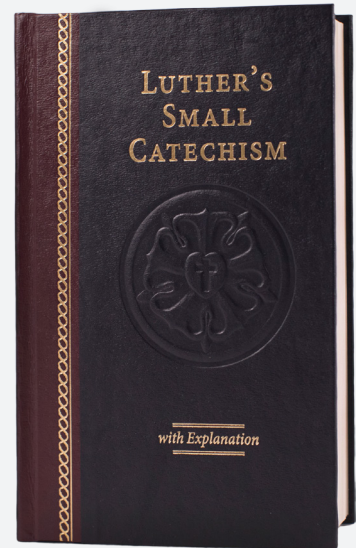


50-Day READING PLAN

Use with Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation, 2017 Edition

Chances are, you're not too familiar with the Small Catechism and Explanation. If you went through the Rite of Confirmation as a youth, you probably spent some time in one edition for a year or two. If you joined the church as an adult confirmand, it's likely you have a copy somewhere but didn't have tons of time to look through it. In other words, maybe it's been years since you've looked through it, maybe you've never looked through it at all.

Now that the 2017 edition Small Catechism with Explanation is available, this is the perfect time to dig into it on your own. This is a practical handbook for the Christian life. In this reading plan, you'll spend a few minutes a day for 50 days reading through a few pages per day. Don't get hung up on the additional readings, just go through the rich text of the Explanation a bit at a time. If you read just about every day, you should be done in around two months. As you delve into it, consider how it summarizes and explains the rich timeless truths of God's Word for your daily life, and rejoice in how continually points you back to Christ and the gifts of His forgiveness and grace.



† *Note: the first two readings cover Luther's original Small Catechism originally published in 1529. This is the core of the Small Catechism. The Explanation portion that comes later expands upon these original texts in greater detail.*

- **READING #1:**
The Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Confession, pg. 13-27
- **READING #2:**
The Sacrament of the Altar, Daily Prayers, Table of Duties, Christian Questions and Their Answers, pg. 28-40

† *Note: Over the centuries, Lutheran theologians have added additional questions and resources to the Small Catechism. We call this section the Explanation, which is the bulk of this book and reading plan. In this straight-through reading plan we don't break down the individual sections of this 2017 Explanation. There is a separate Devotional reading plan that further explains the breakdown of the revised Explanation and should assist you in using the Small Catechism intentionally for individual or household use.*

- **READING #3:**
Introduction to the Explanation, pg. 43-51



- **READING #4:**
The Ten Commandments, pg. 52-57
- **READING #5:**
The First Commandment and its meaning, pg. 58-66
- **READING #6:**
The Second Commandment and its meaning, pg. 67-73
- **READING #7:**
The Third Commandment and its meaning, pg. 74-80
- **READING #8:**
The Fourth Commandment and its meaning, pg. 81-84
- **READING #9:**
The Fifth Commandment and its meaning, pg. 85-92

- **READING #10:**
The Sixth Commandment and its meaning, pg. 93-104
- **READING #11:**
The Seventh Commandment and its meaning, pg. 105-109
- **READING #12:**
The Eighth Commandment and its meaning, pg. 110-114
- **READING #13:**
The Ninth and Tenth Commandment and their meaning, pg. 115-119
- **READING #14:**
The Close of the Commandments, pg. 120-127



- **READING #15:**
The Apostles' Creed, pg. 128-132
- **READING #16:**
The First Article (Part 1), pg. 133-145
- **READING #17:**
The First Article (Part 2), pg. 146-155



- READING #18:
The First Article (Part 3), pg. 156–163
- READING #19:
The Second Article (Part 1), pg. 164–175
- READING #20:
The Second Article (Part 2), pg. 176–187
- READING #21:
The Second Article (Part 3), pg. 188–194
- READING #22:
The Third Article (Part 1), pg. 195–204
- READING #23:
The Third Article (Part 2), pg. 205–221
- READING #24:
The Third Article (Part 3), pg. 222–230



- READING #25:
The Lord's Prayer, pg. 231-236
- READING #26:
The Introduction—Our Father who art in heaven. Pg. 237–241
- READING #27:
The First Petition—Hallowed be Thy name. pg. 242–245
- READING #28:
The Second Petition—Thy kingdom come. Pg. 246–251
- READING #29:
The Third Petition—Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Pg. 252–257
- READING #30:
The Fourth Petition—Give us this day our daily bread. Pg. 258–263
- READING #31:
The Fifth Petition—And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Pg. 264–268
- READING #32:
The Sixth Petition—And lead us not into temptation. Pg. 269–273
- READING #33:
The Seventh Petition—But deliver us from evil. Pg. 274–278
- READING #34:
The Conclusion—For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen. Pg. 279–280



- READING #35:
Means of Grace, pg. 281-284
- READING #36:
The Nature of Baptism, pg. 285–291
- READING #37:
The Blessings of Baptism, pg. 292–296
- READING #38:
The Power of Baptism, pg. 297–301
- READING #39:
What Baptism Indicates, pg. 302–305



- READING #40:
Confession, pg. 306–313
- READING #41:
The Office of the Keys, pg. 314–321
- READING #42:
The Nature of the Sacrament of the Altar, pg. 322–330
- READING #43:
The Benefit of the Sacrament of the Altar, pg. 331–334
- READING #44:
The Power of the Sacrament of the Altar, pg. 335–337
- READING #45:
How to Receive This Sacrament Worthily, pg. 338–345



- READING #46:
Daily Prayer and Table of Duties, pg. 346-350
- † *Note: The final section of the Small Catechism with Explanation is the Appendix. This contains a series of articles, essays, and reference material for understanding the Christian life. The Appendix in the 2017 edition has been organized to begin with the more practical articles concerning the Christian life moving to articles more specifically theological in nature. The final section of the Appendix, the glossary and indexes, are useful tools but not included in this reading plan.*

- READING #47:
Who is Jesus, Reading God's Word, What is Worship? pg. 351-359
- READING #48:
Simple Prayer, Salvation Outline, Luther's Preface, Explanation of Luther's Seal, pg. 360-368
- READING #49:
Books of the Bible, The Time between the Testaments (432-5 BC), The Church Year, pg. 369-382
- READING #50:
Terms Relating to Worship and God's House, Symbols and Their Meanings, pg. 383-393

To learn more or to order your copy of **Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation, 2017 edition** visit cph.org/catechism2017 today!

