

Note:

This handy guide is designed for pastors who would like to take their people through the catechisms of Martin Luther, while also providing an opportunity to examine the foundational texts of Holy Scripture on which they are based. The assumption is that the pastor has the theological training to make the appropriate connections between the bible verses listed, and the catechism. Many other bible verses could be used – these are a representative sample.

The Small Catechism is drawn directly from Holy Scripture.

The first three chief parts are taken directly from Holy Scripture, and the explanations serve as a brief commentary.

The last three chief parts are an explanation (commentary), followed by Holy Scripture to show "where this is written".

For all six chief parts, the catechism explains, in a simple way, what is taught in Holy Scripture. The teachings are not the teachings of men, but of God.

The Large Catechism is an extended commentary on Holy Scripture. Some of the passages in this guide were chosen to show that Luther's method is consistent with the teachings of Holy Scripture. In this way, the pastor can use this guide as an entry point to a discussion of Luther's Large Catechism.

Special Note on the Creed:

The Apostle's Creed is drawn, word for word, from Holy Scripture. The verses show the source of those words. Although the words are sometimes drawn from scripture one word at a time, the scripture references demonstrate that the words of the Creed are used in the exact same way as Holy Scripture uses them. They are not pulled out of context; they are a direct and accurate summary of the faith.

This makes the Apostle's Creed distinct from the Nicene or Athanasian Creed, both of which use non-scriptural language (e.g. Trinity, *homo-ousion*) to summarize important scriptural teachings.

For more help with teaching the text of the catechism from Holy Scripture, please visit [TeachTheseThings.Wordpress.Com](http://TeachTheseThings.Wordpress.Com). There you can find:

*Teach These Things: Catechesis for the Lutheran Parish*,  
*What Every Christian Must Know: Outlines of Luther's Large Catechism*,  
and other resources.

## ***Luther's Small & Large Catechism Bible Reference Guide***

- **Ten Commandments:**

- **Text of the Ten Commandments**

- Exodus 20

- Deuteronomy 5

- **Other verses about the Law**

- Romans 1:21-25

- Mark 2:23-27

- Matthew 5:17-30

- 1 Cor 6:9-20

- **Creed:**

- **I believe in**

- **God the Father Almighty**

- Gen 49:25

- **Maker of heaven and earth**

- Isaiah 51:2

- **And in Jesus Christ**

- **His only son**

- John 3:16, 1 John 4:9

- **Our Lord**

- Rom 10:9, 1 Cor 12:13

- **Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit**

- Matt 1:20

- **Born of the virgin Mary**

- Isaiah 7:9, Matt 1:25, Luke 1:27&34, Luke 2:7

- **Suffered**

- Matthew 16:21, Acts 17:3, Hebrews 13:12

- **Under Pontius Pilate**

- John 19:10-11, 1 Timothy 6:13

- **Was crucified**

- Mark 15:24-25,

- **Died**

- John 19:32-33 | Cor 15:3

- **And was buried**

- 1 Cor 15:4

**He descended into hell**

1 Peter 3:18-20

**The third day**

Luke 24:26, 1 Cor 15:4

**He rose again from the dead**

Matthew 17:9, Matthew 28:7

**He ascended into heaven**

Acts 1:11, Eph 4:10

**And sits at the right hand of God**

1 Corinthians 3:1, Hebrews 12:2, 1 Peter 3:22

**The Father Almighty,**

(Gen 49:25)

**From thence he will come**

Acts 1:11

**To judge the living and the dead,**

2 Timothy 4:1

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**The Holy**

1 Peter 1:15-16 1 Peter 2:9

**Christian**

Acts 11:26, 1 Peter 4:16

**Church**

Acts 9:31

**The Communion**

1 Cor 10:16, 2 Cor 6:4, 2 Cor 13:14

**Of Saints**

Romans 1:7, 1 Cor 1:2, 1 Cor 14:33,

**The forgiveness of sins**

Matt 26:28, Luke 24:47, Acts 10:43, Colossians 1:14

**The Resurrection**

Matt 22:31-32,

**Of the body**

1 Cor 15:35-44, Philippians 3:21

**And the life everlasting**

Daniel 12:2, Luke 18:30, John 5:24-29

• **Lord's Prayer:**

**Text of the Lord's Prayer**

Matthew 6:5-15; Luke 11:1-13

**Other verses about prayer / The Lord's Prayer**

1 Tim 2:1-6

Acts 2:42-47

James 5:13-18

John 17

• **Baptism:**

**Institution of Baptism**

Matt 28:18-20

**Other verses about Baptism**

Mark 16:16

Titus 3:4-7

Romans 6:1-11

• **Private Absolution:**

**Institution of Absolution**

John 20:19-29

**Other verses about Absolution**

Matthew 16:13-28

2 Sam 12:13

Psalm 103

Psalm 32

• **The Sacrament of the Altar**

**Institution of the Sacrament**

Matthew 26:26-29

Mark 14:22-25

Luke 22:19-20

**Institution of the Sacrament, with Commentary**

1 Cor 11:23-26 (1 Cor 11:17-34)