

THE WESTMINSTER STANDARDS

Shorter
CATECHISM

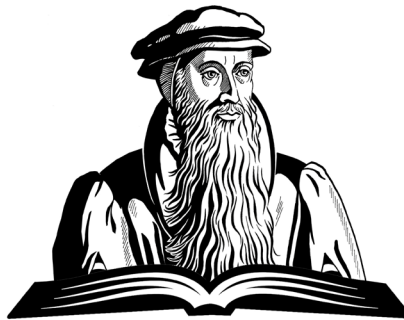
VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

Adult Study Guide

for Lecture #52

Means of Grace: Prayer
Catechism Questions 98 & 99



The John Knox Institute
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Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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Rev. Jonathan Mattull is minister of the gospel at Sovereign Grace Presbyterian Church, in St. Louis, Missouri, a congregation of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), Presbytery of the United States of America.

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The Shorter CATECHISM

VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

1. The Chief End of Man—*Question 1*
2. God's Word and Its Teaching—*Questions 2 & 3*
3. What God Is—*Question 4*
4. One Triune God—*Questions 5 & 6*
5. The Decrees of God—*Questions 7 & 8*
6. God's Work of Creation—*Question 9*
7. God's Creation of Man—*Question 10*
8. God's Works of Providence—*Question 11*
9. God's Special Providence Towards Man—*Question 12*
10. The Fall of Man—*Questions 13 & 15*
11. What Sin Is—*Question 14*
12. The Fall's Effect on All Mankind—*Questions 16 & 17*
13. The Sinfulness & Misery of Man's Fallen State—*Questions 18 & 19*
14. The Covenant of Grace—*Question 20*
15. Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of God's Elect—*Question 21*
16. The Incarnation—*Question 22*
17. Christ's Office of Prophet—*Questions 23 & 24*
18. Christ's Office of Priest—*Question 25*
19. Christ's Office of King—*Question 26*
20. The Humiliation of Christ—*Question 27*

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21. Christ's Exaltation—*Question 28*
22. Redemption Applied—*Questions 29 & 30*
23. Effectual Calling—*Questions 31 & 32*
24. Justification—*Question 33*
25. Adoption—*Question 34*
26. Sanctification—*Question 35*
27. Blessings of Salvation in this Life—*Question 36*
28. Blessings of Salvation at Death—*Question 37*
29. Blessings of Salvation at the Resurrection—*Question 38*
30. The Duty Required of Man—*Questions 39–42*
31. The Ten Commandments: A Preface of Grace—*Questions 43 & 44*
32. The Ten Commandments: Love for God—*Questions 45–48*
33. The Ten Commandments: Love for God's Worship—*Question 49–52*
34. The Ten Commandments: Love for God's Name—*Questions 53–56*
35. The Ten Commandments: A Day for Holy Love—*Questions 57–59*
36. The Ten Commandments: Love for God's Day—*Questions 60–62*
37. The Ten Commandments: Love within Our Relationships—*Questions 63–66*
38. The Ten Commandments: Love for Life—*Questions 67–69*
39. The Ten Commandments: Love for Purity—*Questions 70–72*
40. The Ten Commandments: Love for the Lord's Allotment—*Questions 73–75*

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41. The Ten Commandments - Love for the Truth—*Questions 76 thru 78*
42. The Ten Commandments - Love from Within—*Questions 79 thru 81*
43. Understanding Our Sin—*Questions 82 thru 84*
44. Escaping God’s Wrath and Curse: Saving Faith—*Questions 85 and 86*
45. Escaping God’s Wrath and Curse: Repentance unto Life—*Question 87*
46. Escaping God’s Wrath and Curse: Means of Grace—*Question 88*
47. Means of Grace: The Word of God—*Questions 89 and 90*
48. Means of Grace: The Sacraments—*Questions 91 thru 93*
49. Means of Grace: Christian Baptism—*Questions 94 and 95*
50. Means of Grace: The Lord’s Supper—*Question 96*
51. Means of Grace: Receiving the Lord’s Supper—*Question 97*
52. Means of Grace: Prayer—*Questions 98 and 99*
53. The Lord’s Prayer: The Preface—*Question 100*
54. The Lord’s Prayer: The First Petition—*Question 101*
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58. The Lord’s Prayer: The Fifth Petition—*Question 105*
59. The Lord’s Prayer: The Sixth Petition—*Question 106*
60. The Lord’s Prayer: The Conclusion—*Question 107*

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ADULT STUDY GUIDE

for Lecture #52

Means of Grace: Prayer

Memorization

Question 98: *What is prayer?*

Answer: *Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.*

Question 99: *What rule hath God given for our direction in prayer?*

Answer: *The whole word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; but the special rule of direction is that form of prayer which Christ taught his disciples, commonly called “The Lord’s prayer.”*

Lecture Structure

1. Introduction.
2. The meaning of prayer.
3. The parts of prayer.
4. The acceptance of prayer.
5. Conclusion.

Literal Study

1. Define the word, “pray” as it is used in this lecture:

2. Paraphrase the answers to these questions or put it into your own words.

Lecture Checkup

1. What is a common temptation in prayer?

2. What is the meaning of prayer? How is this proven in the Bible?

3. What does the Catechism imply by stating that prayer is “an offering u of our desires unto God”?

4. What does it mean by the phrase, “for things agreeable to his will”?

5. How can we pray according to God’s will? Please give some examples of excellent prayers found in the Bible?

6. What is “The Lord’s Prayer”? Where is it in the Bible? Why did the Lord Jesus give us this pattern for prayer?

7. What are the basic parts of prayer? How does the Bible show us these basics of prayer?

8. Explain how it is that God only accepts true prayer for the sake of Jesus Christ?

9. Why do we often say the phrase, “in Jesus’ name” when we pray? What does this mean?

10. What assurance do we have that our prayers will be accepted by God? What comfort does this bring to all of God’s people?

Further Studies

1. In what way must we pray to God that our prayers may be acceptable to him and they be answered by him?

2. Does God accept and answer all the prayers that are offered to him?

3. How many parts are there in the Lord's Prayer?

Practical Application

1. Why should anyone pray to God? How do the teachings in this lecture correct some of your views about prayer?

2. As Rev. Mattull suggested at the end of this lecture, please consider what desires you have according to God's Word. Consider what mercies God has shown you, what sins you need to confess. And then, take time to seek the Lord, and do so only in the name and by the mediation of Jesus Christ.

Project Ideas

In this lecture, Rev. Mattull referred to many excellent prayers in the Bible. Can you find some more? Please write these prayers down in your notebook and meditate on them. How do these prayers instruct you about praying?