



A Catechizing Church – “Head”
“Hope Church 2025” Series
Deuteronomy 6:4-9
November 15, 2020
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this sermon we explain vision two of Hope Church 2025: A Catechizing Church –“Head.”

The Text: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

1) Throughout the Bible God commands the church to instruct his people in “the faith once delivered.”

Deuteronomy 6:4-9: ⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Exodus 13:14: And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery.’

1 Timothy 4:6-7: ... be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine.... Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness.

Jude 3-4: ...I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain people have crept in unnoticed ... who pervert the grace of our God...

Matthew 28:19-20: Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you....

2) What is this strange word – catechesis?

3) Vision Two: A Catechizing Church – think “Head.”

4) What does “a Catechizing Church” look like?

- It provides a formal teaching ministry for Christians of all levels (Matt. 28:20).
- It raises disciples who can teach the Word of God diligently to their children (Deut 6:7; Exod 13:14).
- It prepares its congregation to stand firm against those who pervert the grace of God and to live a life of godliness (Jude 4; 1 Tim 4:7).
- It understands that the church has been “entrusted with the gospel” that was once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 3; 1 Thess 2:4).

Response

Blessed is the church who delights in the Word of God.

Sunday Text Questions for Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (“Hope Church 2025” Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: How would you rate your knowledge of the Bible and Christian doctrine?
- 2) Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9. What does this text teach us about teaching our children and the next generation the essentials of the Christian faith?
- 3) Why does Deuteronomy 6:4-9 emphasis all the different times and places where teaching the younger generation should occur?
- 4) Does the younger generation in our church (let’s say those under 35) know the essentials of Christian doctrine and practice? If not, how well did the older generation diligently teach them?
- 5) Read 1 Timothy 4:6-7. What does Paul mean when he says a servant of Christ Jesus should be “trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine?”
- 6) How does knowledge of the Bible and doctrine help Christians avoid “myths” (false teachings) and train us “for godliness?”
- 7) Read Jude 3-4. What role does Hope Church have to instruct and pass on “the faith that was once delivered to the saints?”
- 8) Read Matthew 28:19-20. How does Jesus commission the church to “catechize” and educate his disciples in the Christian faith?
- 9) What can Hope Church do to forge a culture that helps us become a “catechizing church?”
- 10) What steps can you take to support and participate in the catechizing work at Hope Church?

Further study this week: Passages that are useful for the catechesis of a church: Hebrews 6:1-2 (Mon); 1 Timothy 3:14-16 (Tues); 1 Corinthians 15:1-7 (Wed); Colossians 1:12-20 (Thurs); Colossians 2:9-15 (Fri).