

Lesson 1: Introduction to the Catechism

Watch [Pastor Aaron Fenker's video](#) where he gives an overview of the first chief part of Luther's Small Catechism. You may do this on your own.

While you are watching, reflect on these points:

- The three uses of the law: curb, guide and mirror
- The two tables of the law: faith for God and love for your neighbor
- The purpose of each specific commandment

Video preparation

Watch [Pastor Brett Simek](#) discuss the introduction of Luther's Small Catechism with your child BEFORE he or she attends class. Work through the questions together.

After you have watched this video together, discuss the target question for this lesson:

What is a Christian?

Have your child explain what they learned about what confirmation is and what the Catechism is. Share with your child about your experience in confirmation class - whether that was as a child or an adult.

Your child learned about who God is (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and who wrote the bible (God, through men inspired by the Holy Spirit). They also talked about where human reason works in understanding these things. Discuss why we cannot rely on human reason to understand these things.

Your child also discussed magisterial vs. ministerial use of reason. This may help jog their memories when discussing

What are the 6 chief parts of the Catechism? What does each part teach us? Why do we need it?

*10 Commandments is the law - this shows us our sin and our need for a savior
The Apostles' Creed shows us who the triune God is
The Lord's Prayer teaches the Lord's will for our lives*

Holy Baptism is one way God comes to us and gives us forgiveness

Confession and Absolution is where we hear God's forgiveness

The Lord's Supper is where God gives us his true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins