



Central Kids Summer Field Guide Week of July 25th

Over the next several weeks we are encouraging families to use this Field Guide to interact with your kids on Sunday morning or mid-week to learn catechism, a *collection of biblical truths in a question and answer format*. We will be using The New City Catechism curriculum to help construct a fun and creative way for your kids to memorize doctrine. *Check out <http://newcitycatechism.com/videos> to learn more.* These Field Guides are designed for family worship or devotional time. However, they can be used individually for older children with help.

HOW CATECHISM WORKS: Read the question and answer with your child and repeat. Then ask your child the question and have them give the catechism answer. The Field Guide offers additional activities to make learning fun and to help your children memorize God's Word.

MEMORIZATION TIPS: The key to memorizing is repetition. Be creative: turn it into a song, write it down, cut out the words and place them in order, use funny voices, or make up actions.

FAMILY WORSHIP: Seeds worship, "Your Word in My Heart." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QIWVE3DmGCQ>

Catechism Question #42

QUESTION: How is the Word of God to be read and heard?

ANSWER: With diligence, preparation, and prayer; so that we may accept it with faith and practice it in our lives.

Activity: Listen Carefully

Ask your kids to do some imagining. Pretend that they are citizens of a small kingdom. There is a famine in the land, but the king wisely stored up food so his people will not go hungry. However, he only has enough food for his own people. This information reaches other kingdoms and now they want to steal the food. The king hides the food in a secret location. He calls his citizens to the throne room for an important announcement. "Listen carefully," he says. "We are about to face a great battle. I don't know which of us will survive the attack on our city. I am going to tell you where I have hidden the food. Without the food, you will not survive this famine. But I have hidden it far away. If you do not listen very carefully and follow every one of my directions, you will never find it."

Ask your kids: What kind of listeners would those citizens be? Would they be distracted? Would they think about other things? Would they talk while the king is talking?

God has spoken to us in his Word, and his message is the most important there has ever been. We should listen with the same attentiveness and respect as those citizens would have listened to their king.

Activity: Movie Trailer

Grab your Bibles and invite and help your kids to come up with a movie trailer for a film about the Bible. The trailer should tell the audience a bit about the story of the bible (but not the ending!) and all the many reasons why people should be interested in the Bible. Help your kids act out the movie trailer and film it on your smart phone. Feeling brave? Send it to your Kids Pastor's at crystal@central365.org. They'd love to see it!

Explain to your kids that the Bible is the most important book ever written because it is God's primary way of communicating with us. God still speaks through his Word to his world today!

Activity: Bible Drill

Give each child a Bible and when you say go, have them race to who can find 2 Timothy 3:16-17. The first person who finds it, gets to read it out loud. Next look up Psalm 119:9-11. This time let a different child read it. Do this with all of your favourite verses.

Watch

Watch this additional memorization resource by The Gospel Coalition. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=osmijj-UjiM&list=PLPwoFK1MBpm4CIBAJbmf3Li0Z45yntcH&index=37&t=0s>

Catechism Question #43

QUESTION: What are the sacraments and ordinances?

ANSWER: Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Activity: Ecnanidro

Print out Q43 Picture Clues. Cut out each clue. Write the letters ecnanidro on a whiteboard or piece of paper. Tell your kids that this activity involves some big words, and that you want them to figure out what the words are before you explain them. Tell them they should say what they see as you show the picture clues. Show in this order: Sack, Ram, Mints. Help them figure out the word sacraments. Sacraments is the first word to remember. Next show them the letter on the whiteboard or paper and explain that they form the second word. If they get stuck, tell them the word is written backwards. Once someone gets ordinance, write in on the whiteboard. This is the second word to remember. Explain that these big words are done in the church, among the gathered people of God. Some churches use the word sacrament and some use ordinance. At Central, we use both words. The sacraments are baptism and the Lords Supper. God has given us these to his people to encourage and strengthen them. They do not give anyone faith; they are outward signs that someone is part of God's family. Watch the accompanying video by Pastor Chris and Pastor Crystal to help kids understand the word sacrament and ordinance better. Watch it again even if you have already!

Ask your kids: Who commanded the church to baptize and celebrate the Lord's Supper? Who established the ordinances of the church? It was Jesus! He commanded his church to go and baptize, and he also commanded his people to celebrate the Lord's Supper in remembrance of him. Highlight that the sacraments are not human creations but were instituted by Jesus for the church. Sacraments are not just about remembering. Because they are the Word of God in visible forms, the Holy Spirit works through them to cultivate faith and encourage glad obedience. The sacraments help people grow in their confidence and trust in God. Tell your kids that, as we will learn in future Field Guides, the sacraments are signs pointing to Christ's death and resurrection on our behalf. We must always look beyond the sign to the thing that it is pointing to. If you got excited about baptism and the Lord's Supper but never realized that Jesus died for your sins, the signs of the sacraments will have been of no use to you.

**There are some words here that may be difficult for children to understand. Take time to explain these words. Look them up together!*

Activity: Memorization

Invite your kids to take questions 42 and 43 and make up actions to help memorize them. After they have created the actions, play charades with them and guess what they are trying to say.

Prayer

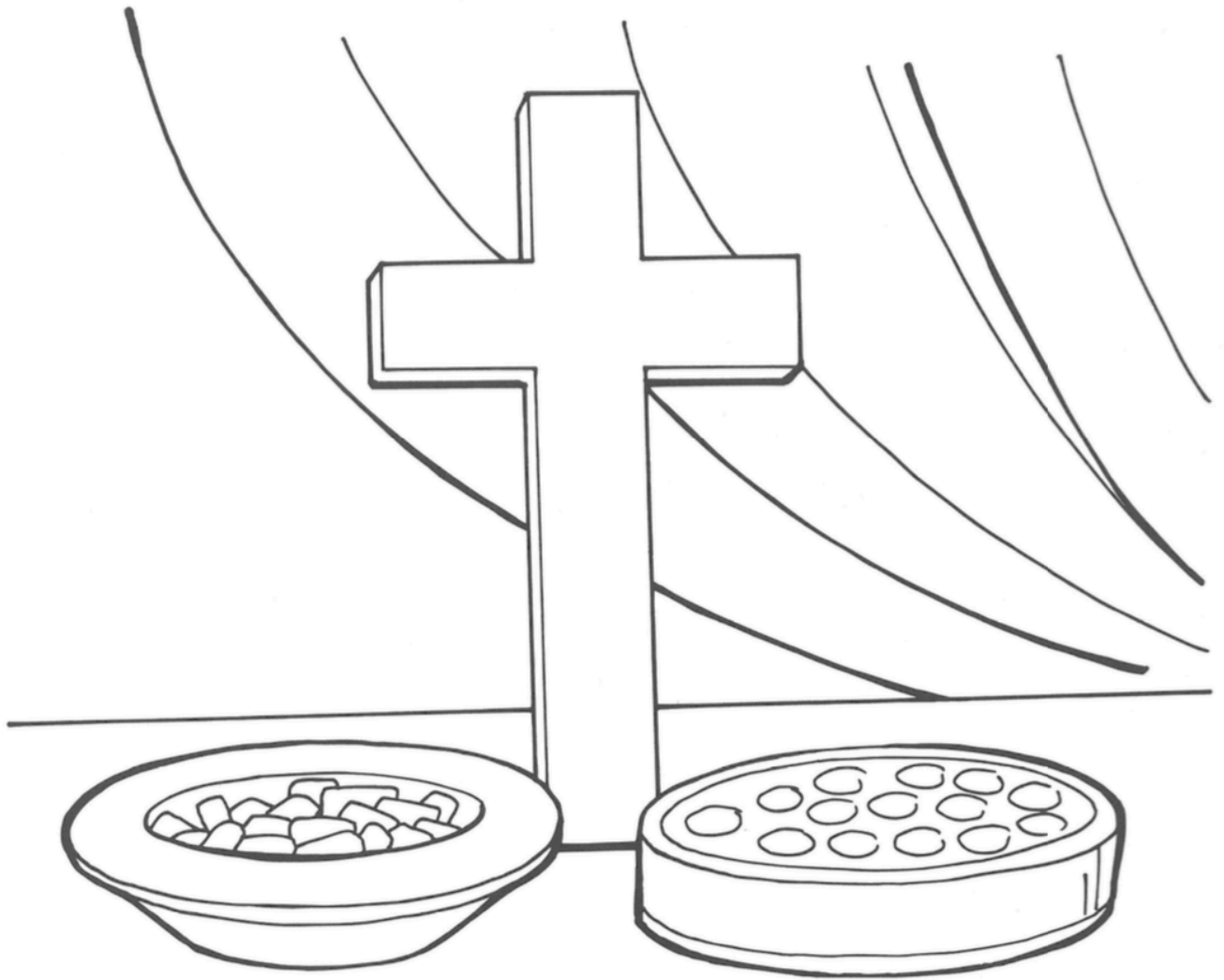
Encourage your children to give thanks to God for his Word and to pray that God would help them hear his Word with great attentiveness. Help your children in praying that the sacraments would help them better understand and remember what salvation means.

Discussion - Sometimes you or your child may have additional questions. Here are some possible questions that may come up:

- Can I admit that I find the Bible boring? *Many people assume that the Bible is boring, but that's usually because they don't know it well. If someone watches a baseball game or soccer game for the first time, they may find it boring because they don't know what's going on. But if they continue to watch baseball or soccer and learn the rules, they will start to enjoy it more and more. Their interest will grow as their knowledge grows. If we find the Bible boring, we should keep reading and trust that as we start to understand it better, we will learn to love and enjoy it.*
- Does it matter if people who aren't Christians take the Lord's Supper? *Sacraments are meant to be a family meal, only available for those who have been adopted in Christ. If people want to take part, we can welcome them to do so if they will first repent and believe the Gospel.*

Q43 | Picture Clues





In Remembrance of Me

Jesus is special; we can remember Him.

Crossword: Jesus Was Baptized

Use the clues and key words to fill in the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS

2. the messenger who got people ready for Jesus (John 1:23)
3. to turn away from sin and turn to God (Mark 1:4)
6. the place where Jesus was baptized (Matthew 3:13)
8. The Spirit came down like this animal (Matthew 3:16)
9. a way to show that a person's sins are washed away (Mark 1:4)
10. Jesus never did this (Matthew 3:14-15)

KEY WORDS:

dove	baptize
Holy Spirit	Messiah
sinned	repent
John	Galilee
Lamb of God	water

DOWN

1. what Jesus baptizes with (Mark 1:8)
4. John called Jesus this name (John 1:29)
5. John said he was not the promised _____ (John 1:20)
7. what John baptized with (Mark 1:8)

