



August 9, 2026

Mirror, Mirror on the Wall

Free Grace Presbyterian Church

THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Jesus was answering the lawyer on his own terms, giving a legal answer to a legal question. Is there anything we can do to gain eternal life? Yes, the law of God offers salvation to anyone who fully satisfies its demands. "Do this," Jesus said, "and you will live." But who is able to do it? No one, except the sinless Son of God. As the Scripture says, "by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin"

Philip Ryken

Presbyterian pastor and theologian, president of Wheaton College

You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Leviticus 19:18

The law is like a mirror. In it we contemplate our weakness, then the iniquity which proceeds from this, and finally the curse coming from both.

John Calvin

16th century French Reformer, pastor and theologian

"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:6-8

When in counseling, regardless of where the conversation goes, you need to remember one thing: what is the presenting problem?

Kenneth D. Morris

21st century Presbyterian ruling elder, licensed counselor and Director of Jordan's Bridge Christian Counseling

Christianity is not the sacrifice we make, but the sacrifice we trust; not the victory we win, but the victory we inherit. That is the evangelical principle.

P.T. Forsyth

19th-20th century Scottish Congregational minister and theologian, principal of Hackney College London

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

Isaiah 55

People: **Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

Psalms 95

We respond to God's invitation— acknowledging him as our savior

"Call Jehovah Your Salvation"

1. Call Je - ho - vah your sal - va - tion, rest be - neath th'Al - migh - ty's shade;
 2. From the sword at noon-day wast-ing, from the noise-some pes - ti - lence,
 3. Since, with pure and firm af - fec - tion you on God have set your love,

in his se - cret hab - i - ta - tion dwell, and ne - ver be dis - mayed:
 in the depth of mid - night blast - ing, God shall be your sure de - fense:
 with the wings of his pro - tec - tion he will shield you from a - bove:

there no tu - mult shall a - larm you, you shall dread no hid - den snare:
 he shall charge his an - gel le - gions watch and ward o'er you to keep;
 you shall call on him in trou - ble, he will hear - ken, he will save;

guile nor vi - o - lence can harm you, in e - ter - nal safe - guard there.
 though you walk through hos - tile re - gions, though in des - ert wilds you sleep.
 here for grief re - ward you dou - ble, crown with life be - yond the grave.

He who dwells in
 the shelter of the
 Most High will
 abide in the
 shadow of the
 Almighty. I will say
 to the LORD, 'My
 refuge and my
 fortress, my God,
 in whom I trust.'

Psalms 91

"The God of Abraham Praise"



1. The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove, An -
 2. The God of A - braham praise, at whose su - preme com - mand from
 3. He by him - self has sworn, I on his oath de - pend; I
 4. The whole tri - um - phant host gives thanks to God on high; "Hail

5
 cient of ev - er - last - ing days and God of love. Je -
 earth shall, I on rise, and seek the joys and at to right as hand. I
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! they ev - er cend. cry. Hail

9
 ho - vah! Great I AM! by earth and heav'n con - fessed; I
 all on earth for sake, its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r, and
 shall be - hold his face, I shall his pow'r a - dore, and
 Ab - braham's God and mine! I join the heav'n - ly lays; and all

13
 bow and bless the sa - cred name, for - ev - er blest.
 him my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.
 sing the won - ders of his grace for - ev - er more.
 might and ma - jes - ty are thine, and end - less praise.

Who is like you, O
 LORD, among the
 gods? Who is like
 you, majestic in
 holiness, awesome
 in glorious deeds,
 doing wonders?

Exodus 15

GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

God declares that we have not kept his holy law

And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"...

Luke 10

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6

God looks down from heaven on the children of man to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God... there is none who does good, not even one.

Psalms 53

We confess that our own righteousness will not grant us eternal life

O perfect and holy God,
By the power of your Spirit I learn that
The more I do, the worse I am,
The more I think I know, the less I know,
The more holiness I believe I have, the more sinful I am.

O Lord,
I have a wild heart and cannot stand before you.
How little I love your truth and ways!
I neglect you by thinking I have done enough.
I hide from you behind things of this world
Even behind religion and doing what you command.
My doubts, struggles, and sins make me afraid to come to you.
I have run from you, and despite your calling me, I fail to return to you,
Frequently do not rest in you, and consistently do not trust you.

But you are my gracious God.
In your mercy, you sent your Son
To be born and to live under the law
To save me who has broken your law,
And to adopt me as your child and heir.

So even as I forget so easily the grace you have given
And your truths seep away,
Give me a broken heart that yet carries home the water of grace.
Amen

*We use this time in God's presence to confess our sins and our need for God's grace, silently,
personally, before him alone. We invite you to join us in sorrow over your sin
and joy in his grace and mercy in Jesus Christ.*

That prayer is most
likely to pierce
heaven which first
pierces one's own
heart.

Thomas Watson

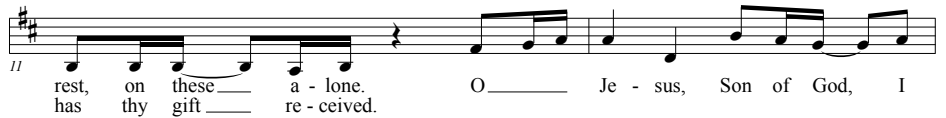
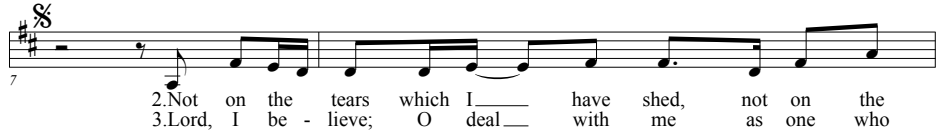
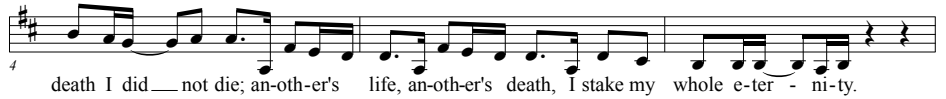
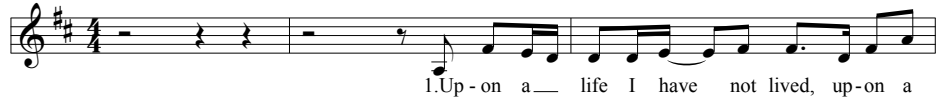
God assures us that Christ's righteousness is given to us

When the kindness of God our Savior and his love for mankind appeared, he saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to his mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life

Titus 3

We rest in the righteousness of Christ who lived and died for us

"Upon a Life I Have Not Lived"



For as by the one
man's
disobedience the
many were made
sinners, so by the
one man's
obedience the
many will be made
righteous.
Romans 5

Continue to the next page.

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

Luke 10:25-37

[25] And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" [26] He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" [27] And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." [28] And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

[29] But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" [30] Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. [31] Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. [32] So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. [33] But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. [34] He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. [35] And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' [36] Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" [37] He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Mirror, Mirror on the Wall

That You May Be Certain

Intro:

God gives us his law to reveal:

1) **His Perfect Holiness** (v25-28)

2) **Our Mortal Wounds** (v29-35)

3) **Christ, the Compassionate Healer** (v36-37)

We gaze upon Christ, who is our righteousness

"Jesus, I am Resting, Resting"



1. Je - sus, I am rest - ing, rest - ting, in the joy of what thou art;
 2. O, how great thy lov - ing kind - ness: vast - er, broad - er than the sea!
 3. Sim - ply trust - ing thee, Lord Je - sus, I be - hold thee as thou art,
 4. Ev - er lift thy face up - on me, as I work and wait for thee;



I am find - ing out the great - ness of thy lov - ing heart.
 O, how mar - ve - lous thy good - ness, lav - ished all on me!
 and thy love, so pure, so change - less, sat - is - fies my heart.
 rest - ing 'neath thy smile, Lord Je - sus, earth's dark sha - dows flee.



Thou hast bid me gaze up - on thee as thy beau - ty fills my soul,
 Yes, I rest in thee, be - lov - ed, know what wealth of grace is thine;
 Sat - is - fies its deep - est long - ings, meets, sup - plies its ev - 'ry need;
 Bright - ness of my Fa - ther's glo - ry, sun - shine of my Fa - ther's face,



for by thy trans - form - ing po - wer, thou hast made me whole.
 know thy cer - tain - ty of prom - ise, and have made it mine.
 com - pass - eth me round with bless - ings; thine is love in - deed!
 keep me ev - er trust - ing, rest - ing; fill me with thy grace.



Je - sus, I am rest - ing, rest - ing in the joy of what thou art; I am



find - ing out the great - ness of thy lov - ing heart.

You keep him in
 perfect peace
 whose mind is
 stayed on you,
 because he trusts
 in you.
 Isaiah 26

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

We celebrate the Lord's supper, coming to the Neighbor of Neighbors

We celebrate God's free grace to us in Jesus Christ by observing the Lord's Supper each Sunday. We invite to the Lord's Table all who are baptized followers of Jesus Christ under the authority of Christ and his body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the cup, you are acknowledging that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any doubts about your participation, please speak to one of the elders after the service.

"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

1.Strick - en, smit - ten, and af - flict - ed, see him dy - ing on the tree! 'Tis the
2.Tell me, ye who hear him groan-ing, was there ev - er grief like his? Friends, through
3.Ye who think of sin but light - ly nor sup - pose the e - vil great here may
4.Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, here the ref - uge of the lost; Christ's the

5.Christ by man re - ject - ed; yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he! 'Tis the
fear, his cause dis - own - ing, foes in - sult - ing his dis - tress; man - y
view its na - ture right - ly, here its guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the
Rock of our sal - va - tion, his the name of which we boast. Lamb of

9.long ex - pect - ed Proph - et, Da - vid's son, yet Da - vid's Lord; by his
hands were raised to wound him, none would in - ter - pose to save; but the
sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed, see who bears the aw - ful load; 'tis the
God, for sin - ners wound - ed, sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall

13.Son God now has spo - ken: 'tis the true and faith - ful Word.
deep - est stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Jus - tice gave.
Word, the Lord's A - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
ev - er be con - found - ed who on him their hope have built.

Is it surprising that the man who had such a profound understanding of what it means to be a good neighbor later became the ultimate neighbor when he died on the cross for our sins?

Philip Ryken

We profess the neighborly work which Christ has done to heal us

Ephesians 2

But God, being rich in mercy,
because of the great love with which he loved us,
even when we were dead in our trespasses,
made us alive together with Christ—
by grace you have been saved—
and raised us up with him
and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace
in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
For by grace you have been saved through faith.
And this is not your own doing;
it is the gift of God,
not a result of works,
so that no one may boast.
For we are his workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Prayer is the
highest part of the
work entrusted to
us, the root and
strength of all
other work.
Andrew Murray

In prayer, we come to God, asking him to equip us to be a good neighbor

*During this time we live in faith, trusting in the power of his grace,
placing our lives and our church in his hands.
We ask that he would work in us and through us for his glory.*

GOD SENDS US BY HIS GRACE

We depart, as those who have been comforted, bound up and brought into a house of feasting

"We Will Feast in the House of Zion"

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with corresponding lyrics. The first staff begins with a repeat sign. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff includes a 'Verse' box above the notes. The fourth and fifth staves complete the piece with a double bar line and repeat dots. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: F, F/D, Bb, F, Dm, C, Bb, Gm, C, F, F/D, Bb, F, Dm, C, Bb, C, F, Bb, Dm, Bb, C, Dm, Bb, Dm, C, Dm, C/E.

We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our
hearts re - stored. He has done great things. we will say to - ge - ther
We will feast and weep no more. 1. We will not be
2. In the dark of
3. Ev - ery vow we've
burned by the fire, He is the Lord our God we are not con -
night be - fore the dawn my soul be not a - fraid for the pro - mised
bro - ken and be - trayed You are the faith ful one and from the
sumed by the flood Up - held, pro - tect - ed, ga - thered up
mor - ning o how long O God of Ja - cob be — my strength.
gar - den to the grave Bind us to - ge - ther bring — sha - lom

The kindness of a Christian towards others... should be a practical love, a love which entails on him self-sacrifice and self-denial, both in money, and time, and trouble. His charity should be seen not merely in his talking, but his acting—not merely in his profession, but in his practice.
J.C. Ryle

God declares that what he has begun, he will complete it

Leader: He has loved you with an everlasting love; therefore he will continue his faithfulness to you... The Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one... Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.

People: Amen

Please stay and join us for a time of enjoying each other's company.

*This is a time to share in life together as the gospel calls us
as we reconnect with those we know, and as we meet someone new.*

Jeremiah 31
2 Thessalonians 3



Welcome to Free Grace

We are a broken church full of broken people. We know we need God's free grace. Some of us have accepted this grace, some are exploring what it's all about. All of us are still trying to understand it. We are a church that seeks to proclaim this free grace of God with both our words and our lives. Not satisfied with simply talking about it, we want to live it out. We invite you to come, explore, and live God's free grace with us.

Our Connections



Free Grace is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), a family of churches that seeks to be faithful to the Scriptures, true to the Reformed faith, and obedient to the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

Our Leadership

Free Grace is lead by her elders, men called by God and set apart by the church to care and lead her as individual members, families, and as a whole. Our elders are:

Rev. Dr. Per Almquist
Brian Cosgrove
Rev. Adam Lee
Ken Morris
Ben Van Dyke



Credits

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Beth Almquist, *piano, voice*; Scotty Almquist, *piano*; Dan Crawford, *voice*; Joanne Crosby, *flute*

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"The God of Abraham Praise" Public Domain. Words: Thomas Olivers, 1770. Music: Jewish melody arr. by Meyer Lyon, 1770.

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"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" Public Domain. Words: Thomas Kelly, 1804, alt. 1961. Music: Geistliche Volkslieder, Paderborn, 1850.

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Our Daily Worship

A through-the-week devotional



The following pages are provided for you with a desire to “lead you beside still waters”.

May they assist you in your walk with Christ through week, as you practice his presence, feed upon his word, and reflect upon how both impact your weekly life.

WHY MEMORIZE THE CATECHISM?

From time to time I am asked, “Why encourage memorizing the Catechism instead of Scripture?” The answer is simple: we are not choosing between them. We encourage both. One of the great strengths of the Catechism is that it teaches us to ask questions we might not think to ask on our own. Many Christians have memorized Bible verses, which is a wonderful thing. Yet it is possible to know Scripture without ever stopping to ask how those passages answer the practical and theological questions of the Christian life. The Catechism helps us make those connections.

For example, many Christians have heard the phrase, “sin is sin,” and would assume that all sins are equal in every respect. Yet when the Catechism asks, “Are all transgressions of the law equally heinous?” the answer may surprise us. The beauty of that moment is that one who is working through the catechism should ask, ‘*Wait, what? Why?*’ And then proceed to look up the Scripture references.

The Catechism is not a replacement for the Bible. Rather, it is a guide that helps us organize, understand, and apply the Bible's teaching to the whole of life. For that reason, every answer is supported by Scripture references.

As you work on memorizing this week's question and answer, take time to study the passages listed below and see how what we confess is derived from God's Word. **If you do not have a copy of the Catechism with Scripture proofs, please speak with an elder and we will gladly provide one.** It will be easier to have a copy because these verses will all be printed out in their entirety.

Matthew 3:16-17

Matthew 28:19

John 1:1

John 10:30

Acts 5:3–4

2 Corinthians 13:14

Ephesians 2:18

1 Peter 1:2

Jude 20–21

SUNDAY

Scripture: *Luke 10:25-28*

Reflection: When the lawyer asked Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life, Jesus did not invent a new answer. He pointed him back to the Law and said, "Do this, and you will live." Christ was affirming what has always been true. God's Law has always revealed His holy character and His righteous standard. The problem has never been that the Law asks too much; the problem is that sinners fall beneath it. David understood something the lawyer had forgotten. The Law is not our enemy. It is perfect, right, pure, and altogether righteous because it reflects the God who gave it. Before the Law can become a mirror exposing our need, we must first see it as a gracious gift from a holy God.

Our Common Weakness: We often think the Law is God's enemy of grace, rather than His gracious gift that leads us to Christ.

Christ Connection: Jesus perfectly loved the Father and His neighbor, accomplishing the righteousness the Law requires

Read: Psalm 19:7-11

List the words David uses to describe God's Law (for example, *perfect, right, pure*).

What blessings or results does David say come from God's Law?

How does seeing God's Law as a gracious gift rather than an enemy of grace help you read and receive God's commands?

Prayer Heavenly Father, Thank You for revealing Yourself through Your perfect Law. Forgive us for viewing Your commands as a drudgery or contrary to grace instead of receiving them as Your gracious gift. Give us humble hearts that delight in Your Word and lead us always to Christ, who fulfilled Your Law for us. Amen.

<<<<Catechism Corner>>>>

Q. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Adults: Read the Q/A aloud three times. Do not try to memorize it yet. Simply listen for the main truth being taught.

Parents: Read it with your child. Ask if they have questions. Explore those together, and let their questions guide your study this week.

MONDAY

Scripture: Luke 10:28-29

Reflection: Jesus answered the lawyer, "Do this, and you will live." If anyone could keep God's Law perfectly, he would indeed have life. But ever since Adam sinned in the garden, no son or daughter of Adam has loved God with all the heart or perfectly loved neighbor as himself. The Law remains holy, righteous, and good. We are the ones who have changed. We cannot comfort ourselves by saying, "At least I keep most of it." James reminds us that whoever stumbles in one point has become guilty of all. God's Law is like a pane of glass. Whether shattered in one place or many, it is still broken. This is why the Law can never justify us. Instead, it reveals our guilt, so that we would flee to Christ.

Our Common Weakness: We often measure ourselves against other sinners instead of against God's perfect holiness.

Christ Connection: Jesus is the 2nd Adam who never stumbled in any point of God's Law.

Read: Romans 7:7–13 & James 2:10

According to Romans 7, what does Paul say is the purpose of the Law?

According to James 2:10, what happens when a person breaks even one commandment?

How do these passages act as a gracious tool of the Holy Spirit?

Prayer Heavenly Father, We thank You for Your holy, righteous, and good Law, which reveals Your perfect character and lovingly exposes our need. Thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit, who opens our eyes to our sin and leads us to Christ. Keep us from trusting in ourselves, and teach us to rejoice in the perfect righteousness of our Savior. Amen.

<<<<<Catechism Corner>>>>>

Q. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Adults: Read the Q/A several times. Look up a couple Scripture proofs and meditate on it this week.

Parents: Explain one key word, then say the answer together.

TUESDAY

Scripture: Luke 10:30–35

Reflection: The traveler on the Jericho road could do nothing to rescue himself. Stripped, beaten, and left half dead, he depended entirely upon the mercy of another. That picture reminds us of our own spiritual condition apart from Christ. Sin has left us unable to save ourselves or earn God's favor. But where we were helpless, God acted. He did not wait for us to recover or prove ourselves worthy of His love. He came near in mercy. He made us alive together with Christ, raised us with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places. The compassion shown on the Jericho road points us beyond itself to the even greater compassion of our Savior, who did for us what we could never do for ourselves. Today, rejoice in what Christ has done for you.

Our Common Weakness: We forget that our salvation rests entirely upon God's mercy rather than our own efforts.

Christ Connection: Though we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive with Christ.

Read: Ephesians 2:1–10

What words does Paul use to describe our condition before God acted (vv. 1–3)?

According to verses 4–9, what actions does God take on behalf of His people?

How does remembering that you first received healing and life from Christ help you live out the good works He has saved you to do?

Prayer Heavenly Father, thank You for Your rich mercy toward us when we were dead in our sins. We rejoice that our salvation is entirely Your work from beginning to end. Fill our hearts with gratitude for Christ, and teach us to walk in the good works You have prepared for us, not to earn Your love, but because we have already received it. Amen.

<<<<Catechism Corner>>>>

Q. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Adults: Write the answer twice. Notice the commas and use them to break the answer into smaller parts. Work on one part at a time and bring each new part in as you are ready.

Parents: Write the answer with one word missing. Let your child fill it in. Repeat with different words.

WEDNESDAY

Scripture: Luke 10:36–37

Reflection: When we heard Jesus say, "Go, and do likewise," we remembered that He was first speaking to a lawyer who believed he could earn eternal life by keeping God's Law. Jesus was not offering him a ladder to climb into heaven but holding up a mirror to expose his need for mercy. Yet once we have received that mercy through Christ, those same words take on a new significance. Yesterday, as we explored Ephesians 2, we rejoiced that we are saved by grace through faith and created in Christ Jesus for good works. For those who have received this grace and have been given new life, the Law teaches us how to live in a way that pleases God. It teaches us what it looks like to love our neighbor as ourselves.

O.C.W: We forget that the same grace that saves us also teaches us how to live.

Christ Connection: Christ gives us His Spirit, enabling us to walk in the good works He has prepared for us.

Read: Exodus 20:12–17

As you read the fifth through tenth commandments, write down one practical way each commandment teaches you to love your neighbor. (If able, read Westminster Larger Catechism Q#123–148, which explain the duties required and sins forbidden in each commandment.)

Imagine every person in your neighborhood gladly lived out these commandments. What would your neighborhood look like? What kinds of fears, conflicts, or hurts would disappear?

Prayer Heavenly Father, thank You for saving us by grace alone and giving us new life in Christ. Thank You that Your Law now serves as a gracious guide for how we may love You and our neighbors. By Your Holy Spirit, help us to delight in Your commands and joyfully walk in the good works You have prepared for us. Amen.

<<<<<Catechism Corner>>>>>

Q. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Adults: Write the first letter of each word on paper. Use those letters as prompts and see how far you can get without looking at the answer.

Parents: Have your child draw a picture of one truth contained in the Q/A. Discuss it together, then recite the answer.

THURSDAY

Scripture – *Luke 10:25–37*

Reflection: As we reflect on the good works Christ has created us to do, we must be careful not to get pulled back into the gravitational field of legalism or moralism. **Legalism** tries to earn God's favor through our obedience. **Moralism** forgets the gospel and reduces the Christian life to simply becoming a better person. We must always remember the order of Ephesians 2: we were dead in our trespasses, but God made us alive by grace through faith—and then gives us a pathway for good works. Whenever we feel ourselves drifting back toward earning God's favor, we must slingshot around that gravity field and return to the gospel. There we remember that Christ loved us first, saved us completely, and secured our standing forever. Only then can we go back into the world and love our neighbors with the joy of those who have already been accepted by God.

O.C.W: We are pulled backward, reversing the order of the gospel in our minds.

Christ Connection: Christ loved us while we were still His enemies and gave Himself for us.

Read: 1 John 4:7–12, 19

According to John, where does genuine love come from?

How did God demonstrate His love for us (vv. 9–10)?

How does remembering that Christ loved you first change *why* you love and serve others?

Prayer Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us before we ever loved You. Thank You that our standing before You rests securely in Christ and not in our own performance. Fill our hearts with Your love through the Holy Spirit, so that our obedience would flow from gratitude and our love for others would reflect the mercy we have first received. Amen.

<<<<<Catechism Corner>>>>>

Q. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Adults: Try writing out the answer with no prompts. Go as far as you can. If you need to peek, go ahead. Then try again until it becomes easier.

Parents: Ask your child if they have questions about the answer. Say it three times together in a comfortable rhythm, then pray for God to help you understand this truth.

FRIDAY- CATECHISM PRACTICE AND REVIEW

Use today for strengthening what you have practiced throughout the week. Do not worry if you cannot remember the answer perfectly at first. Try to recall as much as you can, use the helps provided, then try again. Memory grows through repeated, prayerful practice. Parents, engage your children by asking them to “help” you remember.

Fill in the blanks:

Q. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are _____ persons in the _____: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are _____ God, the same in _____, equal in power and _____.

First-letter prompt:

Q. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. T_____ a_____ t_____ p_____ i_____ t_____ G_____: t_____ F_____, t_____ S____, a_____ t_____ H_____ G_____; a_____ t_____ t_____ a_____ o_____ G____, t_____ s_____ i_____ s_____, e_____ t_____ p_____ a_____ g_____.

Write it from memory (attempt 1):

Write it from memory (attempt 2):

Look Back: Long-term memory grows through review. After practicing this week’s question, go back and review **Q#1 and Q#5** from previous weeks. Try to recite each answer from memory before looking. If you need help, read it once, then cover it and try again.

This Week In Focus:

Month of August

Deacon Fund Offering – *This month, please prayerfully consider giving to the Deacon Fund using the green envelopes. This offering goes to meet the needs of those in our community.*

Today

Second Sunday Discussion – *15 minutes after worship ends*

Sunday, August 16

Praying for Prodigals – *8:30am in the pastor's office*

Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 30

Church Anniversary/Celebration of Per's Service with Free Grace Open House – *4:00-6:30pm at the Almquists. Bring your favorite ice cream topping! Also, come prepared to share a favorite memory of the Almquists or something they have done that blessed you. Write it down or share it with all of us (or both).*

Regular Rhythms of Grace

Sunday Small Group Study – *"Your Walk With God is a Community Project" – 6-8pm weekly at the Pauley's (beginning September 20)*

First Friday Fellowship – *5:45pm – Location to be announced each month*

Second Sunday Discussion – *2nd Sunday, 15 minutes after worship ends – (Family-style conversations on a rotating topic.)*

Second Saturday Men's Breakfast – *2nd Saturday, 7:30-9:00am, at the church*

Praying for Prodigals – *3rd Sunday, 8:30am in the pastor's office*

Don't Forget

- If you would like to begin **the discipleship journey of the Turning Table**, ask any elder and the material will be provided. Simply read the book and/or listen to the podcasts, schedule a time to meet and discuss over coffee/tea, and then keep moving through the journey. You can start anytime.
- If you do not know **the address of any event, or the contact information for any event**, please contact either Pastor Adam at adam.lee@freegrace.us or Linda at the email address below.
- If you would like to be **added to our church-family email** where you can keep in touch through the week, or if you would like to be **added to the church directory**, please email Linda at linda.morris@freegrace.us
- If you are a member of Free Grace and are not using the **church directory app**, you are missing out on a very useful tool. Please reach out to Linda to see how to download it to your phone.

broken people
bound together in Christ
for God's glory