

# **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.

## July

### Week 1 (7/10)

- Read: WCF 8.1-2
- Memorize: Philippians 2:6-7  
*...who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.*
- Study questions:

### Section 1

1. What is a mediator?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How does Scripture confirm the confession's statement that God was pleased to choose Christ as the mediator? What do you find significant about this choice?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Describe the role of Jesus as prophet, priest, and king. (Use Shorter Catechism 24-26.)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. How does Scripture describe the Church as a gift to Christ?

### Section 2

5. What are some passages in Scripture that reveal Christ's divinity? His humanity?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Why did the Mediator have to be God? Man? (use Larger Catechism 38 & 39)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. How might a better understanding of Christ's divinity and humanity help a believer endure physical suffering? Resist temptation?

## Week 2 (7/17)

- Read: WCF 8.3-4

- Memorize: Rom. 6:9

*We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.*

- Study questions:

### Section 3

1. What scriptural evidence do we have that Jesus was full of the Spirit? Why did He need to be full of the Spirit? (this is a challenging question...)

2. How does the author of Hebrews describe Christ as a “surety” or “guarantor”? (Hebrews 7:22, Hebrews 5:4-5)

### Section 4

3. Why did Jesus, as mediator, need to be born “under the law”?

4. With regard to all the work of Christ in paragraph 4, what is one truth that stands out to you about Him as Mediator? Why is it important to you?

### Week 3 (7/24)

- Read: WCF 8.5-6

- Memorize: Galatians 3:13

*Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—*

- Study questions:

#### Section 5

1. What two benefits did Christ purchase for His people through His sacrifice?
2. What “benefit” does Christ receive from the Father through His sacrifice?
3. How does knowing that when God reconciles Himself to man, He does so completely, comfort you?

#### Section 6

4. What are some similarities and differences between faith before Christ’s incarnation and after?
5. How does knowing that Jesus does not change give us peace?

#### Week 4 (7/31)

- Read: WCF 8.7-8

- Memorize: John 6:37

*All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.*

- Study questions:

#### Section 7

1. Using the proof texts, how does Scripture demonstrate that Christ, as mediator, worked according to both His human and divine nature? (Consider as well Hebrews 9:14)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How does Scripture sometimes ascribe an attribute of one nature to the other nature? What is the confession's purpose in pointing this out?

#### Section 8

3. Read John 6:37-39 and John 10:15-16. What does the confession mean that Christ "certainly and effectively" applies redemption to His people? What comfort can we receive from this? How can this truth help us to live honestly before God?

**Monthly Discussion: Thursday, August 4 @ 7:00pm**