

JUNIOR INQUIRERS CLASS

For Review with Parents during the Week:

1. Read the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* question 88.
 - a. What are the means God ordinarily uses to bring people to him and to strengthen them?
 - b. Who picked these?
2. Read the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* question 89-90.
 - a. What does God especially use to build you up in holiness and comfort? (question 89)
 - b. How should you read and hear the Word to gain the most benefit? (question 90)
3. Read the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* question 92-93.
 - a. What is a sacrament? (question 92)
 - b. What are the sacraments of the New Testament? (question 93)
4. Read the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* question 94-95.
 - a. Which sacrament signifies our becoming part of the church? (question 94)
 - b. Who is to receive baptism? (question 95)
5. Read the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* question 96-97.
 - a. What is 'showed forth' in the Lord's Supper? (question 96)
 - b. Is someone to receive the Lord's Supper if they haven't professed faith in Jesus Christ and become a part of a church? (question 97)

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Series: Junior Inquirers Class

Title: The Means of Grace: Week 4

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Review
- B. Today we want to look at the Means of Grace.
- C. God uses His Word and sacraments to strengthen us in Him.

II. THE WORD OF GOD (SHORTER CATECHISM 89-90)

- A. Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4).
- B. God especially uses the preaching of the Word to strengthen us (Romans 10:14).
- C. We cannot understand the Bible unless God helps us (1 Corinthians 2:14).
- D. Christians should be eager to listen to the preaching of the Word.

III. THE SACRAMENTS (SHORTER CATECHISM 92-97)

- A. A sacrament is something the Lord gives us to represent something and strengthen us.
- B. The first sacrament is Baptism.
 1. Baptism is the sign of the Covenant of Grace.

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2. We join Christ's church through baptism (1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:27).
3. Baptism symbolizes death (Romans 6:4).
4. Baptism is to be given to all who belong to the church (those who trust in Jesus and their children).

c. The second sacrament is the Lord's Supper.

1. The Lord's Supper is a picture of Christ's body and blood - broken and shed on the cross (1 Corinthians 11:24-25).
2. The Lord's Supper is also a picture of our being united to Christ and his church (1 Corinthians 10:17).
3. The Lord's Supper is to be receive by those who have trusted in Jesus and are communicant members in a local church (1 Corinthians 11:28-29).

IV. HOW THE MEANS OF GRACE WORK (SHORTER CATECHISM 91)

- A. The sacraments don't work automatically or because of the power of the pastor.
- B. The Holy Spirit uses them in people who receive them by faith.

V. CONCLUSION