

Explanation of Lather's Small Gatechism

# HOME TALK

Making Disciples in the Middle of Everyday Life Mt 28:20a

### Talking about the Third Article of The Apostles' Creed

## I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him, but the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in the true faith, just as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and preserves it in union with Jesus Christ in the one true faith, in which Christian church He daily forgives abundantly all my sins, and the sins of all believers, and at the least day will raise up me and all the dead, and will grant everlasting life to me and to all who believe in Christ, This is most certainly true.

#### **211** Why might you not pay attention to the call of the Holy Spirit?

I might not pay attention to the call of the Holy Spirit because:

- 1. The ways of the world are so appealing to me.
- 2. My human nature desires the ways of the world.
- 3. I do not appreciate the goodness of God's ways.
- 4. I want to go my own way.

Isaiah 65:2 I spread out my hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices ...

Isaiah 53:6a All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned-every one-to his own way

## **212** Why is it dangerous not to pay attention to the call of the Holy Spirit and refuse to come to Jesus?

It is dangerous to do this because I may become hardened so that I no longer desire to come to Jesus nor care whether or not I have His salvation.



Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Hebrews 3:12-13 Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

#### **213** How do you listen to the call of the Holy Spirit?

I listen to the call of the Holy Spirit by repenting and believing the Gospel of Jesus.

Scriptures are noted in the English Standard Version



