

Heidelberg Catechism

Lord's Day 44

Overview/Purpose

“The design and end of this commandment is the internal obedience and regulation of all our affections towards God, and our neighbor and his goods, which must also be included in all the other commandments.”

“The Commentary of Dr. Zacharias Ursinus on the Heidelberg Catechism”, pg 605.

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 605-618.

Word Definitions

• According	• All times	• Arrive
• Become	• Begin	• Christ
• Commandments	• Conformable	• Constantly endeavor
• Contrary	• Converted	• Delight
• Earnest	• God	• God's commandments
• Grace	• Hate	• Hearts
• Holiest men	• Holy Spirit	• Image of God
• Inclination	• Keep	• Learn
• Life	• Lifetime	• Likewise
• Live	• Man	• More
• Obedience	• Perfection	• Perfectly
• Pray	• Preached	• Proposed

• Remission of Sin	• Require	• Righteousness
• Rise	• Seeking	• Sin
• Sincere resolution	• Sinful Nature	• Small beginning
• Smallest	• Some	• Strickly
• Ten Commandments	• Tenth Commandment	• Thought
• Whole Heart		

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!

Heidelberg Catechism

LORD'S DAY 44

Question 113. What doth the tenth commandment require of us?

Answer. That even the smallest inclination or thought, contrary to any of God's commandments, never rise in our hearts; but that at all times we hate all sin with our whole heart, [a] and delight in all righteousness.

Question 114. But can those who are converted to God perfectly keep these commandments?

Answer. No: but even the holiest men, while in this life, have only a small beginning of this [b] obedience; yet so, that with a [c] sincere resolution they begin to live, not only according to some, but all of the commandments of God.

Question 115. Why will God then have the ten commandments so strictly preached, since no man in this life can keep them?

Answer. First, that all our lifetime we may learn [d] more and more to know our sinful nature, and thus become the more earnest in seeking the remission of sin, [e] and righteousness in Christ; likewise, that we constantly endeavor and pray to God for the grace of the Holy Spirit, that we may become more and more conformable to the image of God, till we arrive at the perfection proposed to us, in a life to come. [f]

[a]: Rom. 7:7ff

[b]: Rom. 7:14

[c]: Rom. 7:15ff; James 3:2

[d]: 1John 1:9; Rom. 3:20; Rom. 5:13; Rom. 7:7

[e]: Rom. 7:24

[f]: 1Cor. 9:24; Phil. 3:12,13,14