

Home Discipleship

Family Activities

Q: What is sin?

A: Sin is rejecting or ignoring God in the world he created, not being or doing what he requires in his law.

Key Verse: 1 John 3:4

Key Passage: 1 John 3:4-10

Music: For each question there is a song that can be found on the New City Catechism App. Listen to the song for this question and sing it as a family. Songs have a unique way of helping ingrain truths into our hearts.

Coloring Activity: Coloring is a fun activity for all ages. And a great way to spend time thinking deeply about the spiritual truths that we have talked about today. On page three of this document is a coloring page for your kids remember the “wordless book” illustration for the gospel. If you don’t know what the “wordless book is check out this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxpN0jxHYMU>

Memory Activity: Another great way to ingrain this truth into your family is to practice memorizing it with different activities.

Hand out paper and markers. Have the kids write each of the words of the Catechism Question and answer on their papers. Tell them to mix the words up and to write them in different places all over their papers. Allow them to refer to the Catechism Question and Answer as they do this. When everyone is finished, remove or cover up the Catechism Question and Answer. Ask the students to exchange papers. Challenge each student to draw a line from the first word in the Catechism question and answer to the next, and the next, and so on, until the whole verse is finished. Exchange papers again if desired. Go over the Catechism Question and answer together so they can correct their papers.

Discussion Questions: Discuss a few of these questions as a family to help everyone think deeper about their own lives with this doctrinal truth.

1. What is your definition of sin?
2. How does God feel about sin?
3. How does God respond to our sin?
4. What verses in the Bible do you think of when you think about sin and forgiveness?

Teaching Activities: Teaching activities are meant to help reinforce the idea in the catechism question. Be sure to be asking kids questions as you do these activities to be sure that they see the connection.

Activity Set up a jumping game by placing two lines of tape on the floor. Make sure the lines are a good distance apart. The idea is that the children will not be able to reach the mark. Write Romans 3:23 on the tape that the children are trying to jump to. Have the children stand along one line; make sure the line is long enough to accommodate all the children into smaller groups. Invite the children to jump from one line to the other. Give the parents a chance after the children try.

The jump should be just beyond the reach of the children. Explain to them that when scripture describes sin as lawlessness, it is referring to the keeping of God's law. Tell them that Romans 3:23 (which is written on the tape) declares that everybody has sinned. Everyone has fallen short of God's standards. Every single person fails to make the grade. So when we consider what sin is, we must realize what it affects each and every person who has lived, is living, or will live on earth.

Catechism Recap: Print out every question and answer from one to fifteen. Print the question on one sheet of paper and the answer on another. Print out one full set of the questions and answers for you. Divide the children into two groups. Place a pile of mixed-up questions and answers for each team at one side of the room—there should be thirty sheets of paper for each team. Each team should stand opposite their pile of paper on the other side of the room. The team member should take turns running up to collect a piece of paper and bringing it back to their team. The team that collects all the pieces of paper and correctly matches each question and answer is the winner. Make it a race! Keep the task lighthearted and fun for all.

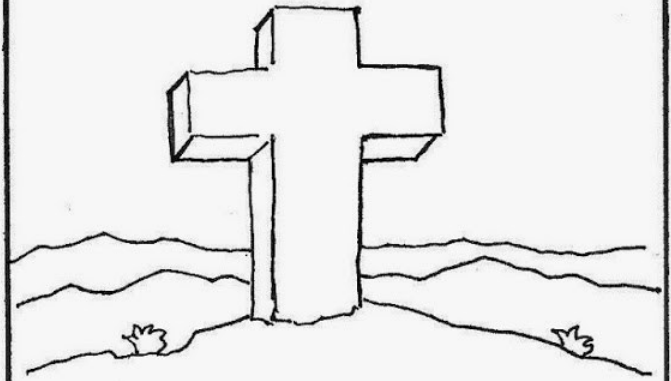
Pray: Take some time as a family to pray. Family prayer time is an incredible way to grow with one another and enjoy our God together! Start your prayer confessing sin, apologize for sinning directly against him each and every day. Apologize for the pain that you cause God when you sin. Thank God for His faithfulness to forgive each and every time you sin. Thank Him for sending His son to take the punishment that you deserve for your sin. Praise God for His plan of salvation and giving you an opportunity to not live in the dark shadow of your sinfulness. Ask God for help when you are tempted to sin. Praise Him for that help and constant support through trials and temptations.



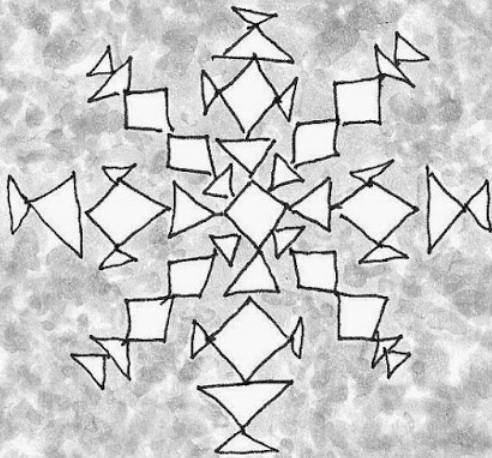
THE WORDLESS BOOK GOSPEL ILLUSTRATION

Sin

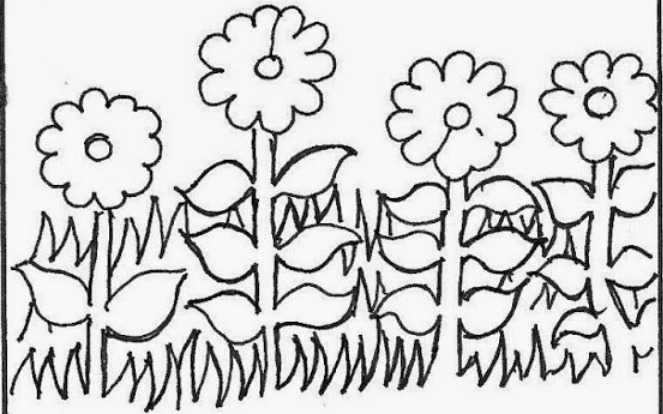
Color sin black



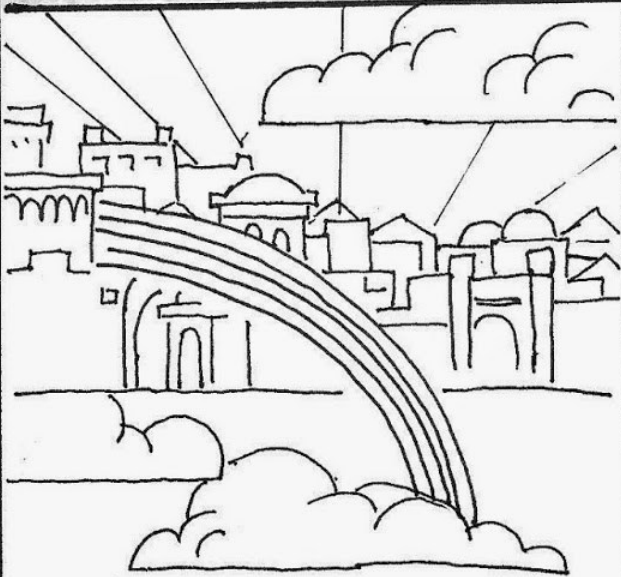
Color the cross red



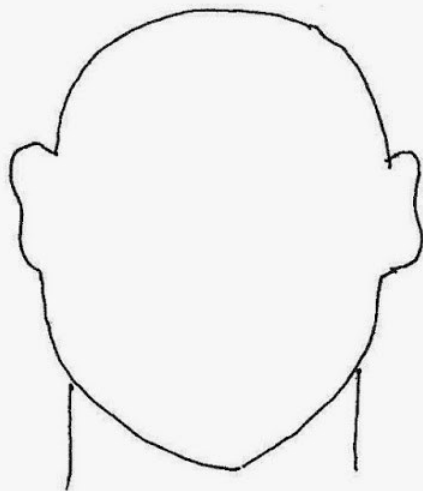
Color around the snowflake
snowflake is white



Color leaves green



Color heaven gold-yellow



draw your own face -