



NEW CITY Catechism

at *St. Andrew's Church*

This year as a whole church family we are doing the New City Catechism. A Catechism is just a way to learn truths about God together through questions and answers. You can access it through books (available at the back of church), or through Web and Mobile Apps. The website is www.newcitycatechism.com. Each question has a Bible verse, prayer, commentary (for adults) and song (aimed at kids) to accompany it.

Part 2: Christ, Redemption, Grace Question 23

Question:

Why must the Redeemer be truly God?



Answer:

That because of his divine nature his obedience and suffering would be perfect and effective.

God the Son, because of our sin, we could never bear the wrath of God or overcome death. Only you, the Holy One, could suffer the just punishment for sin and defeat death. Thank you for making a way for us to God, to enjoy him eternally. Amen.

For adults and teens:

- How do we see in the Gospels that Jesus is truly God?
- Why do we need Jesus to be fully God to redeem us?

For families and children:

[for those with younger children] The Prince and the Pauper

Briefly tell the children the story of The Prince and the Pauper, in which a prince trades lives with a poor boy who happens to look like him. On the subject of royalty, ask the children if they have seen Aladdin, and if they remember when Jasmine ran away from her father's palace. Ask the children if they lived in the most beautiful place in the world, with perfect relationships and with everything that they could possibly need, would they ever consider leaving their homes? It is unlikely that they would want to leave! Ask the children if they've ever heard of anyone who left such a beautiful and perfect place to live among their subjects. God left the splendour of heaven to live among his creation when he became man - Jesus!

[for those with children at school] Jesus the divine! Look up the verses below, or have them printed or written out to look at together. What do they teach us about Jesus?

- John 1:1
- John 1:14
- John 20:28
- Colossians 2:9

Explain that Jesus had to be fully God to redeem humans because only the Creator God can recreate and give new life. Only God himself can bear the sins of all who trust in Jesus. Only God can forgive sins.

[for older children] Peter speaks about Jesus.

Look at Acts 2:22-41 together. We looked at this in church only a few weeks ago. Have a look at what Peter says about why Jesus came and how he shows that Jesus is God.

- He was a man whom God the Father used greatly in many ways. Through all the signs and miracles Jesus performed, God the Father was confirming that Jesus was God the Son.
- He was a man destined to die on the cross because God the Father had determined that God the Son would be the Redeemer.
- He died but was raised again because death could not hold God the Son.
- He is now back in heaven at the right hand of God the Father.