

GROW@HOME

December,
Week 4

Personal and Family Devotions • Small Groups • Church meetings

1 Invocation

Make the sign of the cross and say:
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2 Psalm

I will sing of Yahweh's acts of covenant faithfulness forever.

I will proclaim your truthfulness to future generations.

For I have said, "Covenant faithfulness has been established forever;
your truthfulness you have established in the heavens."

The heavens praise your wonders, Yahweh;
your truthfulness is praised in the assembly of the holy ones.

O Yahweh God of hosts, who is strong like you, Yahweh?

Your truthfulness surrounds you.

Blessed are the people who worship you!

O Lord, they walk in the light of your face.

They rejoice in your name all day long,
and in your righteousness they exalt you.

Psalm 89:1-2, 5, 8, 15-16

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

3 Hymns

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (page 5)

Jesus Shall Reign (page 6)

4 Lessons



BIBLE BOOKS

Gospels of Jesus Christ

John

Summary Statement

The life of Jesus, the Son of God

Outline

I. The Son of God's Signs (1-12)

II. The Son of God's Sermons (13-17)

III. The Son of God's Sacrifice (18-21)

Key Verses

1:14; 3:16; 8:31-32; 14:6; 20:30-31

Daily Readings

Su	1:19-34	5:16-30
Mo	6:22-40	7:37-52
Tu	7:53-8:11	8:12-30
We	8:31-47	10:22-38
Th	11:45-57	12:23-36
Fr	14:1-14	15:1-8
Sa	17:1-26	18:12-23



BIBLE EVENTS

Jesus' Early Life

Matthew 3:13-17 ★

Jesus Is Baptized



- In what river was Jesus baptized by John? (3:13)
- Why did Jesus say His baptism was right for John to do? (3:15)
- How did the Spirit of God come down on Jesus at His baptism? (3:16)
- What did the voice from the heavens say at Jesus' baptism? (3:17)

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus Is Tempted



- How long did Jesus fast in the desert? (4:2)
- What did the devil tempt Jesus to command the stones to become? (4:3)
- Where did the devil tell Jesus to throw himself down from? (4:5-6)
- What was promised to Jesus if He would worship the devil? (4:8-9)
- After the devil left Jesus, who came and served Jesus? (4:11)

Events labeled with a star (★) are appropriate for disciples of all ages. Other events may contain more mature content.

Matthew 4:18-25 ★

The First Disciples



- What was the profession of Simon Peter and Andrew? (4:18)
- What did Jesus say He would make the brothers? (4:19)
- Who was the father of James and John? (4:21)
- What did James and John leave behind to follow Jesus? (4:22)

John 1:43-51

Philip and Nathanael



- Who did Philip tell Nathanael that he had found? (1:45)
- When Nathanael mocked anything significant coming from Nazareth, how did Philip reply? (1:46)
- Where did Jesus tell Nathanael he saw him before Philip called him? (1:48)
- Where did Jesus tell Nathanael that he would see angels ascending and descending? (1:51)

For application: IDEA What is stated in the verse, passage or selection? **THANK** What does this verse, passage or selection make me thankful for? **CONFESS** What does this verse, passage or selection make me sorry for? **HELP** What help do I need from God to act on what I have read?



BIBLE TEACHINGS

The Creed, Second Article

Second Article: Of Redemption

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, in order that I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

State of Exaltation

85. Why did Jesus descend into hell?

To proclaim His victory over sin and death

Colossians 2:15; 1 Peter 3:18-19

86. Why is Jesus' resurrection important?

- A. It proves Jesus is the Son of God
- B. It proves Jesus' words can be trusted
- C. It proves Jesus' sacrifice was accepted
- D. It proves we will rise also

A – Romans 1:4; B – John 2:19; John 8:28; C – Romans 4:25; 5:10; 1 Corinthians 15:17; D – John 11:25-26; John 14:19; 1 Corinthians 15:20

Younger disciples should focus on the content in the yellow box from Martin Luther's Small Catechism.

87. Why did Jesus ascend to sit at the Father's right hand?

- A. So Jesus could be with all believers all the time
- B. So Jesus could rule over all things for the good of the church
- C. So Jesus could intercede for us with the Father
- D. So Jesus can prepare a place for us in heaven

A – Matthew 28:20; B – Ephesians 1:20-23; C – Romans 8:34; 1 John 2:1; D – John 14:2-3

88. What do we believe about Jesus' return on the Last Day?

- A. Jesus will return on a day which only God knows
- B. Jesus will return after a period of intense suffering
- C. Jesus will return visibly for all to see
- D. Jesus will return to judge all people
- E. Jesus will return to save all believers

A – Matthew 24:44; Mark 13:32; Acts 17:31; B – Matthew 24:7, 22; 1 Timothy 4:1; C – Matthew 24:27; Luke 21:27; Acts 1:11; 2 Peter 3:10; Revelation 1:7; D – Matthew 25:31-32; John 12:48; 2 Corinthians 5:10; E – Luke 21:28; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 9:28; Revelation 22:20

For application: IDEA What is stated in the verse, passage or selection? **THANK** What does this verse, passage or selection make me thankful for? **CONFESS** What does this verse, passage or selection make me sorry for? **HELP** What help do I need from God to act on what I have read?

5 Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

6 Prayers

Pray for your family and friends, your church, your community, your nation, your world, and your own personal needs. As you C.H.A.T. with God, remember to Confess your sins, Honor and praise God, Ask Him your requests, and Thank Him for His blessings.



Lord God, heavenly Father, You manifested Yourself, with the Holy Spirit, in the fullness of grace at the baptism of Your dear Son, and with Your voice directed us to Him who has borne our sins, that we might receive grace and the remission of sins. Keep us in the true faith, and inasmuch as we have been baptized in accordance with Your command, and the example of Your dear Son, we pray You to strengthen our faith by Your Holy Spirit, and lead us to everlasting life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**



O Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life: Grant us perfectly to know Your Son Jesus Christ to be the Way, the Truth, and the Life; that following His steps we may steadfastly walk in the way that leads to eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**



Lord God, heavenly Father, by Your Son You have revealed to us that heaven and earth shall pass away, that our bodies shall rise again, and that we all shall appear before the judgment seat. Keep us in Your

Word by Your Holy Spirit. Establish us in the true faith, graciously defend us from sin and preserve us in all temptations, that our hearts may not be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, but that we may ever watch and pray and, trusting fully in Your grace, await with joy the glorious coming of Your Son, and at last obtain eternal salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and all evil, that all my actions and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

OR

Luther's Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

7 Blessing

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. (*2 Corinthians 13:14*) **Amen.**

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The text for Martin Luther's Small Catechism is taken from <http://www.christlutheranchurch.org.uk/site/the-small-catechism/>. Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

Prayers are used and modified from the following sources: weedon.blogspot.com/2006/10/collects-for-free.html; www.projectwittenberg.org/etext/hymnals/CSB1919/CSBCollectsandPrayers.txt



On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An -
 2. Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make
 3. We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our
 4. Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand and
 5. All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose

3
 nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 straight the way for God with - in, And let us all our
 ref - uge and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 make the fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 ad - vent sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther

6
 for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.



Jesus Shall Reign



1. Je - sus shall reign whe - e'er the sun Does its suc -
 2. To Him shall end - less prayer be made, And end - less
 3. Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on His
 4. Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns: The pris - 'ners
 5. Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring Hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from
 prais - es crown His head; His name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es
 leap, un - loose their chains, The wea - ry find e -
 cu - liar to our King; An - gels de - scend with



shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 Shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.
 ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud a - men.