

Our Father Who Is in Heaven

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 46

1. **CHILDLIKE REVERENCE AND TRUST:** We begin our prayers with a confession of faith in the good news that we are _____.

a. We are God's children because we are united to Christ by faith and are _____ in him.

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" (Romans 8:14-15)

b. This adoption restores and fulfills the relationship with God that we were intended to have at _____.

c. This doctrine is a tremendous _____ for us as God's covenant people.

2. **HEAVENLY MAJESTY:** We begin our prayers with a reminder that God is holy and transcendent, a reminder of the distinction between God as _____ and us as his _____.

a. While the Bible is clear about God's covenantal nearness to his people, this never detracts from his transcendent _____.

¹The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
²The LORD is great in Zion;
he is exalted over all the peoples.
³Let them praise your great and awesome name!
Holy is he! (Psalm 99:1-3)

b. The Catechism is warning us of a _____ temptation in our thinking and feeling about God.

c. It is for our _____ that the Scriptures proclaim and the Catechism reminds us of God's transcendent glory, that he "sits enthroned upon the cherubim" (Psalm 99:1).

3. **EXPECT FROM HIS ALMIGHTY POWER:** These two truths teach us to pray with a posture of faith-filled _____ in God hearing and answering prayer.

a. The words "to awaken in us" are important for understanding _____ we pray.

Pray then like this... (Matthew 6:9a)

b. God regularly answers our prayers in the way of _____ providence.

¹⁵The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.
¹⁶You open your hand;
you satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Psalm 145:15-16)

c. The character of God as "our Father who is in heaven" is both comforting and mysterious; indeed, the doctrine is comforting _____ it is mysterious.

d. We pray, therefore, confident in God's promise to give us everything needed for our _____ good.