

## Theology Simply Explained — WSC90

### “Right Hearing of the Word as Instructed by the Spirit Who Makes the Word Effectual”

**Pastor walks his children through** Westminster Shorter Catechism question 90—especially explaining that **the Spirit Who makes the Word effectual has taught us to come to it—before, during, and after reading and hearing it—as unto the worship of God.**

Q90. How is the Word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation? **That the Word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation and prayer; receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.**

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Catechism question this week is how is the word to be read and heard? That it may become effectual to salvation. That's recognizes that scripture teaches us. That although it is the spirit of god. He makes the reading and especially the preaching of the word and effectual means. Of doing all the things that are necessary in us, through faith unto salvation.

That the lord has appointed for us particular duties. Ordinary. Ordinary ways of approaching. So there's the ordinary means of grace but then god has already also. Instructed us. Commanded us a proper way of attending upon those means. But God has also instructed us commanded us. A proper way of attending upon those means.

That he especially uses them. That the spirit, especially uses. To make the means effectual to us. So, the answer is that the word may become effectual to salvation. We must attend their unto with diligence preparation and prayer. Receive it with faith and love. Lay it up in our hearts and practice it in our lives.

And so, the lord It speaks and in scripture, first and foremost of his word, As his own. And so we must treat it as the very words of god. The scriptures are as much god speaking to you. As if he were. Uh, a physical being who is present breathing out air to you.

The scriptures are inspired by god or god breathed. Uh, more literally And so we must attend their unto with diligence. Which is to say, You pay attention to the bible. Whether you're reading it or hearing it as if god is present talking to you. You're supposed to tend to my words with diligence, because i'm your dad and when i start speaking you give me your full attention.

How much more god But not just diligence in the time. Of the reading and the hearing diligence in prioritizing. The reading and hearing of god's word. As he is, especially given us every evening and morning and particularly all day on the lord's day. For attending to his work. He gives it the place a priority in the day, the place of priority in the week.

And so the lord who is the one who uses the word has told us to be diligent in attending. Uh, onto the word. He describes to us in scripture of those who prepare their hearts, To seek the lord. And he gives us many examples. Of. Uh, being cleansed and holy and prepared even in the Old Testament physically.

Maintaining. Um, Now, physical cleanness, ceremonial. Clean this, but it is, especially The preparation of the heart and the mind. We are to put away. Or wrath and malice. We are to put away all our sin. So that we may receive the pure milk of the word with a clear conscience.

That you prepare for the reading and hearing of the word primarily by putting away, all that competes with god, for control of your thoughts. And for, Um, The chief place in your heart. You also prepare For the word. You also prepare for the word by the use of the word.

This is one of the reasons why Uh, we study the word of god that we're going to hear in the public worship. Every. Every week leading up to the next Lord's day. Uh, but it's also something that is done your whole life long. Um, every time you come before god and his word, every time you think about his word, every time you hear, Is worked.

Uh, preached and applied to you. The lord is preparing, you making you. More fit. Uh, to hear and receive and process his word. Um, In the future. God is his own interpreter, the great, interpreter of the word of god is the word of god. And so the more you understand each part, the more you are, well, understand the whole And the more you understand the word of god as a whole.

The better you are enabled. Uh, to understand each part. But when you are coming to a special time, Of hearing the word of the lord such as The sabbath day, the lord's day. Then there is extra preparation to be made so that you can give yourself to god as well as possible as completely as part as possible.

And attending upon his word on the lord's day. Um, This is one of the reasons why you put away. And make sure you resolve all your worldly business in the six days. So that there will be nothing left. When you get to the seventh day, Hab. Go. Look down.

It's

If you want to, okay? And just sit down.

And then prayer. We saw even if he's in ephesian six yesterday How all of the different components of the armor that are named? Are either the word itself. The gospel itself. Or. Believing the word faith or things that the word. Uh, tells us about or gives us through that faith righteousness, salvation, Uh, but then, all of these things are to be used with all prayer.

Praying at all times with all prayer in the spirit. And that is a reminder that it is the spirit of god who makes the word. Effectual to salvation. And so we express our dependence upon him to be the one who does it. Uh, in In stated prayer. You pray, when you come to the word, you pray, when you're done with the word, But also the prayer full.

Attitude approach dependence upon acts of conscientious dependence, upon god, the holy spirit. Even as you read the word even asked Hear the word. That the word may become effective salvation. We must attend their unto with diligence preparation and prayer. Receive it with faith and love. Which is to say, we believe it because of whose word it is, receive it with faith, be convinced that it's true.

We don't we mustn't hear the word in a doubting way, mistrusting, god. What a dreadful thing, it would be, if we treated god that way, And receive it with love. Again, because of whose it is, Not only. Are we to believe what he says in the word? Because it is his word.

But we should love him. And we should love that he is speaking to us and we should love what he speaks to us. The whole. Action, the whole enterprise of hearing or reading the word of god should be filled with love. For god, love that he speaks loving that, he speaks to us, and loving the words that he speaks to us.

And laying it up in our hearts, not just laying it up in our hearts by memorization. But storing it in the heart, having his word. As the control center of our heart, that That as his word does that. That is the way that we're able enabled to buy God, the spirit to love the lord.

Our god, with all our heart soul, mind and strength. So, he says here israel. Y'all play your god. Yahweh is one and you shall love yahweh. Your god with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. And these words that i command you today shall be in your heart. So, yes, we should memorize the bible, but when we talk about laying up the word of god in our heart, We're talking about installing the word of god as the operating system.

Of our heart, we're talking about having everything. We think desire purpose, Uh, feel Shaped by the word of god. And then, Of course, if it is genuinely laid up in the heart, it doesn't remain merely theoretical. It's out of the heart, you speak and out of the heart, you live?

Then you should speak according to god's word and you should live. According to god's word and so practice it in our lives. And so this is How god, the spirit, who is the one, who makes the word effectual to us commands us to use the word. And so god, the spirit who Upon him, we trust and rest.

That. That he will make god's word effectual to us. He says, do it this way, and so we do it this way. That the word may become effectual to salvation. We must attend their unto with diligence, preparation and prayer. Receive it with faith and love. Lay it up in our hearts and practice it.

In our lives. So let us do that five times.

That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend there unto a diligence, preparation and prayer. Receive it with faith and love. Look it up in our hearts, then practice it in our lives. That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend there unto with diligence preparation and prayer.

Receivment with faith and love. Lay it up in our hearts and practice it in our lives. That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend there on tube intelligence preparation and prayer. Receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts and practice it in our lives.

That the word may become effectual to salvation. We must attend their unto with diligence, preparation and prayer. Receive it with faith and love. Lay it up in our hearts and practice it in our lives. That the word may become effectual to salvation. We must attend their unto with diligence preparation and prayer.

Receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts and practice it in our lives. Sophia whom did christ represent in the covenant of grace. And the answer is his elect people. Movement people. You know what the word elect means. It means chosen. That means there were those.

That god chose in the sun. In the lord, jesus, who is his son? Before the world began. And these chosen ones another way of saying that is elect. And so christ represented the chosen ones. He represented his elect people. In the covenant of grace. Whom did christ represent in the covenant of grace.

His elect people. Thinking that people whom did christ represent in the covenant of grace. Very good. Five times in the memory verse, matthew 6, verse 20 to 21, But lay up for yourselves, treasures, in heaven, where neither moth? No, rough destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal for where your treasure.

Is there, your heart will be also But lay up for yourselves, treasures, in heaven, where neither moth? No, rough destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal for where your treasure. Is there, your heart will be also But lay up for yourselves. Treasures, in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steel.

For where your treasure is, they're your heart will be also. But lay up for yourselves, treasures, in heaven. We're neither moth nor rust destroys, and we're thieves, do not break in and steel for where your treasure is there. Your heart will be also But lay up for yourselves, treasures, in heaven, we're neither moth.

No. Rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steel. For where your treasure is there. Your heart will be also. And god made everything and god helps. So let's worship, let's pray. Our grace is gone. I have any father, we pray that you would Blessed to us.

You're worship now, we thank you for your great. To us. Our whole life long, keeping us through the night. And now, As we? Come to worship you. We ask that your spirit would help us to worship you in spirit in the truth. That he would stir up our faith in jesus christ as we come to you through him.

And his name. We ask it. Amen.