Praying Luther's Small Catechism

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Synopsis

"To pray the Catechism is to learn how to speak to God the Father in the name of the Son through the Holy Spirit. Praying Luther's Small Catechism moves sequentially through the Six Chief Parts of Christian Doctrine with prayers developed out of the catechetical material. Commentaries on the doctrine of each passage reflect on how the teaching shapes our praying. Accessible to the beginner but insightful for the wisest, this is a wonderful resource for pastors and veterans of the Church, and for laypeople who serve as the heads (and catechetical teachers) of their households."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Luther's Small Catechism is a prayer book. It is a spiritual companion on a man's journey from cradle to grave; the Christian's daily prayer and meditation. First and foremost the catechism is meant to be prayed, as a daily exercise, as Luther wished it to be. (Gottfried Krodel) John T. Pless rediscovers this for our time. In his new book, Praying Luther's Small Catechism, Pless reveals how you can pray the Small Catechism. You can speak to God about the most important things in life and death, in time and eternity. You can do it with simplicity and with a sound form of words. Amazingly, this is much easier than one would think, because in catechetical prayer, God takes the initiative and puts into our mouths the very words He loves to hear. In this kind of prayer, even the commandments are promises, and we pray with faith in God's promises to give us all things, especially his promises to give us himself. In chapter 1, Pless introduced the basics of praying the catechism. In chapters 2 through 9, he moves through
the Six Chief Parts, Daily Prayers, and the Table of Duties. Four appendices treat the Catechism as
the handbook for the vocation of the laity in worship and prayer, Lutherâ€™s morning and evening
prayers as reflections of the Our Father, the Psalms organized according to the Lordâ€™s Prayer,
and preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Ten Commandments. Each section
begins with material from the Small Catechism followed by a prayer developed out of that material.
Then commentary on the teaching of the passage shows how the teaching shapes praying. Here are
a few example prayers in the book.

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