

Nearly all the wisdom we possess, that is to say, true and sound wisdom, consists of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves...the knowledge of ourselves not only arouses us to seek God, but also, as it were, leads us by the hand to find him...it is [also] certain that man never achieves a clear knowledge of himself unless he has first looked upon God's face, and then descends from contemplating him to scrutinize himself.¹

A Plea to Catechize Your Children

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

Benefits of Catechizing:

- Takes advantage of children's ability to memorize/retain
- Gives your children a sense of accomplishment in their learning
- Builds a foundation of, and frame for, biblical truth
- Encourages *systematic* thinking in our children (not atomistic)
- Provides you a structure for teaching "when you walk by the way"

Knowledge of God

Why should we teach our children who God is?

- Psalm 9:9-10 | John 17:3 | Ephesians 2:4-7

God is:

- Unchangeable
 - In His _____
 - Malachi 3:8 | Hebrews 13:8
 - In His _____
 - Hebrews 6:18
 - In His _____
 - 1 Kings 8:56 | 2 Corinthians 1:20

¹ Calvin, J. (2011). *Institutes of the Christian Religion & 2*. (J. T. McNeill, Ed., F. L. Battles, Trans.) (Vol. 1, p. 37). Louisville,

- Holy
 - Isaiah 6:1-4 (John 12:41) | Revelation 4:8-11

- Good
 - Psalm 31:19 | Isaiah 63:7 | Jeremiah 31:14

What responses to God are produced in us by considering God's immutability, holiness, and goodness?

Knowledge of Self

We are:

- Created in the image of God
- Fallen in Adam
- Redeemed in Christ—who is the image of God—by faith
 - 2 Corinthians 4:4 | 1 Corinthians 15:45

- Sanctified by the Spirit
 - In their speech
 - What are some common ways in which children sin in their speaking?

 - James 3:9-10 | Ephesians 4:29

 - In their desires
 - 1 Timothy 6:6-8 | Hebrews 13:5

 - In their conscience
 - 1 Timothy 1:5 | Titus 1:15

Bringing it Together: Covenant

Covenant as Confidence:

- Genesis 15:12, 17-18 | Romans 4:18-25 (Galatians 3:16, 29)

- “We rest on this unbreakable covenant. In this covenant of grace, we meet a *giving God* and stand before Him as Abram did, as *receiving parents*.”²

² Beeke, Joel. *Parenting by God's Promises*. Pg. 10. Reformation Trust.