

# Tune My Heart Catechism

The Tune My Heart Catechism has deep roots in the traditions of Christians who have gone before. It is based on historic catechisms, including the Heidelberg catechism, the Westminster catechism, Benjamin Keach's catechism, and Charles Spurgeon's catechism. Since it has 52 questions, it is manageable to teach children and then regularly review through the years, allowing families to focus on one question per week and progress through the catechism every year. The catechism covers the most significant doctrinal issues, broad enough so that really any evangelical Christian with any denominational or eschatological position can use it (particular denominations can supplement this with their own specific Questions and Answers). It helps teach core doctrines but also is personal, devotional, and addresses the heart.

*Younger children can memorize the italicized portions.*

## **1. Who made you?**

*God made me.*

(Gen 1:26, 27; 2:7; Eccl 12:1; Acts 17:24–29)

### **What else did God make?**

*God made all things.*

(Gen 1, esp. verses 1, 31; Acts 14:15; Rom 11:36; Col 1:16)

Memory: Gen 1:1

## **2. Why did God make you and all things?**

*God made me to glorify him and enjoy him forever.*

(Ps 19:1; Jer 9:23, 24; Rev 4:11)

Memory: 1 Cor 10:31

## **3. How did God make you and all things?**

*God made all things out of nothing, by the Word of his power, in the space of six days, and all very good.*

(Gen 1:1–31)

Memory: Gen 1:31

## **4. What is special about God's creation of you?**

*God made me in his own image.*

(Gen 1:27; 9:6)

Memory: Gen 1:27

## **5. Who is God?**

*God is a spirit and does not have a body like man. He is infinite, eternal, and unchangeable.*

(John 4:24; 2 Cor 3:17; 1 Tim 1:17)

Memory: Ps 86:8

**6. What is God like?**

*God is the first and best of beings. He is holy, powerful, and good.*

(Ps 147:5; Jer 32:17; Dan 4:34, 35; Eph 1:11)

Memory: Isa 6:3

**7. Are there more gods than one?**

*No. There is only one true and living God.*

(Deut 6:4; Jer 10:10; Mark 12:29; Acts 17:22–31)

Memory: Deut 6:4

**8. In how many persons does this one God exist?**

*God exists in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, equal in essence, power, and glory.*

(Matt 3:16, 17; John 5:23; 10:30; 14:9, 10; 15:26; 16:13–15; 1 John 5:20; Rev 1:4, 5)

Memory: 2 Cor 13:14

**9. What are the decrees of God?**

*The decrees of God are his eternal purposes, whereby for his own glory he has ordained whatever comes to pass.*

(Eph 1:11–12)

Memory: Dan 4:35

**10. How do you know there is a God?**

*The light of nature and the works of God plainly declare that there is a God, but only his Word and Spirit effectually reveal him to me for my salvation.*

(1 Thess 1:5–6; 2:13; 2 Tim 3:15, 16; James 1:18; 1 Pet 1:22–23)

Memory: James 1:18

**11. What rule has God given to direct you how you may glorify and enjoy him?**

*The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct me how I may glorify God and enjoy Him.*

(Job 11:7; Ps 119:104; Isa 8:20; Matt 22:29; 2 Tim 3:15–17)

Memory: 2 Tim 3:16–17

**12. How can you glorify God?**

*I can glorify God by loving him and doing what he commands.*

(Eccl 12:13; Mark 12:29–31; John 15:8–10; 1 Cor 10:31)

Memory: Deut 11:1

**13. What is the greatest commandment?**

*The greatest commandment is to love the Lord my God with all my heart, soul, and mind.*

(Deut 6:4–5; Mark 12:29–30)

Memory: Mark 12:30

**14. How can you come to know God and what he has made?**

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.*

(Prov 1:7)

Memory: Prov 1:7

**15. What is sin?**

*Sin is any transgression against the law of God.*

(1 John 3:4; Rom 3:20; James 2:9–11)

Memory: 1 John 3:4

**16. Can you keep the law of God perfectly?**

*No. I am inclined by nature to hate God and my neighbor.*

(Prov 20:9; Eccl 7:20; Rom 3:19, 20; James 2:10; 1 John 1:8, 10)

Memory: Rom 3:10

**17. What are the results of sin?**

*Because of sin, all mankind lost communion with God and are under his wrath and curse, resulting in the miseries of this life, death itself, and the pains of hell forever.*

(Deut 27:26; Rom 1:18; 2:2; Gal 3:10; Eph 5:6)

Memory: Rom 1:18

**18. Is there any way to escape the punishment of God and be again received into communion with him?**

*God's justice demands that I make full payment, either through myself or through a Redeemer.*

(2 Thess 2:13; Rom 5:21)

Memory: Isa 53:10–11

**19. What kind of Redeemer must you seek?**

*I must seek a Redeemer who is truly human and also truly God.*

(Isa 9:6; Heb 4:14–16)

Memory: Isa 9:6

**20. Why must the Redeemer be a true and righteous human?**

The Redeemer must be a true and righteous human because the justice of God requires that *only one with a human nature who has not sinned may pay for my sin.*

(Rom 5:12, 15; 1 Cor 15:21; Heb 2:14–16; 7:26–27; 1 Pet 3:18)

Memory: Heb 2:17

**21. Why must the Redeemer also be true God?**

The Redeemer must be true God *so that by the power of his divine nature he might bear the burden of God's wrath* and restore to me righteousness and life.

(Isa 9:5; Deut 4:24; Nah 1:6; Ps 130:3; Isa 53:5, 11; John 3:16; 2 Cor 5:21)

Memory: Acts 2:24

**22. Who is that Redeemer who at the same time is true God and a true and righteous human?**

*My only Redeemer is the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, who became human and died to pay the penalty for sin.*

(1 Tim 2:5; John 1:14; 1 Tim 3:16; Col 2:9)

Memory: 1 Tim 2:5

**23. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become human?**

*Christ, the Son of God became human by taking to himself true human nature, being conceived by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary.*

(Matt 26:38; Heb 4:15; 7:26; Luke 1:31, 35)

Memory: Gal 4:4

**24. How did Christ satisfy God's just wrath for sin?**

*Christ suffered the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross.*

(Ps 22; Isa 53; Gospel records)

Memory: Phil 2:8

**25. Why was it necessary for Christ to humble himself even unto death?**

Christ humbled himself unto death because *the justice of God required* that satisfaction for my sins could be made in no other way than by *the death of the Son of God.*

(Matt 27:46; Phil 2:8)

Memory: Col 1:21-22

**26. Did Christ stay dead?**

*No. Christ rose again from the dead on the third day.*

(Luke 24:45-47; 1 Cor 15:3-4)

Memory: 1 Cor 15:3-4

**27. How are you made a partaker of the redemption purchased by Christ?**

I am made a partaker of the redemption purchased by Christ *through repentant faith in him* and his substitutionary atoning death.

(Mark 1:15; Luke 13:3,5; Acts 2:37-41; 16:30,31; 20:21; 26:20)

Memory: Eph 2:8-9

**28. What is faith in Jesus Christ?**

*Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, by which I receive and rest upon him alone for my salvation.*

(John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim 2:5; 1 John 5:11-12)

Memory: Gal 2:20

**29. What is repentance unto life?**

*Repentance unto life is a saving grace, by which I turn from my sin to God, promising to strive after new obedience.*

(Luke 19:8–10; Rom 6:1, 2; 2 Cor 7:9–11; 1 Thess 1:9–10)

Memory: 2 Cor 7:10

**30. What benefits in this life come from repentant faith in Jesus Christ?**

*Those who repent and believe in Jesus Christ partake of justification, adoption, and sanctification.*

(Ezek 36:26; Rom 8:30; Eph 1:5)

Memory: Rom 8:30

**31. What is justification?**

*Justification is an act of God's free grace in which he pardons all my sins and accepts me as righteous in his sight only because of the righteousness of Christ imputed to me.*

(Zech 3:1–5; Rom 3:24–26; 4:5; 5:17–19; 8:33; 2 Cor 5:21; Heb 8:12; Phil 3:9)

Memory: 2 Cor 5:21

**32. What is adoption?**

*Adoption is an act of God's free grace in which I am received as a son of God with all its rights and privileges.*

(John 1:12; Eph 1:5; 5:1; Gal 4:7, 31; 1 John 3:1–3)

Memory: Gal 4:7

**33. What is sanctification?**

*Sanctification is the work of God's Spirit by which I am renewed after the image of God and am enabled more and more to die to sin and live to righteousness.*

(John 17:17; Eph 2:10; 4:22–24; Phil 2:12–13; 1 Thess 5:23)

Memory: John 17:17

**34. What do you believe about the Holy Spirit?**

*The Holy Spirit is true and eternal God together with the Father and the Son.*

(Gen 1:1, 2; Matt 28:19; Acts 5:3, 4; 1 Cor 3:16)

Memory: John 14:16–17

**35. What does the Holy Spirit do for you?**

*The Holy Spirit unites me to Christ, convicts me of sin, comforts me, and sanctifies me.*

(Eph 2:8; 3:17; 1 Thess 1:6; 2 Thess 2:13)

Memory: 2 Thess 2:13

**36. Since you have been saved by grace alone through Christ, without any merit of your own, why must you yet do good works?**

I must do good works *because Christ also renews me by his Holy Spirit to be his image*, so that I might show thankfulness to God for his mercy.

(2 Cor 3:18; Rom 12:1-2; Eph 2:10)

Memory: Eph 2:10

**37. What is prayer?**

*Prayer is an offering up of my desires to God for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of my sins and thankfulness for his mercies.*

(Gen 17:22; 18:33; Neh 1:4-11; 2:4; Matt 6:6; Rom 8:26, 27)

Memory: Ps 62:8

**38. What is the church?**

*The church is an assembly of baptized believers in which the gospel is truly preached and the ordinances are rightly administered.*

(Matt 18:20; Acts 2:42)

Memory: 2 Thess 2:13

**39. What is the gospel?**

*The gospel is the good news that those who repent and believe in the death and resurrection of Christ for their sins will be forgiven.*

(1 Cor 15:3-7; Rom 1:16)

Memory: Rom 1:16

**40. To whom should you preach the gospel?**

*I should preach the gospel to all people in all nations to the end of the earth.*

(Matt 28:19-20; Acts 1:8)

Memory: Matt 28:19-20

**41. What has Christ commanded for the church's worship?**

*Reading, preaching, and singing the Word of God, prayer, baptism, and the Lord's Supper are all parts of the worship of God.*

(1 Tim 2:1-2; 4:13; Col 3:16; Matt 28:19; 1 Cor 11:24-26)

Memory: 1 Cor 14:40

**42. What is baptism?**

*Baptism is an ordinance of the New Testament, instituted by Jesus Christ, to be a sign of the believer's fellowship with Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection.*

(John 3:23; Acts 2:41; 8:12, 35-38; Col 2:12)

Memory: Rom 6:4

**43. What is the duty of those who are rightly baptized?**

It is the duty of those who are rightly baptized *to join themselves to some visible and orderly church* of Jesus Christ.

(Acts 2:47; Heb 10:25)

Memory: Heb 10:25

**44. What is the Lord's Supper?**

*The Lord's Supper* is an ordinance of the New Testament, instituted by Jesus Christ, to be *a sign of the believer's communion with Christ and his church* through his broken body and shed blood.

(Mark 14:22–24; 1 Cor 11:23–29)

Memory: Luke 22:19–20

**45. What benefits do believers receive from Christ at their death?**

*Believers* are at their death made perfect in holiness and *immediately pass into the presence of God forever*.

(Heb 12:23; Phil 1:23; 2 Cor 5:8; Luke 23:43; 1 Thess 4:14; Isa 57:2; Job 19:26)

Memory: John 3:16

**46. What will be done to the wicked at death?**

*The wicked will* at their death *be cast into the torments of hell*.

(Ps 9:16–17; Luke 12:5; Rom 2:8–9,12; 2 Thess 1:8, 9; Rev 20:12–15)

Memory: Ps 9:16

**47. Where is Christ now?**

*Christ ascended into heaven and sits at the Father's right hand*.

(Rom 8:34; Col 3:1; Heb 1:3; 10:12; 12:2)

Memory: Eph 1:20–21

**48. How does Christ's resurrection benefit you?**

*Christ's resurrection is a certain promise of my glorious resurrection*.

(1 Cor 15:43; Matt 10:32; 1 John 3:2; 1 Thess 4:17)

Memory: 1 Thess 4:13–14

**49. How does Christ's ascension into heaven benefit you?**

*Christ is my advocate in heaven before his Father* and my certain promise that he will take me up to himself.

(1 John 2:1; Heb 4:15)

Memory: Rom 8:34

**50. Will Jesus Christ come again?**

*Yes. Jesus Christ will come a second time in power and glory*, which is the joy and hope of all believers.

(Matt 25:31–43; 2 Thess 1:7–10; 2 Tim 4:1)

Memory: Acts 1:11

**51. What will happen to believers after Christ comes again?**

*Believers will live with Christ forever in a new heaven and a new earth.*

(Isa 66:22; 1 Thess 4:16, 17; 2 Pet 3:10–13; Rev 21:1–4)

Memory: Rev 21:3

**52. What is your only hope in life and death?**

*My only hope in life and death is that I am not my own but belong to God and to my Savior Jesus Christ.*

(1 Cor 6:19–20; Rom 14:7–9; 1 Cor 3:23; Tit 2:14)

Memory: Rom 14:7–8