

TEACHING THROUGH THE WESTMINSTER CONFESSION OF FAITH

Introduction

LESSON 001

STUDENT HANDOUT

Scripture Demands we Confess

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
Colossians 3:16

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why is it important to do more than simply read the scriptures?
- Scripture holds absolute authority on its own, God designed it to be taught and explained through the church. Why do you think God chose to use ordinary human relationships: parents, pastors, and mentors, rather than leaving us to figure out the Bible entirely on our own?
- We saw the example of how commands only make sense when understood in their wider context. What are some practical dangers that happen when we isolate single verses rather than viewing them in light of the whole Bible?
- We are called to be able to defend our faith, how do confessions and catechisms help with that?
- Colossians 3:16 calls us to let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly so that we can teach and encourage one another. How are confessions and catechisms a helpful tool towards accomplishing that goal?

We Steward the Faith

But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you. 2 Timothy 1:12-14

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why does human nature naturally crave novel, trendy theological ideas, and why is novelty so hazardous to sound Christian doctrine?
- Paul tells Timothy to guard the deposit entrusted to him. What does it look like practically for a modern Christian to “guard” biblical doctrine?
- How do the confessions and catechisms of our church serve as a reliable filter to test what we hear from modern teachers, books, and podcasts against the whole counsel of God?
- The truths we confess every Sunday have been tested, refined, and upheld through centuries of church history, how should that give you confidence when facing modern skepticism and theological confusion?
- What happens to the spiritual health of a church when one generation neglects the disciplined, doctrinal instruction of the next generation?

NOTES



MONERGISM STUDY GUIDE