

TRAINING YOUR STUDENTS' AFFECTIONS THROUGH CATECHISMS

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". . . but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect (I Peter 3:15).

I. What do we mean by training the affections, and what do we mean by catechisms?

A. In training the affections we are teaching our children to . . .

B. We are teaching them to love the things that . . .

C. We are also helping them recognize what is not . . . and turn them away from what is . . .

II. Catechisms give us the language to do those things.

A. The almost startling truth about the Greater Mustang Catechism: catechisms are *sticky*

III. What catechisms are and what they are not

A. *Katecheo*: to teach or instruct in . . .

B. While catechisms may be one of many means that the Holy Spirit uses to bring a person to belief, they are not . . .

C. They are always subordinate to . . .

D. But they can be a means of and a vehicle for . . .

E. They can provide a formal structure for . . .

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IV. Scriptural justification for catechisms . . .

A. Colossians 1:23

B. Ephesians 4:13–14

C. 1 John 2:26

D. 2 Peter 3:16

E. Titus 1:9

V. Where to start and how to implement?

A. The established and traditional Creeds and Confessions . . .

B. Write your own . . .

C. Assembly sound-offs

D. Morning memory time and devotions

E. Classroom presentations

F. Integrated into everything

G. Pray the catechisms to your children

VI. Conclusion