

Westminster Shorter Catechism for kids

Workbook Three: Christ, Our Redeemer
SAMPLE PACKET (Questions 21 – 25)

Caroline Weerstra

Catechism for Kids
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Westminster Shorter Catechism Review123

◦

Introduction

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death— even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2: 5-11).

Paul instructed the Philippian church regarding their disposition toward one another by looking to the perfect example—that of Christ himself. No one has ever humbled himself in such an extraordinary manner as did our Lord. The eternal God took upon himself human form, and he suffered and died a shameful and painful death. Yet this is not a tragic story; it is the ultimate triumph of Christ over sin and death.

It is this remarkable story that the Westminster Shorter Catechism studies in Questions 21 – 30. We are introduced to Jesus as our Redeemer—the only Redeemer of God's elect.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism is not a retelling of the life of Christ. (It assumes that children are already familiarized with the gospels.) Instead, it focuses on the application of the gospel to our own lives. We learn the offices that Christ executes on our behalf. He is our Prophet, revealing God to us through his teaching and his example. He is our priest, offering himself as a sacrifice for our sin

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and interceding for us. He is our king, subduing us to himself and defending us.

We see Christ in his humiliation, taking on human form, suffering and dying. Then, we see Christ in his exaltation, rising from the dead and ascending to heaven. We learn to comfort ourselves in the hope of his second coming.

Finally, the Shorter Catechism brings us back to the point where we began—Christ is our Redeemer, the only Redeemer. Through the faith worked in us by the Holy Spirit, we are made partakers of the redemption that Jesus purchased for us.

Questions 21-30 of the Shorter Catechism are a compact summary of a much larger story. I recommend that the instructor review the life of Jesus with the student(s) before beginning this workbook.

The student(s) should also be encouraged to actively apply these concepts by considering how their own redemption was purchased by Christ. The goal is an increased understanding of the work of Christ and the concept of redemption, and also a deeper identification with Christ. The crucifixion and resurrection are not merely historical facts, but rather, these events are active still today in our salvation and sanctification.

In the next workbook (*Salvation*), we will be studying complex theological ideas such as justification, adoption, and sanctification. These all spring from a simple and basic truth: we are united with Christ—united with him in his death, his burial, and his resurrection (Romans 6:4). In Christ, we die to our sin, and, in Christ, we are raised up again to a new life. Jesus Christ is our Redeemer.

Caroline Weerstra
Schenectady, NY

Question 21: Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

Answer: The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continueth to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever.

Lesson 1

Question 21: Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

Answer: The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continueth to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever.



Q. 21. Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

A.

Jesus Christ, Our Redeemer

What does 'redeemer' mean? A **redeemer** pays the price for someone to be restored or made free.

Who are God's elect? God's **elect** are those whom he has chosen for salvation.

In *Workbook Two: The Fall*, we talked about how evil came into the world. Adam and Eve broke the covenant of works when they ate the forbidden fruit. Because the covenant was made for all mankind, everyone born after them has a sinful nature—except one. Jesus has perfectly kept the law of God. God made a new covenant, with Christ Jesus as the covenant head.

Who is Jesus?

Question 21 of the Catechism tells us that Jesus is the eternal

Jesus was born as a human baby in the town of Bethlehem.

Is Jesus God? _____

Is Jesus a man? _____

If you answered 'yes' to both those questions, then you are correct. The catechism tells us that Jesus is both God and man, in two distinct natures and one person forever.

Let's look at two Bible verses that tell us that Jesus is both human and the Son of God.

Galatians 4:4-5 But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



Fill in the blanks.

Who is the Word referred to in John 1:14? _____

According to Galatians 4: 4-5, why did God send his Son?

According to John 1:14, where did the Word make his dwelling?

Lesson 2

Q.21. Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

A. The only _____ of God's _____
is the Lord _____ Christ, who, being the eternal
Son of _____, became _____, and so was,
and continueth to be, _____ and man in _____
distinct natures, and one _____, forever.

The God-man

Jesus is both God and man, but this was not always so. He has been God from all eternity, but he became man in order to redeem us from our sins. However, Jesus did not stop being God when he became man. Jesus Christ is both God and man, in two distinct natures, but still only one person. This union of God and man in one person is called the **hypostatic union**.

We can see in the Bible that Jesus considered himself both fully a man and also fully God.

Matthew 16:13-20 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Then he warned his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.



Let's Think!

In Matthew 16: 13-20, Jesus calls himself the Son of _____.

Peter declares that Jesus is the Son of _____.

Did everyone who saw Jesus understand that he had both a human nature and a divine nature?

How did Peter come to understand the divine nature of Christ?

What is the theological term that refers to the union of the divine nature and the human nature in Christ?

Question 22: How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

Answer: Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.

Lesson 1

Question 22: How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

Answer: Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.



Q. 22. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

A. _____

The Incarnation

The Incarnation refers to Jesus, the second Person of the Trinity, eternal Son of God, taking on human form and being conceived in the womb of the virgin Mary. This was the most remarkable event in all of human history.

Paul describes the Incarnation to the Philippian believers this way:

Philippians 2:5-11 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Think of it! Jesus had always been God. He is eternal and all-powerful. And yet, one day, he became a tiny baby in the womb of a girl named Mary. Mary was not a queen; she was a poor girl in a tiny village. She was going to be married to a carpenter. When Jesus was born, his mother Mary did not even have a bed in a house, and so the Son of God was born in a stable.

Jesus humbled himself even more than this poor birth, however, because he had been born to die—to die a shameful death on the cross so that we might be redeemed. How amazing is the love of God!



Fill in the blanks.

What was the Incarnation?

What are some ways in which Jesus humbled himself when he became a man?

Lesson 2

Q. 22. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

A. Christ, the _____ of God, became _____,
by taking to himself a true _____, and a
reasonable _____, being conceived by the power of
the _____ _____, in the womb of the
virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without _____.

Messiah

The people of Israel knew that Someone special was coming to save them. For thousands of years before Christ was born, God had been telling his people through the prophets that a Deliverer would arrive one day.

Let's read some of the prophecies about Jesus that were written many years before his birth.

Micah 5:2-5

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.

Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor gives birth
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.

He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.
And he will be their peace.



Let's Think!

According to the prophecy, where would the Messiah be born?

From which tribe (clan) of Israel would the Messiah come?

What does the prophecy mean when it says that the Messiah's origins are from ancient times?

Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this.



Let's Think!

According to the prophecy, how long would the Messiah reign?

What are the names that the prophecy calls the Messiah?

Sometimes people say that the Messiah was only supposed to be a man, not God himself. Look at the names given in the prophecy and explain why we know from the prophecy that the Messiah is God.

Lesson 3

Q. 22. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

A. Christ, the _____ of God, became _____,
by taking to himself a true _____, and a
_____, being conceived by
the _____ of the _____,
in the womb of the virgin _____, and born of
her, yet without _____.

The Christmas Story

The story of Christ's birth is told in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. We learn in the story that the birth of Jesus was announced very dramatically. While you read the story, think about

the proclamation of Christ's birth.

Luke 2:1-20 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which

the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

The word 'Christ' is another term for 'Messiah.' The angels called Jesus 'Christ,' and so they made it very clear that he was the One that the Israelite people were expecting.



Let's Think!

Was the birth of Jesus announced to the king? _____

Who received the announcement that the Christ had been born?

How did this announcement of Christ's birth show his humility?

Who made the announcement? _____

How did this announcement of Christ's birth show forth his glory?

Question 23: What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?

Answer: Christ, as our Redeemer, executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.

Lesson 1

Question 23: What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?

Answer: Christ, as our Redeemer, executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.



Q. 23. What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?

A. _____

Jesus Christ, Our Mediator

The Bible tells us that Jesus is the only mediator between God and man. A **mediator** is someone who mends a broken relationship between others by helping them to resolve a conflict. Our relationship with God was broken because of sin. Jesus brings us back together with God, so that we are no longer enemies of God.

Let's look at a Bible verse that tells us that Jesus is our mediator. The Apostle Paul wrote:

I Timothy 2:5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

Notice that Paul refers to Jesus as “the man Christ Jesus.”

Remember that we read in another of Paul's letters about how Jesus became a man:

Philippians 2:5-7 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.



Let's Think!

Is Jesus God? _____

Is Jesus man? _____

What is the theological term that describes the union of God and man in one person? (If you don't remember, look back at page 17 in this workbook).

Why is this union of God and man in the person of Christ Jesus important when we think of Jesus as our mediator?

Lesson 2

Q.23. What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?

A. Christ, as our _____, executeth
the offices of a _____, of a
_____, and of a king, both in his
estate of _____ and
_____.

Prophet, Priest, and King

Christ is our mediator. He brings peace between God and man, and we who are redeemed are no longer enemies of God. As our mediator, Christ takes upon himself certain roles and responsibilities. This is what the Shorter Catechism means when it says that Christ **executes offices**.

What offices does Christ execute?

Christ executes the offices of a _____, and
of a _____, and of a _____.

Consider the second part of the catechism answer:

Christ, as our Redeemer, executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, **both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.**

What does the Shorter Catechism mean when it speaks of Christ's humiliation? It is referring to the ways in which Christ humbled himself (brought himself low) when he became man and died for us.

What does the Shorter Catechism mean when it speaks of Christ's exaltation? It is referring to the ways in which Christ was exalted (raised up) when he rose from the dead, ascended to heaven, and was seated at the right hand of the Father.

In both **humiliation** and **exaltation**, Christ is our prophet, our priest, and our king.



Read the following sentences and indicate whether each sentence is referring to Christ's humiliation (H) or to his exaltation (E).

_____ 1. Jesus was born in a stable.

_____ 2. Jesus died on the cross.

_____ 3. Jesus rose from the dead.

_____ 4. Jesus ascended to heaven.

_____ 5. Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Father.

Question 24: How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

Answer: Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his Word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

Lesson 1

Question 24: How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

Answer: Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his Word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.



Q. 24. How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

A. _____

Jesus Christ, Our Prophet

A prophet is someone who speaks the words of God to people. There are many prophets in the Bible. They would reveal the will of God to the people of Israel by telling everyone what God said.



Let's Think!

Can you remember you remember some of the prophets? List five of the prophets that are mentioned in the Bible.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Jesus is also a prophet, and not just any prophet. He is the Great Prophet, the revelation of God to man. The gospel of John introduces Jesus as the Word:

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jesus showed us God through everything that he said and did, because Jesus is God. *Everything* about the life of Jesus was a revelation of God to us.



Let's Think!

Think about the life of Jesus. What are some ways that Jesus revealed God's attributes and will to everyone around him?

You are not living during the time in which Jesus walked the earth, preaching and working miracles.

Is Jesus still your prophet? _____

How do you learn about what Jesus said and did on earth so that you can know God?

Lesson 2

Q. 24. How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

A. Christ executeth the _____ of a prophet,
in _____ to us, by his _____ and
Spirit, the will of God for our _____.

The Holy Spirit

In the last lesson, we talked about how the life of Jesus reveals God to us. Jesus showed us God's attributes and God's will through everything he said and did.

After Jesus rose from the dead, he ascended to heaven. However, Jesus is still our Prophet. He speaks to the world today through the preaching of the gospel.

There is one more way that Jesus is still our Prophet today. Before he ascended into heaven, Jesus told his disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is given to every believer.

Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as the **Comforter** or the **Counselor**, because the Holy Spirit helps us to remember and understand the Word of God:

John 14:25-26 All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.



Let's Think!

Read each of the Bible verses below and explain how the Holy Spirit acts as our Counselor, revealing the will of God for our salvation:

John 16:7-8 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment.

The Holy Spirit _____

_____.

Titus 3:4-6 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.

The Holy Spirit _____

_____.

Romans 8:15-16 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

The Holy Spirit _____

_____.

Question 25: How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

Answer: Christ executeth the office of a priest, in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God, and in making continual intercession for us.

Lesson 1

Question 25: How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

Answer: Christ executeth the office of a priest, in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God, and in making continual intercession for us.



Q. 25. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

A. _____

Priests and Sacrifices

In the Old Testament, God instructed the Israelites to offer sacrifices. The Levites were specially chosen to fill the office of the

priest. These priests would kill animals on the altar of the Lord and ask God to forgive the sins of the people. These sacrifices were symbols that looked forward to the sacrifice that God would make one day—his own Son.

Let's read a little about these sacrifices. Aaron was the first high priest of Israel, and God instructed him to make sacrifices to atone for the sins of himself and of the people of Israel:

Leviticus 16:2-10,15-17 The LORD said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron not to come whenever he chooses into the Most Holy Place behind the curtain in front of the atonement cover on the ark, or else he will die, because I appear in the cloud over the atonement cover.

"This is how Aaron is to enter the sanctuary area: with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. He is to put on the sacred linen tunic, with linen undergarments next to his body; he is to tie the linen sash around him and put on the linen turban. These are sacred garments; so he must bathe himself with water before he puts them on. From the Israelite community he is to take two male goats for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering.

"Aaron is to offer the bull for his own sin offering to make atonement for himself and his household. Then he is to take the two goats and present them before the LORD at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. He is to cast lots for the two goats—one lot for the LORD and the other for the scapegoat. Aaron shall bring the goat whose lot falls to the LORD and sacrifice it for a sin offering. But the goat chosen by lot as the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the LORD to be used for making atonement by sending it into the desert as a scapegoat....

"He shall then slaughter the goat for the sin offering for the people and take its blood behind the curtain and

do with it as he did with the bull's blood: he shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it. In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been. He is to do the same for the Tent of Meeting, which is among them in the midst of their uncleanness. No one is to be in the Tent of Meeting from the time Aaron goes in to make atonement in the Most Holy Place until he comes out, having made atonement for himself, his household and the whole community of Israel.

'**Atonement**' means 'payment for sin.' Aaron the priest was **atoning** (paying for) the sins of the people by offering sacrifices to God. Aaron must offer two sacrifices—one for himself and his household and one for the people of Israel. Aaron was a sinner like everyone else. Before he could atone for the sins of the people, he had to first atone for his own sin.

There was no end to the sacrifices in Israel before Christ. The priests had to offer sacrifices all the time because everyone kept sinning, including the priests themselves.



Fill in the blanks.

What do when mean when we talk about **atonement**?

Who offered the sacrifices in the Old Testament?

Look back at the Bible passage that we read in Leviticus. Did God allow Aaron to come into the Most Holy Place whenever Aaron wanted to go?

What would happen to Aaron if he entered the Most Holy Place wrongfully?

Were the priests in the Old Testament sinless? _____

What did the priests have to do before they offered a sacrifice to atone for the sins of the people?

Lesson 2

Q. 25. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

A. Christ _____ the office of a priest, in his
_____ offering up of himself a _____
to satisfy divine _____, and reconcile us to
_____, and in making _____
_____ for us.

Jesus Christ, Our Sacrifice

The Shorter Catechism tells us that Christ is our priest, but he is not just any priest. Jesus offered the sacrifice to atone for our sins forever so that we never have to offer another sacrifice, and he is that sacrifice. He offered himself to pay for our sins.

What does the Catechism mean when it says that Christ's sacrifice satisfied divine justice? It means that we deserved punishment for our sins, but Jesus took our punishment on himself.

What does the Catechism mean when it says that Christ's sacrifice reconciles us to God? It means that we are not enemies of God anymore. Jesus paid for our sins, and now we are friends of God.

In the Bible, the book of Hebrews tells us that Jesus is our High Priest. The Israelites had many high priests, but Jesus is different from all of them. The author of Hebrews explains why Jesus is a far greater high priest than any who had yet existed:

Hebrews 7:26-28 Such a high priest meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.



Let's Think!

How is Jesus different from other high priests?

Since Jesus never sinned, what could he do that other priests could not do?

Do you offer sacrifices today for your sins? _____

Why do you not need to offer any sacrifices?

Lesson 3

Q. 25. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

A. Christ _____ the office of a priest, in his
_____ offering up of himself a _____
to satisfy divine _____, and _____
us to _____, and in making _____
_____ for _____.

Jesus Christ, Our Intercessor

Jesus offered himself as a sacrifice for our sins. He paid for our sins with his own blood. However, his role as our priest did not end there. After Jesus rose from the dead, he ascended into heaven and sat down at the right hand of the Father. Now, he **makes intercession** for us.

What do we mean when we say that Christ 'makes intercession' for us? Christ prays for those who belong to him. He pleads our case. Remember that Jesus is the only Mediator between God and man. He reconciles us to God.

Did you know that Jesus prays for you? The Bible even tells us the words that Jesus prayed for you while he was on earth. He prayed first for his disciples who would carry the gospel to the world, and then Jesus prayed something more:

John 17:20-26 "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

"Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."

If you believe the message of the gospel, then this prayer was for you! Jesus prayed that you would be united together with other believers and that you would one day be with him and see his glory.

Today, Jesus still intercedes (prays) for you and for all believers. The book of Hebrews tells us about Christ's intercession as our priest:

Hebrews 7:23-25 Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

Jesus Christ is the perfect priest. He atoned for our sins with his own blood, and now he intercedes for us. Since Jesus is sinless and eternal, he saves us completely and forever.



Fill in the blanks.

What do we mean when we say that Christ intercedes for us?

The high priest Aaron died many, many years ago, and someone else became high priest. Later, that high priest also died, and another person became high priest. How did Jesus change this?
