

# **A Faith to Live By**

An Independent Study of the  
Westminster Confession of Faith

How to use this study guide effectively each week:

1. **Pray** that the Holy Spirit would use the week's material to increase your knowledge of God and His Word. (see Psalm 119:1-8)
2. **Read the Confession of Faith** (WCF) sections listed. Read the proof texts too.
3. **Memorize the Scripture** verse(s) listed.  
(Sometimes they may not line up with the particular WCF sections, but they all build to give good memory references for the overall chapter.)
4. **Work through the discussion questions.**  
It is best to write down your answers.  
The questions may sometimes be difficult. Think, pray, ponder. Don't worry if you don't have answers to everything! We will discuss at our monthly meeting.  
Our main goal is thoughtfulness on the matters of God's Word, not getting everything right or clear the first time through.
5. **Come to the monthly discussion** prepared to interact with the material.

## June

### Week 1 (6/5)

- Read: WCF 7.1-2
- Memorize: Genesis 2:16-17  
*And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.*
- Study questions:

### Section 1

1. How does Scripture describe the distance between God and man? (use proof texts)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What images does Scripture use to express that God does not need us? (use proof texts)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What does "voluntary condescension" mean?

### Section 2

4. The main parts of a covenant are the parties involved, the condition, the promise, and the penalty. Using section 2 and Genesis 2, identify each part in the Covenant of Works.

## Week 2 (6/12)

- Read: WCF 7.3-4

- Memorize: Romans 5:18

*Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.*

- Study questions:

### Section 3

1. Why is the new covenant called the Covenant of Grace?
2. The main parts of a covenant are the parties involved, the condition, the promise, and the penalty. Identify each part of the Covenant of Grace.
3. What does God require of man in the Covenant of Grace?

### Section 4

4. How does the idea of a 'testament' (or will) underscore the gospel message? (Consider Hebrews 7:22; 9:15-17; Luke 22:20; 1 Corinthians 11:25.)

Week 3 (6/19)

- Read: WCF 7.5

- Memorize: Hebrews 11:13

*These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.*

- Study questions:

Section 5

1. What is the “time of the law”?

2. In what ways was the Covenant of Grace administered in the “time of the law”? How did some of these “foreshadow Christ to come”?

3. How were believers in the Old Testament saved?

Week 4 (6/26)

- Read: WCF 7.6

- Memorize: Hebrews 8:6

*But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.*

- Study questions:

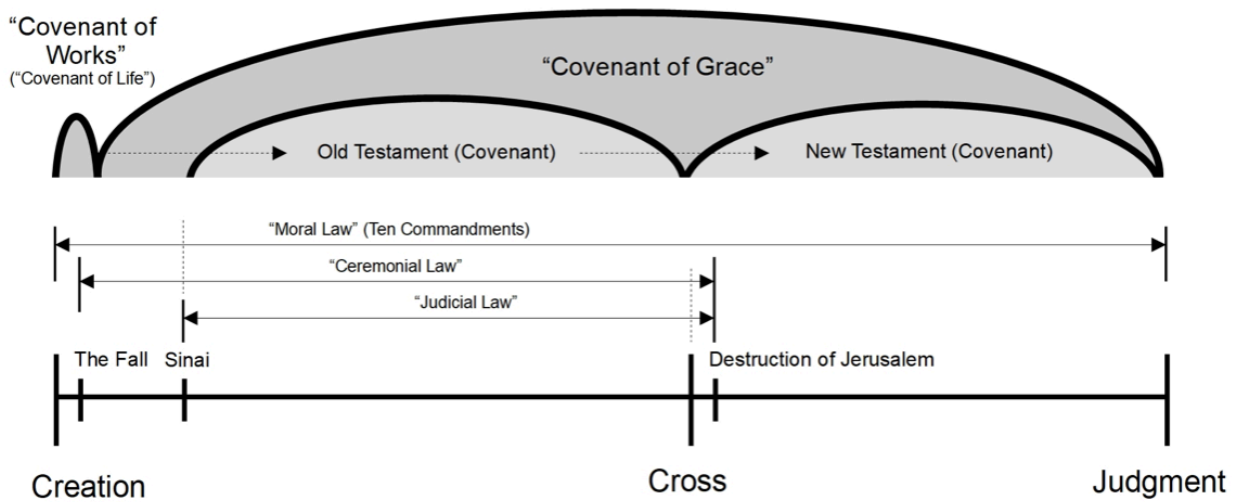
Section 6

1. What does it mean by “Christ, the substance”?
2. In what ways was the Covenant of Grace administered “under the Gospel”?
3. How are these simpler with less outward glory?
4. Is the Covenant of Grace “under the Gospel” better than the same “in the time of the law”?

Week 5 (7/2)

- No reading this week.
- Catch up or work ahead on reading.
- Review memorization!
- Check out this diagram:

*The Law & the Covenants*  
The origin, duration, and expiration of the law (as moral, ceremonial, or judicial) in relation to the covenants.



**Monthly Discussion: Thursday, July 7 @ 7:00pm**