**Let The Word of Christ Dwell in You Richly**

**A Primer for Catechesis**

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Palo Alto, California**

**What is the Primer?**

It is:

* A help and assistance for parents, who, in their hearts, seek to raise their children in the admonition and nurture of the Lord as they promised at the children’s baptism
* A booklet consisting of basic Christian teachings, verses, narratives, and stories from God’s holy Word and using Luther’s *Small Catechism* as a main reference
* A set of questions with their answers, Bible verses to be learned by heart
* A series of God’s stories from the Bible
* A listing of basic narratives from God’s Word

The Primer is designed to help Christian parents prepare their baptized children:

* To mature in the faith
* To attend catechesis
* To prepare for the Lord’s Supper
* To participate in the life of the Church

**Who should use the primer?**

Parents, sponsors, teachers, pastors, and anyone who teaches children the basic truths of God (Deuteronomy 6:4-9).

**When can it be used?**

Morning. Evening. Anytime.

**Why should it be used?**

As a sign of a believer’s love for the Lord, the welfare of the child, and one’s private meditation.

**Where can it be used?**

Anywhere.

**How should it be used?**

Diligently, patiently, tirelessly, persistently, constantly, faithfully.

Though God has revealed Himself in His creation (Psalm 19:1-6; Romans 1:18-32), the chief and perfect way in which God has revealed Himself is His Word, culminating in the revelation of His Son Jesus Christ, the Word Incarnate (Psalm 19:7-11; Hebrews 1:1-2; John 1:1-18).

Our dependence upon the Scriptures is the dependence upon God for our salvation, for the holy Scriptures are able to make us wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus (John 8:31-32; 20:30-31; 2 Timothy 3:15). The Scriptures reveal God’s will to us, the will that He would save us through the death of His Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sin. To search the Scriptures is to hear God’s testimony to His salvation in His Son (John 5:39). For this reason, the Word of God is precious to us, sweeter than honey to our mouths (Psalm 119:103).

This reliance upon God’s Word is not limited to a few passages here and there, such as John 3:16, but includes the entire Bible; as Paul declares in Romans 15:4, “For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.” For that reason our heavenly Father exhorts us to store up His holy Word in our hearts.

As Dr. Martin Luther wrote in the preface to his Large Catechism: “Nothing is so effectual against the devil, the world, the flesh and all evil thoughts as to occupy oneself with the Word of God, talk about it and meditate on it. Psalm 1 calls those blessed who meditate upon God’s Word day and night. It is the most potent weapon against the old evil foe. For this reason alone you should eagerly read, recite, ponder and practice the Catechism … If that were not enough to admonish us to read and hear God’s Word daily, there is God’s command. That alone should be incentive enough. As Deuteronomy 6:7-8 enjoins us, His Word should always be upon our hearts and lips … Certainly God did not require and command this so solemnly without a cause. He knows our dangers and our needs. He knows the constant attacks of the devil and the temptations that we face.” By this Word we are kept from stumbling in the darkness and sin of this world (Psalm 119:105).

The Word of God is living and active (Hebrews 4:12). The Word heals us; it strengthens us; it renews our spirits and gives joy to our lives—Psalm 119 is devoted to the praise of God’s Word. The Word keeps us from sin; meditating upon the Word enables us to resist sin. God’s Word keeps our feet from slipping (Psalm 37:28-31).

The Word is the Sword of the Spirit with which the Christian is to be armed daily (Ephesians 6:13-18). With the Word of God pervading our lives we are readied to answer questions concerning our faith in Christ (1 Peter 3:15), to encourage others (Colossians 3:16) and to teach others (2 Timothy 3:14-17). Knowing the Word of God enables us to distinguish the wicked from the good and to discern false doctrines from the true doctrine of Christ (2 Thessalonians 2:15; 1 Timothy 6:3). If we know the Scripture, we can meditate upon it wherever we are. God’s Word is flawless; it gives perfect wisdom.

This primer is neither a substitute for the Catechism, even though it includes portions of the Catechism, nor the Scriptures. You are encouraged to use the Catechism and its explanations as you teach your children.

This outline for memorization is a guide for parents and children so that with the power and will of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God would be planted deeply and firmly within the hearts and minds of Christ’s holy people.

“Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the Word of God” Romans 10:15

**Topics and Schedule**

**Pre-Kindergarten**

The Lord’s Prayer

Gloria Patri

Table Prayers

Bedtime Prayers

**Kindergarten**

The Ten Commandments

Luther’s Morning and Evening Prayers

Review Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten

**Grade 1**

Apostles’ Creed

Offertory

Review Pre-Kindergarten to 1st Grade

**Grade 2**

The Ten Commandments and Their Meanings

Psalm 23

Review Pre-Kindergarten to 2nd Grade

**Grade 3**

Apostles’ Creed and Its Meaning

Books of the Bible

Review Pre-Kindergarten to 3rd Grade

**Grade 4**

Lord’s Prayer, Its Petitions and Meanings

Baptism, Its Four Parts and Meanings

Books of the Bible and Meanings

Review Pre-Kindergarten to 4th Grade

**Grade 5**

Confession and Absolution

Table of Duties

Psalm 1

Review Pre-Kindergarten to 5th Grade

**Hymns for Nursery through 5th Grade**

**Praise**

*LSB* 895 Now Thank We All Our God

**Advent**

*LSB* 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

**Christmas**

*LSB* 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

**Epiphany**

*LSB* 396 Arise and Shine in Splendor

**Lent**

*LSB* 420 Christ, the Life of All the Living

**Easter**

*LSB* 457 Jesus Christ is Risen Today

*LSB* 461 I Know that My Redeemer Lives

**Ascension**

*LSB* 493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

**Pentecost**

*LSB* 497 Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

**Trinity**

*LSB* 507 Holy, Holy, Holy

*LSB* 954 We All Believe in One True God

**Word of God**

*LSB* 865 Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain

**Baptism**

*LSB* 590 Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

**Lord’s Supper**

*LSB* 617 O Lord, We Praise Thee

**Other Hymns**

*LSB* 656 A Mighty Fortress is Our God

*LSB* 743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure

*LSB* 647 Lord Jesus Christ, the Church’s Head

*LSB* 876 O Blessed, Holy Trinity

*LSB* 883 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

**The Bible**

1. What is the Bible?
2. Who wrote the Bible?
3. What does “inspired by God” mean?
4. What are the two testaments of the Bible?
5. What are the first four books of the New Testament about?
6. What does the Bible tell us about sin?
7. What does the Bible tell us about death?
8. What good news does the Bible tell us?

**The Ten Commandments**

The text of the commandments is from Exodus 20:3,7,8,12-17; the close of the commandments is from Exodus 20:5-6.

1. The first three commandments tell us:
2. The commandments four through ten tell us:
3. Who is the true God?
4. How many Persons are in the Godhead?
5. How many gods are there?
6. What does it mean that God is almighty?
7. Who tempted man to sin?
8. When a person sins, what does he do?
9. What was our spiritual condition when we were born?
10. How are we today?
11. Can we save ourselves from eternal punishment?
12. Why cannot we save ourselves?
13. Which is the most important commandment?
14. Can you keep the Ten Commandments?
15. What is sin?
16. What happens to those who do not trust God?
17. Who has kept all of God’s commands?
18. Who has trusted God perfectly?

**First Commandment and meaning**

**Memory**: 1 John 4:19; 1 John 5:3

**Story:** Daniel 6:1-23

**Second Commandment and meaning**

**Memory**: Psalm 50:15; Psalm 118:1

**Story**: Luke 17:11-19

**Third Commandment and meaning**

**Memory**: Luke 11:28

**Story**: Luke 10:38-42

**Fourth Commandment and meaning**

**Memory:** Ephesians 6:1

**Story:** Luke 2:41-52

**Fifth Commandment and meaning**

**Memory**: 1John 3:18

**Story**: Luke 10:25-37

**Sixth Commandment and meaning**

**Memory**: Romans 13:13

**Story**: Genesis 39

**Seventh Commandment and meaning**

**Memory**: Ephesians 4:28; 2 Corinthians 9:7

**Story**: Luke 19:1-10

**Eighth Commandment and meaning**

**Memory**: Colossians 3:9; Ephesians 4:15

**Story**: Luke 23

**Ninth and Tenth Commandments and meanings**

**Memory**: Hebrews 13:5; Galatians 5:13

**Story**: 1 Kings 21:1-16

**Additional Memory**: Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; John 3:16

**Apostles’ Creed and Its Meaning**

The Creed is not a quotation from the Scriptures; it is a summary of the teachings of the Scriptures, having been gathered from many different passages.

1. Why do we confess the creed?
2. What good news is in the creed?
3. What does the Bible tell us about God?
4. How can God be three Persons?

**First Article**

1. What did God create?
2. In how many days did He create?
3. Who was the first man?
4. Out of what did God create man?
5. Out of what did God create woman?
6. In what condition were Adam and Eve when God created them?
7. Did Adam and Eve remain holy?
8. What did they do?
9. Since Adam and Eve sinned all people are born sinful; in whom alone can we find salvation?
10. Who are the angels?
11. What place did God make for wicked angels?
12. Where are the good angels?
13. How does God still take care of us?

**Memory**: Psalm 119:73; Exodus 20:11; Isaiah 41:13;

1 Corinthians 10:31; Psalm 106:1; Romans 5:12

**Story**: Genesis 1-2; Matthew 6:25-34; Genesis 3

**Second Article**

1. Who is Jesus?
2. Where was Jesus born?
3. When do we celebrate his birthday?
4. Who was His mother?
5. Who is His father?
6. Where did Jesus live as a boy?
7. About how old was Jesus when He began His ministry?
8. Under whom did Jesus suffer and die?
9. For whom did Jesus suffer and die on the cross?
10. What do we call the day when Jesus died?
11. What do we call the day when Jesus rose from the dead?
12. Because Jesus rose, what is promised to all believers?
13. Jesus remained on the earth forty days after His resurrection; after that, to where did He ascend?
14. When will Jesus return?
15. As we wait for the Lord’s return, what does He do?
16. Where will unbelievers go on Judgment Day?
17. Where will believers go on Judgment Day?

**Memory**: Luke 2:11; Matthew 20:28; 1 Timothy 1:15; John 14:23; Matthew 24:42

**Story**: Luke 2:1-20; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 23; Matthew 28; Acts 1:1-11; Matthew 25:31-46

**The Third Article**

1. What is the true Church?
2. Who is the only head of the Church?
3. Whose children did we become when the Holy Spirit worked faith in our hearts?
4. What things does one receive from Christ in the Church?
5. What does the Holy Spirit work in our hearts?
6. What kinds of works will we do that show we are God’s children?
7. What is the visible Church?
8. What is the hidden Church?
9. Where does one find the true Church?

**Memory:** 1 Corinthians 12:3; Romans 8:39; John 14:26; Galatians 2:20; Romans 10:17; Ephesians 5:23; Ephesians 5:25

**Story:** Acts 1-2; Luke 24:13-35

**The Lord’s Prayer**

The Lord’s Prayer is from Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4.

1. To whom do we talk when we pray?
2. Why should we pray?
3. In whose name should we pray?
4. What prayer includes everything in it?
5. Where may we pray?
6. When may we pray?
7. Who may pray to God?
8. What words should we use to pray?

**Introduction and meaning**

**Memory**: Galatians 3:26; Psalm 91:15

**Story**: Matthew 6:1-15

**First Petition and meaning**

**Memory**: Psalm 103:1; Act 4:12

**Story**: 2 Timothy

**Second Petition and meaning**

**Memory**: Luke 17:21; 1 Thessalonians 5:23,24

**Story**: John 1:29-51

**Third Petition and meaning**

**Memory**: John 6:40; 1 Timothy 2:3,4

**Story**: Jonah

**Fourth Petition and meaning**

**Memory**: Acts 14:17; Psalm 118:1

**Story**: Luke 12:22-34 and Matthew 6:25-34

**Fifth Petition and meaning**

**Memory**: Ephesians 4:32

**Story**: Genesis 37; 45:1-5

**Sixth Petition and meaning**

**Memory**: Mathew 26:41; Romans 8:31

**Story**: Genesis 3

**Seventh Petition and meaning**

**Memory**: 2 Timothy 4:18; Romans 8:28

**Story**: Acts 16:16-40

**Doxology and meaning**

**Memory**: 1 Chronicles 29:10,11; Revelation 7:12

**Story**: Revelation 5

**Table Prayers**

Luther's prayers from the *Small Catechism*

**Luther’s Morning and Evening Prayers**

Luther’s prayers from the *Small Catechism*

**Other Prayers—Before the Meal**

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let this food to us be blest. Amen.

Heavenly Father, bless this food To Your glory and our good. Amen.

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts, which we receive from Your bountiful goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bless, O Lord, the food we take, and bless us, too, for Jesus’ sake. Amen.

The Lord bless this food for our use and us in His service, and help us to remember the needs of others; for Christ’s sake. Amen.

**Other Prayers—After the Meal**

We give thanks to You, O Lord, for You are good, and Your mercy endures forever. Amen.

We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for all these Your benefits, who lives and reigns forever. Amen.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name; bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Amen.

**Bedtime Prayers**

Father, keep us through the night until the pleasant morning light. Bless with all Your tender care little children everywhere. Amen.

Now I lay me down to sleep; I pray You, Lord, the souls to keep, of other children, far away, who have no homes in which to stay, nor know where is their daily bread nor where at night to lay their head, but wander through a broken land alone and helpless—take their hand! Amen

Hymns 877-891 in *Lutheran Service Book* may be used as evening prayers.

**Holy Baptism**

The chief Bible passages from which Holy Baptism is taught are Matthew 28:18-20; Titus 3:4-8; Romans 6:3,4.

1. Who is to be baptized?
2. Who commands the Church to baptize?
3. Who usually does the baptizing?
4. Whose children did we become at Baptism?
5. What did God give us at Baptism?
6. What did the Holy Spirit work in us at Baptism?
7. What are witnesses / sponsors/ godparents to do for the children?

**Memory:** Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21

**Story:** Acts 8:26-39

**The Office of the Keys and Confession**

The chief Bible passages from which The Office of the Keys and Confession are taught are 2 Samuel 12:13; Matthew 16:19; 18:17-20; John 20:21-23; James 5:16.

1. What does it mean to confess sin?
2. To whom should we confess our sin?
3. What is the benefit of confession?

**Memory:** 1 John 1:9; James 5:16

**Story:** Luke 15

**The Lord’s Supper**

The chief Bible passages from which The Lord’s Supper is taught are Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19,20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25.

1. Who instituted or commanded Holy Communion?
2. When did Jesus institute Holy Communion?
3. What are the things one can see and taste in the Lord’s Supper?
4. What does Jesus give “in,” “with,” and “under” the bread and the wine?
5. In the Lord’s Supper what assurance does Jesus give about the forgiveness of sins? Our faith? Our salvation?
6. What does one eat and drink in the Lord’s Supper?
7. What are three benefits of receiving the Lord’s Supper?
8. Who should not receive the Lord’s Supper?
9. Should those with a weak faith come to the Lord’s Supper?

**Memory**: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

**Story**: Mark 14:12-16

**Liturgical Texts**

These texts, with others, are used in the Divine Service of *Lutheran Service Book*.

**Gloria Patri:** This is an ancient liturgical text.

**Kyrie** (Greek for “O Lord”): Luke 17:13, 18:38-39; Psalm 123:2-3.

**Gloria in Excelsis** (Latin for “Glory in the highest”) Luke 2:14.

**Offertory:** Psalm 51:10-12.

**Sanctus** (Latin for “holy”): Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9.

**Agnus Dei** (Latin for “Lamb of God”): John 1:29.

**Nunc Dimittis** (Latin for “Now let your servant”): Luke 2:29-32.

**Benediction:** Numbers 6:24-26.

**Bible Stories**

**The Old Testament**

**Primeval History**

Creation: Genesis 1

Man and Eden: Genesis 2

The Fall of Man: Genesis 3

The Promise of the Savior: Genesis 3:15

Cain and Abel: Genesis 4

Adam to Noah: Genesis 5

The Flood: Genesis 6-9

The Tower of Babel: Genesis 11:1-9

**The Patriarchs**

The Call of Abram: Genesis 11:27-12:9

The Promise of Isaac: Genesis 15:1-6

Sodom and Gomorrah: Genesis 18:16-19:29

The Offering of Isaac: Genesis 22:1-19

Isaac Blessed Jacob: Genesis 27:1-40

Access to God: Genesis 28:10-22

Jacob’s Family: Genesis 29:13-30:24

Jacob Wrestled with God: Genesis 32:22-32

Joseph and his Brothers: Genesis 37

Joseph in Egypt: Genesis 39

Joseph before Pharaoh: Genesis 40,41

First Journey of Brothers: Genesis 42

Second Journey of Brothers: Genesis 43-45

Jacob in Egypt: Genesis 46-50

**Moses and the First Covenant**

Birth of Moses: Exodus 2:1-10

The Call of Moses: Exodus 3:1-4:17

Moses before Pharaoh: Exodus 4:18-10:29

The Passover: Exodus 11:1-12:30

The Exodus: Exodus 12:31-51:21

Mt Sinai: Exodus 19,20

The Golden Calf: Exodus 32:1-33:6

God Dwells in the Tabernacle: Exodus 40

The Spies: Numbers 13,14

The Bronze Serpent: Numbers 21:4-9

**The Settlement of the Land**

Entrance into Canaan: Joshua 1-6

Conquest of Canaan: Joshua 7-24

Gideon: Judges 6,7

Samson: Judges 13-16

Ruth: Ruth

Samuel: 1 Samuel 1-13

**The Kings – United Israel**

Saul: 1 Samuel 9-31

The Anointing of David: 1 Samuel 16

David and Goliath: 1 Samuel 17

King David’s Fall and Repentance: 2 Samuel 11,12

Absalom’s Rebellion: 2 Samuel 15-18

King Solomon and Temple: 1 Kings 5-8

**The Kings – divided Judah and Israel**

Elijah: 1 Kings 17-19

Elijah and the Prophets of baal: 1 Kings 18:16-46

Naboth’s Vineyard: 1 Kings 21

Elijah’s Departure: 2 Kings 1,2

Naaman and Elisha: 2 Kings 5

King Hezekiah: 2 Kings 18-20

The Book of the Covenant and King Josiah: 2 Kings 22:1-23:30

Jerusalem Destroyed: 2 Kings 25

**The Exile and The Return**

The Three Men in the Furnace: Daniel 3

Daniel in the Lions’ Den: Daniel 6

The Return from Exile: Ezra

**The New Testament**

**The Youth of Jesus Christ**

Zechariah and Elizabeth: Luke 1:5-25

Mary and Gabriel: Luke 1:26-38

The Birth of John: Luke 1:57-80

The Birth of Jesus: Luke 2:1-20

The Circumcision of Jesus: Luke 2:21-38

The Magi: Matthew 2:1-18

The Flight to Egypt: Matthew 2:19-23

The Twelve-year old Jesus in the Temple: Luke 2:41-52

**The Public Ministry of Jesus Christ**

The Preaching of John: Luke 3:1-20

The Baptism of Jesus: Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:1-11; Luke 3:21,22; John 1:31-34

The Temptation of Jesus: Matthew 4:1-10; Mark 1:12,13; Luke 4:1-13

The Marriage at Cana – the First Sign: John 2:1-11

The Catch of Fish: Luke 5:1-11

The Centurion of Capernaum: Matthew 8:5-13

The Stilling of the Storm: Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:36-41; Luke 8:22-25

The Healing of the Paralyzed Man: Matthew 9:2-8; Mark 2:3-12; Luke 5:18-26

The Healing of the Daughter of Jairus: Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:22-43; Luke 8:41-46

The Raising of the Young Man of Nain: Luke 7:11-17

The Death of John the Baptizer: Mark 6:14-29

The Feeding of the Five Thousand: Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:32-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-13

Jesus Walked on the Sea: Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-51; John 6:15-21

The Woman of Canaan: Matthew 15:21-28

Mary and Martha: Luke 10:38-42

Jesus Blessed the Little Children: Mark 10:13-16

The Raising of Lazarus: John 11:1-44

Zacchaeus: Luke 19:1-10

**Parables of Jesus**

The Good Samaritan: Luke 10:25-42

The Lost Sheep: Luke 15:1-7

The Prodigal Son / Forgiving Father: Luke 15:11-32

The Rich Man and Poor Lazarus: Luke 16:19-31

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector: Luke 18:9-14

**The Passion and Death of Jesus Christ**

The Entry into Jerusalem: Matthew 21:1-9; Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:29-38; John 12:12-15

The Widow’s Offering: Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:1-4

The Last Judgment: Matthew 24,25; Mark 13; Luke 21:5-36

The Lord’s Supper: Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:12-16; Luke 22:14-20

Gethsemane: Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:39-46

The Betrayal: Matthew 26:47-56; Mark 14:43-50; Luke 22:39-46; John 18:3-11

Jesus before the High Priest: Matthew 26:57-68; Mark 15:53-65; Luke 22:66-71; John 18:12-14

Peter’s Denial: Matthew 26:69-75; Luke 22:54-62; Mark 14:66-72; John 18:16-18, 25-27

Jesus before Pontius Pilate and Herod: Matthew 27:11-31; Mark 15:1-20; Luke 23:1-25; John 18:28-19:16

The Crucifixion: Matthew 27:32-56; Mark 15:21-41; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:16-37

The Burial: Matthew 27:57-61; Mark 15:42047; Luke 23: 50-56; John 19:38-42

**The Glorified Jesus Christ**

The Resurrection: Matthew 28:1-7; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-9

First Appearances: Matthew 28:8-10; Luke 24:13-35; John 20:10-23

Jesus Appears to the Disciples: Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:36-48; John 20:24-21:25

Jesus’ Ascension: Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11

**The Church of Jesus Christ**

Pentecost: Acts 2

The Healing of the Lame Man: Acts 3

Stephen: Acts 6,7

The Conversion of Paul: Acts 9:1-19

**The Books of the Bible and Their Themes**

**Books of the Old Testament**

**The Five Books of Moses**

Genesis: God first promises the Savior

Exodus: God gives the Law, seals His

covenant with blood, and dwells with His people

Leviticus: God requires sacrifices that

foreshadow the Savior

Numbers: God disciplines His rebellious

people

Deuteronomy: God restates His covenant with

Israel

**The Early History in the Land of Israel**

Joshua: God gives the promised land to

Israel

Judges: God judges and delivers Israel

Ruth: God tells of the ancestors of David

**The History during the Time of the Kings**

1 Samuel: God leads His people through

Samuel, Saul, and David

2 Samuel: God leads His people through

David

1 Kings: God leads His people through the

kings and the prophets

2 Kings: God leads His people through the

kings and the prophets

1 Chronicles: God’s people from creation to

David

2 Chronicles: God’s people from Solomon to

the restoration

**The History after the Exile**

Ezra: God prompts His people to

rebuild the Temple so that

He may serve them

Nehemiah: God prompts His people to

rebuild the city walls

Esther: God protects His people

**Wisdom Literature**

Job: Human suffering from God’s

perspective

Psalms: A book of prayers and praise to

God

Proverbs: The fear of the Lord is the

beginning of wisdom

Ecclesiastes: Life not centered on God is

purposeless and meaningless

Song of Songs: The love that God gives a

Christian husband and wife

**The Long Prophetic Books**

Isaiah: Evangelist of the Old Testament

Jeremiah: The people of God called to

repent of their sins

Lamentations: Repentance and a lament over sin

and its consequences

Ezekiel: God shall dwell among His

people forever

Daniel: The kingdom of God is eternal;

the kingdoms of man fall

apart

**The Short Prophetic Books**

Hosea: The people of God and their

spiritual adultery and God’s

forgiveness

Joel: The day of the Lord is a day of

judgment

Amos: Judgment of people who

abandon God’s Promises

Obadiah: Judgment of Edom, an enemy of

God's people

Jonah: God’s concern for His entire

creation

Micah: God judges and God saves

Nahum: Judgment of Nineveh, an enemy

of God’s people

Habakkuk: God’s people trust in what God

says even when we cannot

understand

Zephaniah: God’s judgment of His people

because of their sin

Haggai: The coming Messiah whose

Presence will fill the Temple

Zechariah: God encourages His people by

telling of His future blessings

Malachi: The Savior is coming

**Books of the New Testament**

**The Four Accounts of the Gospel**

Matthew: Jesus fulfills the prophecies of the

Old Testament

Mark: Repent of your sins and believe

that Jesus is the Savior

Luke: You may be certain of what you

have been taught about Jesus

John: Believe that Jesus is the Son of

God so that you have life in Him

**The Record of the Life of the Early Church**

Acts: The Lord gives growth and

strength to His Church

**The Letters of Paul**

Romans: We are forgiven by God’s grace

that comes only through Jesus

1 Corinthians: When the Church needs help,

Jesus gives more of Himself

2 Corinthians: The strength for Christians comes

from God’s grace

Galatians: Forgiveness of sins only comes

by trusting in Jesus

Ephesians: Christ loved the Church and gave

Himself to save her

Philippians: God works in you to live

according to His good purpose

Colossians: Your life is now hidden with

Christ in God

1 Thessalonians: God keeps us holy until the Last

Day

2 Thessalonians: The Lord is faithful – He

strengthens and protects us

1 Timothy: Paul gives instructions to a

young pastor

2 Timothy: Grace is given to us in Christ

Jesus

Titus: Paul gives instructions to a

young pastor

Philemon: We are brothers and sisters in

Christ Jesus

**The General Letters to the Church**

Hebrews: Jesus is the Revealer and

Mediator of God’s grace

James: How God’s holy people should

live

1 Peter: We are called by God to declare

His praises to the world

2 Peter: God’s power has given us

everything that we need for life and godliness

1 John: God loves us and sent His Son as

the sacrifice for our sins

2 John: We should discern the teachings

of traveling missionaries

3 John: We rejoice when we hear about

the faith of other Christians

Jude: We wait for the mercy of our

Lord to bring us to eternal life

Revelation: The Lord encourages us as we

wait for His glorious return