

Sola Confirmation Series: The Sacraments

Holy Baptism Study Sheet - Test Date: _____

PART A: CATECHISM

For the test, you will need to memorize this portion Martin Luther's Small Catechism, in his explanation of the meaning of Baptism.

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not merely water; it is water used according to God's command and connected with God's Word.

What is this Word of God?

It is the Word of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded in the last chapter of Matthew, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

What gifts or benefits does Baptism bring?

It brings about forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe, as the Word and promise of God declare.

What is this Word and promise of God?

It is the Word of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded in the last chapter of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:16).

On the test you will be given a "fill-in-the-blank" text like the one that follows (note: the blanks on the actual test itself will be different from those printed here).

What is Baptism?

Baptism is _____ merely _____ ; it is _____ used _____ to God's _____ and _____ with God's _____ .

What is this Word of God?

It is the _____ of _____ Lord _____ Christ as _____ in the _____ chapter of _____, " _____ therefore and make _____ of all _____, _____ them in the _____ of the _____ and of the _____ and of the _____" (Matthew 28:19).

What gifts or benefits does Baptism bring?

It _____ about _____ of sins, _____ from _____ and the _____, and _____ everlasting _____ to all who _____, as the _____ and _____ of God _____.

What is this Word and promise of God?

It is the _____ of our _____ Jesus Christ as _____ in the last chapter of _____, "Whoever _____ and is _____ will be _____, but _____ does not _____ will be _____" (Mark 16:16).

PART B: MEMORY SYMBOLS

For the test, you will need to be able to say something about the five "memory symbols" featured in the lessons in the first half of the Sacraments book, and explain what these symbols tell us about God, and our relationship with Him.

Means



As a hammer is used to pound in a nail, the Sacraments are "means" by which God gives us his promise of grace.

Authorization



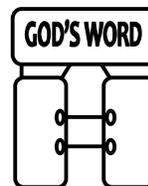
Baptism has power because it is a promise authorized and given by God himself.

Promise



Only God himself can make us clean on the inside; in Baptism, God promises to wash us clean from sin.

Faith



In Baptism, God gives us his Word, so that we have his promise to trust and rely on throughout our life.

Repentance



To repent means to take a U-Turn away from sin and selfishness, and return to God in faith.

PART C: VOCABULARY & QUESTIONS FROM THE UNIT

For the test, you will need to know the meaning of some important words and ideas (theme words, topics from the Small Catechism and the Bible, etc.). Questions will be asked as matching, fill-in-the-blank, or true/false, multiple choice, etc:

1. Important Words from this Unit

means	= instrument or tool used to do a job (a pair of scissor is a <i>means</i> to cut paper)
grace	= Gifts we Receive And Cannot Earn (G.R.A.C.E.), given freely by God
authorization	= to grant official power or recognition (usually to perform some function)
promise	= the assurance of some good action (forgiveness is a promise from God)
faith	= to trust in God, to rely on God (more than just believing that God exists)
repentance	= to turn, or to <i>be</i> turned, away from sin (returning to God in faith)
command	= to order and give direction to (Jesus commanded us to baptize)
deliverance	= to be rescue or save from something (Jesus delivers us from sin, death, and the devil)
regeneration	= a new beginning, to be restored or to be made good again
justified	= to be made right with God (something God does in us by his gift of faith)
forgive	= not to hold our sin against us, to release from the punishment for sin
old Adam	= the sinner in us, our sinful human nature

2. What are the two sacraments in the Lutheran Church? Why are they called “means of grace”?

Baptism and Communion are real instruments God uses to give us his gifts of forgiveness and new life

3. What are the three “Marks of a Sacrament” ? (*three things are necessary to be considered a sacrament*)

- 1) Conveys a Promise from God – specifically, the promise of forgiveness and life in Christ
- 2) is Connected to a Natural Element – an earthly “means of grace” (water, bread, wine)
- 3) was Commanded by Christ Himself – authorized by Jesus himself for all Christians

4. a) Is baptism a promise we make to God, or is it a promise that God makes to us? a promise God makes b) When would a person have to be re-baptized? never (God never goes back on his promise)

5. Who *authorizes* baptism? Who is *authorized* to baptize?

God authorizes baptism; Christ has authorized and sent his followers to baptize. In church, pastors are the ones who normally baptize, but in an emergency, any Christian could.

6. What is the function of sponsors in baptism?

Sponsors are people who promise to help support a person in their life of faith. Parents are the primary sponsors when their children are baptized; additional sponsors are sometimes called "God-parents".

7. How can baptizing babies work if they don't know what's going on?

It is God's word and promise that makes baptism effective. Baptism is an act of God, not an act of human beings. God gives his promise in order to create faith and give us something to trust each day.

8. What's the difference between a “God-Centered View” and “Human-Centered View” of Baptism:

A God-Centered View says that Baptism is a promise being made *by* God to the person being baptized. Therefore, people may be baptized at whatever age they are presented (infants, children and adults) YES!
A Human-Centered View says that Baptism is a promise being made *to* God by the person being baptized. Therefore, only people who are already believers are allowed to be baptized (adults only) NO!

9. False Statements:

- False: We need to work hard to deserve God's grace
- False: In the Lutheran Church, we do not baptize adults
- False: Baptism only works if special “holy water” is used
- False: God doesn't care if we sin, he's just going to forgive us anyway

10. True Statements:

- True: Baptism is a promise from God – a promise of forgiveness and new life
- True: In Baptism we are adopted into God's family
- True: In Scripture, Jesus says that we are “born again” in Baptism by water and the Holy Spirit
- True: Being “saved” is something God does to us, not something we do