



**UPPER
HUNTER**
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DEVOTIONAL AID FOR 4 MAY 2020 – 10 MAY 2020

Dear church family,

From this week, we will be working our way through the Heidelberg Catechism. Since its first publication in 1563, this catechism has been used by many Protestant churches across the world down to our present day. The catechism is structured to teach us about our **guilt**, the **grace** of God, and our response in **gratitude**. The 129 questions are divided into 52 portions, designed to be used each Sunday for teaching purposes. We will follow this division in our journey through it. Each week I will provide some bible verses to meditate on as well as the catechism questions and answers for the week. I won't be expecting anyone to memorise the catechism! But it will help you if you read the catechism at least once during the week and think about it.

Instead of providing a 4 step guide (listen, praise, pray, obey) for each day of the week like I did before, I now will only provide 3 or 4 simple items including the catechism questions for you to pick up and read each week. Below, you will find this week's catechism questions and answers, and a couple of bible passages with short comments or questions. Feel free to turn any thoughts into prayer to our heavenly Father. You can choose any day and time of the week that works for you to do these. I hope this will free you up to meditate on God's word more deeply without being overly burdensome.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (0425 270 854 / tim.wonil.lee@gmail.com) if you'd like to pray with me or for any other needs. Also, look out for further resources down below which include something for children (and adults with a child-like faith!).

Yours in Christ,

Timothy Lee

<https://www.upperhunterpc.com>

THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

Lord's Day 1

Q1) What is your only comfort in life and death?

A) That I am not my own,
but belong—
body and soul,
in life and in death—
to my faithful Saviour, Jesus Christ.
He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.
He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven;
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.
Because I belong to him,
Christ, by his Holy Spirit,
assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for him.

Q2) What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

A) Three things:
first, how great my sin and misery are;
second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery;
third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

ROMANS 14:7–9

7 For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. **8** If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. **9** For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.

The Apostle Paul says here that we belong to Christ who died and rose again. Does the fact that we do not belong to ourselves but to Christ comfort you and assure you as you face your day ahead?

ACTS 4:12

12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

This is from Peter's speech before a group of leaders in Jerusalem. Peter was telling them about Jesus, the one they killed and God raised from the dead. He is saying salvation is only found in this one, Jesus Christ who died and rose again. This means no other religion and no amount of our good works can be an alternative to salvation, because there is no alternative. How does this affect your attitude towards God and other people?