

Heidelberg Catechism

Lord's Day 43

Overview/Purpose

“The design or end of this ninth commandment is the establishment and preservation of truth amongst men. It forbids, therefore the bearing of false witness, and all other things which are closely allied to it, the genus of which is lying.”

“The Commentary of Dr. Zacharias Ursinus on the Heidelberg Catechism”, pg 600.

Method

Following the Trivium, the grammar stage calls for rote memorization. Constant drilling and recitation is absolutely necessary and will require direct parental participation.

Suggested Materials For Parents

See “The Commentary of Dr. Zacharias Ursinus on the Heidelberg Catechism”, pgs 600-605.

Word Definitions

• Able	• Avoid	• Backbiter
• Bear	• Bring down upon me	• Condemning
• Confess	• Dealings	• Deceit
• Defend	• Devil	• False Witness
• Falsify	• God	• Good Character
• Heavy	• Honor	• Join
• Judge	• Judgement	• Lies
• Love	• Man	• Neighbor
• Ninth Commandment	• Promote	• Proper Works
• Rashly	• Slanderer	• Sorts
• Speak	• Truth	• Unheard
• Uprightly	• Words	• Wrath

Suggested Activities

- Review word definitions
- Memory game to review word definitions and catechism questions
- Spelling test using the words in this catechism lesson
- Memorize key bible verses
- Service projects to reinforce the lessons found in the catechism questions

- Many opportunities for creativity!

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LORD'S DAY 43

Question 112. What is required in the ninth commandment?

Answer. That I bear false witness [a] against no man, nor falsify [b] any man's words; that I be no backbiter,[c] nor slanderer; that I do not judge, nor join [d] in condemning any man rashly, or unheard; but that I [e] avoid all sorts of lies and deceit, as the proper works [f] of the devil, unless I would bring down upon me the heavy wrath of God; likewise, that in judgment and all other dealings I love the truth, speak it uprightly [g] and confess it; also that I defend and promote, [h] as much as I am able, the honor and good character of my neighbor.

[a]: Prov. 19:5,9; Prov. 21:28

[b]: Psa. 15:3

[c]: Rom. 1:29,30

[d]: Mat. 7:1ff; Luke 6:37

[e]: Lev. 19:11

[f]: Prov. 12:22; Prov. 13:5

[g]: 1Cor. 13:6; Eph. 4:25

[h]: 1Pet. 4:8