mercy, Lord!



The Ten Commandments: The Fourth (1 of 2)



- Do I honor my father and mother, and other authorities, such as teachers, employers, supervisors, governmental leaders, and pastors, receiving them as gifts that God has put in authority over me?
- Have I been angry, stubborn, or disrespectful toward those in authority over me?
- Do I obey all the laws of the city, state, and country?

The Ten Commandments: The Fourth (2 of 2)



- Do I faithfully represent God the Father in disciplining, caring for, and catechizing my children?
- Do I exasperate my children, or do I bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord?
- Am I threatening, abusive, or overbearing to others in my household or workplace?

The Ten Commandments: The Fifth



You shall not murder.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

**The Ten Commandments:
The Fifth**

LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"



Verse 6
 "You shall not murder, hurt, nor hate;
 Your anger dare not dominate.
 Be kind and patient; help, defend,
 And treat your foe as your friend."
 Have mercy, Lord!




**The Ten Commandments:
The Fifth**

- Have I unjustly taken the life of anyone born or unborn?
- Do I treat my own body as a temple of the Holy Spirit, or do I hurt or harm it by gluttony, chemical addiction, or other abuse?
- Do I hate anyone, or am I angry with anyone?
- Do I lose my temper or injure my neighbor by thoughts, words, or deeds?
- Do I hold grudges or harbor resentment?
- Do I ignore the plight of the helpless, or am I callous toward genuine need?



**The Ten Commandments:
The Sixth**

You shall not commit adultery.

What does this mean?
 We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.



**The Ten Commandments:
The Sixth**




Verse 7
 "Be faithful to your marriage vow;
 No lust or impure thoughts allow.
 Keep all your conduct free from sin
 By self-controlled discipline."
 Have mercy, Lord!

LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"



**The Ten Commandments:
The Sixth**



- Am I in a sexual relationship with someone other than my spouse?
- Do I look at others lustfully and thereby commit adultery with them in my heart?
- Do I give myself freely and selflessly to my spouse?
- Do I dishonor marriage by ridicule or divorce?
- Do I engage in any form of sexual immorality?

**The Ten Commandments:
The Seventh**

You shall not steal.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.



**The Ten Commandments:
The Seventh**




Verse 8
 "You shall not steal or take away
 What others worked for night and day,
 But open wide a gen'rous hand
 And help the poor in the land."
 Have mercy, Lord!

LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"

**The Ten Commandments:
The Seventh**



- Do I cheat or otherwise seek to get what I have not earned?
- Do I take care of what I have, pay what I owe, return what I borrow, and respect other people's property?
- Do I give generously, or am I selfish, stingy, and greedy with my time and money?
- Am I unfaithful to the responsibilities of my vocation?

**The Ten Commandments:
The Eighth**



You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest possible way.

**The Ten Commandments:
The Eighth**




Verse 9

"Bear no false witness nor defame
Your neighbor nor destroy his name,
But view him in the kindest way;
Speak truth in all that you say."
Have mercy, Lord!

LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"

**The Ten Commandments:
The Ninth**



You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

**The Ten Commandments:
The Ninth**




Verse 10

"You shall not crave your neighbor's house
Nor covet money, good, or spouse.
Pray God He would your neighbor bless
As you yourself wish success."
Have mercy, Lord!

LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"

The Ten Commandments: The Ninth



- Am I discontent with what belongs to me?
- Do I crave something better, different, or more than what God has given me?
- Do I seek to satisfy the desires and appetites of my flesh at the expense of the well-being of others?
- Do I resent or envy those who have what I do not?

The Ten Commandments: The Tenth



You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

The Ten Commandments: The Tenth



Verse 10

"You shall not crave your neighbor's house
Nor covet money, good, or spouse.
Pray God He would your neighbor bless
As you yourself wish success."
Have mercy, Lord!

LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"

**The Ten Commandments:
The Tenth**



- Am I discontent with the spouse, family, vocation, job, or employees the Lord has given me?
- Have I done anything to break up a friendship or marriage?
- Have I encouraged someone to be unfaithful to spouse, family, vocation, job, or employees?
- Am I contentious, or have I encouraged disharmony in my congregation, family, or workplace?
- Am I manipulative or controlling?
- Have I done all I can to mend or strengthen broken relationships?

**The Ten Commandments:
The Close**



Verse 11
You have this Law to see therein
That you have not been free from sin
But also that you clearly see
How pure toward God life should be.
Have mercy, Lord!



Verse 12
Our works cannot salvation gain;
They merit only endless pain.
Forgive us, Lord! To Christ we flee,
Who pleads for us endlessly.
Have mercy, Lord!

LSB 581, "These are the Holy Ten Commands"

**Christian Questions with their
Answers: Question 3**

3. Are you sorry for your sins?
Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned
against God.

Psalm 19:12; 51:1-5



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 4

4. What have you deserved from God because of your sins?
His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation. See Romans 6:21, 23.

Ezekiel 18:4,20



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 5 & 6

5. Do you hope to be saved?
Yes, that is my hope.
Psalm 32:1-2; Romans 5:1-5; 8:1-2

6. In whom then do you trust?
In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.
John 3:16-18; Acts 4:12



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 7

7. Who is Christ?
The Son of God, true God and man.

John 1:1, 14, 29
Philippians 2:5-11
Colossians 1:9-23



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 8

8. How many Gods are there?

Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Exodus 20:3; Deuteronomy 6:4; John 14:1; 1 Corinthians 8:6



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 9

9. What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?

He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

Romans 5; Mark 10:45



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 10 & 11

10. Did the Father also die for you?

He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed his blood for me. Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 15:3

11. How do you know this?

From the holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.

John 1:1, 14; Romans 5:15



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 12

12. What are the Words of Institution?

Mt.26:26-29

Mk 14:22-25

Luke 22:18-20

1 Cor 11:23-25



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 12

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 13 & 14

13. Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament? Yes, I believe it.

1 Corinthians 10:16

14. What convinces you to believe this? The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood. Romans 10:17



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 15

15. What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge? We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

1 Corinthians 11:25-26



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 16

16. Why should we remember and proclaim His death? First, so that we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.

1 Peter 1:18-19



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 17

17. What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins? His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners, as it is written in John 14; Romans 5; Galatians 2 and Ephesians 5.

Eph 5:25-27



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 18

18. Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament? That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.

John 12:26; Mark 9:24



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 19

19. What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently? First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.

John 8:31; Matthew 11:28;
2 Corinthians 5:15, 17



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 20

20. But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?

2 Corinthians 13:5; 6:1-2
Romans 3:19-20, 23; 6:23



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 20, (1 of 3)

To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in Galatians 5 and Romans 7.



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 20, (2 of 3)

Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble, as the Scriptures say in John 15-16 and in 1 John 2 and 5.



Christian Questions with their Answers: Question 20, first

Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without, as the Scriptures picture him in John 8 and 16; 1 Peter 5; Ephesians 6; and 2 Timothy 2.



Christian Questions with their Answers

Note: These questions and answers are no child's play, but are drawn up with great earnestness of purpose by the venerable and devout Dr. Luther for both young and old. Let each one pay attention and consider it a serious matter; for St. Paul writes to the Galatians in chapter six: "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked."


