

2010 CONFIRMATION
Oral Exam Review Questions Exam date: March 31 – 6:00 PM

Be able to recite (at least summarize) all Scripture verse references which are **bolded** in this review.

1. The Bible.

- a. How do we know that everything we believe, teach, and confess is correct?
Everything we believe, teach, and confess comes from a faithful and careful interpretation of God's Holy Word. We believe that the Bible is inspired and inerrant, and still meets the needs of God's people today.
- b. What do the words "inerrant" and "inspired" mean?
Inspired means "written by God." Inerrant means "without error or contradiction."
- b. What is the Bible?
The Bible is God's Word. It teaches us about God's love for all people and His plan of salvation for the whole world. The ultimate purpose of the Bible is to teach us about Jesus.
- c. How do we know that the Bible is *inspired* and *inerrant*?
2Timothy 3:16. *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.*
- d. **Recite the books of the Old and New Testaments (in order).**

2. The Triune God.

- a. Who is God?
He is the Creator of all things. He made everything that exists in 6 - 24 hour days. He is the Savior of the world. He is responsible for creating and sustaining our faith.
- b. How do we know God exists (must know all three answers)?
The Spirit within us, the Bible, and the creation around us.
- c. How do we know that God created the heavens and the earth?
The Bible clearly teaches creationism as fact in Genesis 1 & 2 - that God created everything as we know it in six – twenty-four hour days.
- d. Why do we say that there is one God and yet three distinct persons in the Godhead?
We know that God is one God and yet three distinct persons because that is how the Bible describes Him. For example, when Jesus was baptized the three persons of the Trinity were distinctly present as **Matthew 3:16-17** testifies: (be able tell where in the Bible we can find Jesus' baptism)
As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.
- e. Why is it important for us to believe that Jesus was both true God and true man?
 1. The Bible clearly teaches this.
 2. Jesus had to be true God in order to die for the sins of the whole world.

3. Jesus had to be true man in order be our 100% substitute under God's law.

f. What role does the Holy Spirit serve in the Godhead?

The Holy Spirit is the one who creates our faith in Jesus. The Spirit also works to strengthen our faith through the Bible and through the Sacraments.

3. The 10 Commandments.

a. Where do we find the 10 Commandments in the Bible? (be able to cite one of the two places)

Exodus 20 & Deuteronomy 5.

b. What is the purpose of the 10 commandments?

The 10 commandments are God's law. They teach us how we are to act toward God and how we are to act toward one another. They work to restrain evil in this world, to show us our own sinfulness, and to help the Christian understand how to live a God-pleasing life.

c. **Be prepared to recite the commandment number and what it deals with.**

#1 - Idolatry

#6 - Adultery

#2 - God's name

#7 - Stealing

#3 - Day of worship

#8 - False witness

#4 - Parents and those in authority

#9 - Coveting

#5 - Killing

#10 - Coveting

d. What does the Bible teach about the sanctity of human life (i.e. what does the Bible say about abortion and euthanasia)?

All life is sacred and that taking a human life (except to save the life of a pregnant woman, for capital punishment, or "in the line of duty") is clearly a violation of God's Law.

4. Prayer

a. What is prayer? What are the 6 parts of prayer? What does each stand for?

Prayer is a heart to heart talk with God. Its six parts are:

Address - To whom we are praying.

Adoration - Acknowledging God for the great things He does.

Confession - Confessing our sins before God.

Thanksgiving - Thanking God for the things we have.

Supplication - Praying for the needs of others and our own needs.

Close - A reminder through whom we pray (e.g. "In Jesus' name.").

b. Why should we pray?

The Bible commands us to pray. Through prayer we bring God's blessings into our lives and the lives of others. Prayer helps us to grow spiritually. Prayer helps us to conform our will to God's will.

c. How should we pray?

We should always pray with God's will in mind (i.e. *Thy will be done*). The Bible also teaches us that we should be persistent in prayer.

d. Be prepared to recite the **Lord's Prayer**.

e. Why is praying in Jesus' name important? Which Bible passage teaches us about this?

The only way that we have access to God is through Jesus Christ.

John 14:6 – Jesus answered: “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

- f. Is it necessary that we forgive everyone who sins against us? Even if the other person doesn't ask for forgiveness? What part of the Lord's Prayer talks about this?
In the fifth petition we tell God to forgive us just like we forgive others. This makes it very important that we forgive all people, even when they aren't sorry for what they've done.

5. Baptism

- a. What are the two sacraments in the Lutheran church? What special gift comes to us through our participation in these sacraments?
Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Forgiveness of sins.
- b. Do we use special water in baptism? Is it important how this water is applied?
The water used in baptism is ordinary water. We are free to apply the water by sprinkling, pouring, or immersion.
- c. Why do we baptize infants?
We baptize infants because Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." We believe that infants need what baptism offers (forgiveness) and that they can have faith because faith comes through hearing God's Word.
- d. What does baptism do?
It makes us God's children by creating saving faith. It washes away our sin.
- e. Why do we baptize infants?
#1 - Jesus commanded them to be baptized in **Matthew 28:19-20** (they are a part of "all nations").
#2 - Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."
#3 - Infants can have faith (because faith is created by the Holy Spirit through the Gospel and not as the result of intellectual process).
#4 - Infants are born sinful and are in need of forgiveness.
- f. What daily effect should our baptism have on us?
Our baptism should remind us that we are one with Jesus Christ. This means that we should daily confess our sins and try with all our heart to live a holy life.

6. Confession and Absolution

- a. What is the significance and purpose of corporate confession?
In corporate confession we are openly and willingly confessing before God and one another that we have sinned and are in need of the forgiveness which God freely gives to all who come to believe and trust in Jesus as their Savior. When the pastor speaks the words of absolution, it's just as if Jesus were standing there saying, "I forgive you."
- b. How do we know that our sins are really forgiven?
Because God promised to forgive the sins of all who believe in Jesus as their Savior – and we know that God doesn't lie.

- c. In addition to confessing our sin, what is also an important part of Christian confession?
We must also have a sincere desire not to commit the same sins again.

7. The Lord's Supper

- a. Why do we believe in the "real presence"?
- Jesus said, "This is my body... This is my blood" (be able to mention that Jesus' words are found in **Matthew 26:26-28**). Jesus gives us his own true body and blood in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins.
- b. What is the benefit of partaking of the Lord's supper regularly?
- Each time we do it we proclaim the Lord's death on the cross for our sins. Through it we receive the body and blood of Christ, the forgiveness of sins, and the strengthening of our faith.
- d. Why is doctrinal unity a necessary part of our celebration of the Lord's Supper?
- When the disciples ate the first supper on the night of Jesus' betrayal they were all of one mind in faith and doctrine. We believe that it is important to maintain this sense of "oneness" in our practice of the Lord's Supper today.

8. Justification

Why is justification the most important doctrine in the Christian church?

It teaches us how we are made holy before God by God's legal declaration of full pardon for all our sins through faith in Jesus Christ.

9. What is my purpose and responsibility as a Christian in this life?

- a. My purpose in this life is to love God with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength; and to love my neighbor as myself.
- b. These responsibilities include: telling others about Jesus, leading a God-pleasing life, caring for those who are in need, and being faithful in the use of the means of grace (worship, Lord's Supper, and Bible reading/study).

10. How do I know that I am going to heaven when I die?

Because God promises salvation to all who believe in His Son. **John 3:16** assures us:

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

11. How do we know that salvation is by grace through faith and not on the basis of good works?

It is our natural desire to want to believe that we are saved by how well we have obeyed God's laws. However, **Ephesians 2:8-9** tells us the truth:

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.