

## Part VI - Daily Prayer Small Catechism section 2

Let's talk about it:

- 1) What is prayer?
- 2) How does the following hymn help us understand prayer?

### 772 In Holy Conversation



1 In ho - ly con - ver - sa - tion We speak to God in prayer,  
2 These ho - ly con - ver - sa - tions Be - gin in child-like ways;  
3 As ho - ly con - ver - sa - tion, In si - lence or by word,

And at His in - vi - ta - tion Our deep - est thoughts we share.  
We bring our sup - pli - ca - tions And words of thanks and praise.  
In ev - 'ry sit - u - a - tion Through Je - sus, we are heard.

We come, His will o - bey - ing, As chil - dren bring - ing needs;  
With care our Fa - ther lis - tens To ev - 'ry thought ex - pressed,  
So let us pray se - cure - ly, Ex - press - ing hopes and fears

And to sup - port our pray - ing, His Spir - it in - ter - cedes.  
Then an - swers our pe - ti - tions In ways He knows are best.  
With con - fi - dence that sure - ly Our Fa - ther ev - er hears.

Text: Gregory J. Wismar, 1946  
Tune: Swedish  
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Tune: Public domain

- 3) What are some prayers you know by heart?
- 4) What's the "upside" of a memorized prayer?
- 5) What's the "downside" of a memorized prayer?
- 6) Should prayers be formal or familial? Why?
- 7) What are the ways God will answer prayer (all prayers are answered)?

## VI - Daily Prayers as found in the Catechism

### A) Morning Prayer

- 1) What's the first thing you do in the morning?
- 2) What's the difference between the following awakenings?  
"Good morning, Lord!"  
"Good Lord, morning!"

- 3) Why should we begin the day in remembrance of our baptism?
- 4) Why are we told to review the Creed and Lord's Prayer daily?
- 5) What part of Luther's prayer do you find valuable?
- 6) What part of Luther's prayer do you find unhelpful?
- 7) Having said this prayer, what are we then to do?

#### **B. Evening Prayer**

- 1) What is your bedtime routine?
- 2) How difficult is it to sleep if this routine is disrupted?
- 3) What does Dr. Luther call us to do at day's ending?
- 4) Why the Creed and the Lord's Prayer again?
- 5) How does the evening prayer differ from the morning prayer?
- 6) What presuppositions does this prayer make?
- 7) See I Peter 5:7. How does evening prayer help us sleep?

#### **C. Mealtime prayers**

- 1) Why do we call asking a blessing "saying grace"?
- 2) Are there other Psalms that would work well for asking a blessing?
- 3) From which tradition did Luther "borrow" this blessing?
- 4) Why is "returning thanks" so seldom used?
- 5) What other Psalms or Bible verses might be appropriate here?
- 6) What other "benefits" are received at the family table?
- 7) How do these prayers connect to the Creed and Lord's Prayer?

#### **D. Defining our terms**

- 1) Collect
- 2) Petition
- 3) Intercession
- 4) Supplication
- 5) Imprecatory / Lamentation
- 6) Eucharistic / Thanksgiving
- 7) Confession

Next time: Read through the Lord's Prayer and its explanation