

miserable state of sin and rebellion. There is no other in which to place our faith - In Christ ALONE.

Discussion Questions

- What are some examples of other things that people put their trust in?
- Can we really trust Jesus? How do you know?

Day 5 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

This faith in Jesus Christ has been freely offered to us as a gift in the form of the gospel (good news). It is not dependent on any merit or works of us but is a free gift of grace from God. It is a sincere invitation to all who hear it and is not dependent on anybody's response to it. The offer of salvation is the very core of the gospel message. It includes not just the announcement of Christ's death and resurrection but also and more importantly the call to repentance and the promise of forgiveness. On the road to Emmaus, Jesus said, *“Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem* (Luke 24:46–47). This proclaiming of the gospel in the name of Jesus Christ is the offer of salvation for all to hear. Isaiah 55:1 reminds us... *“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters.* Matthew 13:9 He who has ears, let him hear.” As our memory verse says this week...Hebrews 10:39 *But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.*

Discussion Questions

- If you are a Christian, it is only because God gave you faith to believe the gospel. Can you give a brief summary of that gospel for others?
- Does your summary explain our need for God, His promise of salvation, and give a call to believe and repent?
- Pray and ask God for a deepening faith to trust Jesus more and for a growing ability to share that saving faith with others through the gospel.

Baptist Catechism

Family Worship Guide



West Oaks Baptist Church

(in preparation for Sunday, July 13th, 2025)

Baptist Catechism Question #91

Q: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

A: *Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.*

Suggested Memory Verse

Hebrews 10:39 But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls. (ESV)

Day 1 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Let's begin with the question, what is faith? A favorite verse often used is Hebrews 11:1...*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.* Simply put, it's believing in what you can't see. There are several aspects to faith that we can explore by using an old adage of a chair. There can be a mental belief that something is true, and then there is a total conviction that you can trust and rely on the object of your faith. If a person sees a chair and can mentally believe and agree that the chair is in fact an object that is real, it exists, and we all call it a chair. Then there can be a conviction that it is a chair and you will place your trust in it by sitting in it, totally convinced it will hold you up. This aspect of faith moves beyond just a mental agreement with facts but goes on to follow up with action that demonstrates your trust or faith IN the object of your faith. Faith can be placed in all kinds of things such as religion, people, philosophical concepts, or objects. Scripture teaches Christians that *we walk by faith, not by sight* (2 Corinthians 5:7). We can't trust our eyes, or our feelings, or our emotions, but we must look to the one source of truth that we have.

Discussion Questions

- Do you have any irrational fears (things like heights or tight spaces that you "know" are ok but they still scare you)?
- How does this demonstrate the difference between head knowledge and faith?
- Read James 2:19. Is knowing the facts about Jesus the same as trusting Him?

Day 2 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

The answer this week says that we should place our faith IN Jesus Christ. Not our bank accounts or knowledge, hard work or anything else but in Jesus Christ. Hebrews 11:6 says...*And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.* Going back to the last day's concept, James 2:19 says...*You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!* The demons believe that Jesus is real, that he is the son of God, but their faith and trust is not IN Jesus. Demons will certainly never please God because they do not have saving faith. This saving faith in Jesus comes from God as a gift. Ephesians 2:8–9 *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.* It requires more than facts about Jesus but placing a 100% trust in what Jesus has accomplished for us. This kind of faith always leads us to repentance of our sins and turning away from sin and toward God. This faith leads to us being justified, adopted, and sanctified by God. Do you have this kind of faith?

Discussion Questions

- Sometimes people think that because they go to church and know the answers to all the questions, that makes them a Christian. What is wrong with this thinking?
- Read 1 Corinthians 1:18. Why don't some people believe the gospel?

Day 3 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Faith in Jesus is often called a saving grace, because it is something given to Christians by God. Grace is the unmerited favor of God towards us as humans who could do absolutely nothing about our slavery to sin and the judgement and death that we deserved. This grace of God saves sinners, and so we praise Him for his righteousness and holiness. We could not earn it as Paul says in Romans 3:20–22, *For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.* We gain an understanding of our situation through the law which points us to our need for a Savior. Just a few verses earlier Paul tells us how aloof we were, without understanding, without any concern, and not even looking for God. Romans 3:10–12 *as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one."* Verses like this help us to understand how bad things were and to magnify just what God has done in this saving grace. Jesus had been teaching about the kingdom of God and the lack of faith of a young rich ruler who went away sad. Loving money and the world more than full faith in Jesus. The question is asked... *"Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with man is possible with God"* (Luke 18:26–27).

Discussion Questions

- If you are a Christian, take a minute to thank God for opening your eyes and giving you the faith to trust in Jesus.
- If you have not yet turned to Jesus for your own salvation, pray that He would give you this kind of faith.

Day 4 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

All of this saving grace from God to us who believe and trust IN Jesus Christ must do so in Christ alone! This week's answer states: we receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation. Hebrews 12:2 says... *Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.* Jesus founded and gave us our faith to begin with and then sanctifies us through our faith. God matures and grows us in our Christian walk *to be conformed to the image of his Son* (Romans 8:29). One of the five Latin solas of the reformation is *Solus Christus* which means in Christ alone. Revelation paints a beautiful picture of our Savior as the lamb of God sitting on His throne. *"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"* (Revelation 5:12) He ALONE is worthy. Another illustration in Colossians 1:18 says, *He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.* Preeminent - the most important, the only one of a kind God who loved us and pursued us in our