

Unit 1 Overview:

10 Commandments

ACTIVITIES

Memory Work

The key to memory work is repetition. That's right, good old-fashioned, repetition! Sending students home with a lot to memorize yields inconsistent results. That's why we recommend that you take about 12-15 precious minutes of class time to recite the Six Chief Parts of the catechism EVERY time you meet. By the end of the year, they will have it all committed to memory. Allow students to stand and move as long as they recite along with you. Eventually, they will not need the words in front of them.

Quizlet and Quizlet Live

[Quizlet](#) is a digital flashcard application. Higher Things has already loaded new study decks (flashcards) for several lessons into Quizlet. You will need to create a free account and sign into it to play the game.

Kahoot

Kahoot is a question and answer game that students' can join in from their phones or devices. Just begin the game from your device and have the students' enter the PIN number on the screen to join the game.

DISCUSSION STRATEGIES

You can certainly ask the entire class any of our recommended discussion questions. However, students sometimes don't willingly answer in front of the entire class or you have one eager student who raises his or her hand to answer everything. Or, maybe you are short on time and don't want to skip discussion questions entirely. Here are two suggestions:

1. Think, Pair, and Share. Assign students a partner. Show or ask them a question. Tell them to think about the answer. After a minute or two of think time, tell them they have a set amount of time to discuss their answer with

just their partner. Walk around and listen in on their discussions, making comments or asking questions of groups if you wish. After their discussion time is ended, call on some or all of the pairs to share their answers with the entire group.

2. Anonymous write and turn in. Show or ask students a question or questions. Give them a notecard or small sheet of scrap paper and a set amount of time to write their answer. (They do not write their name on their papers.) Have students hand in their answers and you can read aloud and discuss their responses. This strategy helps shy students participate.

DIVIDE & CONQUER

If you are running short on time for any activity, divide the questions and assign them to individuals or pairs of students. Give them a set amount of time to find the answers. (There are free countdown timers on YouTube for any amount of time). At the end of the time, have them share their answers with the entire class.

BRAIN BREAK

Sometimes it's very difficult to stay focused for even 60 minutes. Most adults can't even do it! If you want students to tune in, get them up and moving by taking a walk around the building. You could allow them a set amount of time to play a game or talk to a friend. But insist that they get up and move around. Look up brain break ideas on the internet for more ideas but whatever you do don't skip brain breaks! You will get better engagement and retention from students.

Unit 1 Test (oral)

Recite the 10 commandments and their meanings

What is the law?

The law is God's commands which teach us to know our sins. The law shows us our sin.

Describe the 3 uses of the law. (If your student is at the Logic stage, ask who each use is for and why)

Curb - A curb on the street shows us where to drive and where not to drive. This use of the law curbs behavior - shows us right and wrong through law but also through conscience. If we do not follow it, there are consequences.

For whom? Primarily for unbelievers.

Why? This use of the law is done only with the threat of punishment - not love. It is given that even if you don't come to faith, it restricts actions.

Mirror - Like a mirror shows us our reflection, the mirror of the law accuses us of sin and shows us that we are guilty of it

For whom? Everyone.

Why? This use of the law drives us towards God's gospel - it shows us our sin and guilt.

Guide - Shows us how things can go better. Shows us what are good works and what are not good works. Guides the Christian to do those good works in love.

For whom? Christians

Why? This use of the law is about love. It defines what love for God and neighbor look like. We desire God's gifts and don't want to see our neighbor hurt, so

we attempt to follow these commandments (the law) out of love for our God and neighbor.

What is an idol?

An idol is anything we fear, love or trust for salvation more than God.

How do we relate to God?

God commands us to trust in Him, that He is our salvation. We believe that God is the triune God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We find Him in church and also in His Word.

What are the two tables of the law?

First table - Commandments 1-3: Talk about faith toward God (God)

Second table - Commandments 4-10: Talk about fervent love toward one another (neighbor)

How does God work through sinners to preserve life?

God gives parents and government (authority) to create rules and laws. The law condemns murder, therefore preserving life.

What is chastity?

Chastity is protecting and preserving your family, even if you don't have it yet.

What is property?

Your property is the things you own.

Is it ok to have property? Yes, God wants you to have the things he gives you.

How does sin break stuff? How does it affect even the stuff you can't see?

Sin causes deep hurt and can harm relationships to the point of breaking.

Examples of how sin affects what you can't always see:

If gossip is spread or someone is bullied, they may not show how deeply that is hurting them until they do something drastic.

Coveting your neighbor's wife won't help your marriage.

What does it mean to keep the commandments?

To keep the commandments means to guard, protect and treasure the commandments.

Though we are sinners and break these commandments, where is our promise?

Through Christ crucified. Christ's death on the cross fulfilled the law, we now have the promise of salvation through Him.