

CONFESSING OUR FAITH

westminster larger catechism

Q 183. For whom are we to pray?

A We are to pray for the whole church of Christ upon earth;¹ for magistrates,² and ministers;³ for ourselves,⁴ our brethren,⁵ yea, our enemies;⁶ and for all sorts of men living,⁷ or that shall live hereafter;⁸ but not for the dead,⁹ nor for those that are known to have sinned the sin unto death.¹⁰

1. Eph. 6:18; Ps. 28:9. 2. 1 Tim. 2:1–2. 3. Col. 4:3. 4. Gen. 32:11. 5. James 5:16. 6. Matt. 5:44. 7. 1 Tim. 2:1–2. 8. John 17:20; 2 Sam. 7:29. 9. 2 Sam. 12:21–23. 10. 1 John 5:16.

Q 184. For what things are we to pray?

A We are to pray for all things tending to the glory of God,¹ the welfare of the church,² our own³ or others' good;⁴ but not for anything that is unlawful.⁵

1. Matt. 6:9. 2. Ps. 51:18; Ps. 122:6. 3. Matt. 7:11. 4. Ps. 125:4. 5. 1 John 5:14.

Q 185. How are we to pray?

A We are to pray with an awful apprehension of the majesty of God,¹ and deep sense of our own unworthiness,² necessities,³ and sins;⁴ with penitent,⁵ thankful,⁶ and enlarged hearts;⁷ with understanding,⁸ faith,⁹ sincerity,¹⁰ fervency,¹¹ love,¹² and perseverance,¹³ waiting upon him,¹⁴ with humble submission to his will.¹⁵

1. Ps. 33:8; Ps. 95:6; Ps. 145:5. 2. Gen. 18:27; Gen. 32:10. 3. Luke 15:17–19. 4. Luke 18:13–14. 5. Ps. 51:17. 6. Phil. 4:6. 7. 1 Sam. 1:15; 1 Sam. 2:1. 8. 1 Cor. 14:15. 9. Mark 11:24; James 1:6. 10. Ps. 145:18; Ps. 17:1. 11. James 5:16. 12. Ps. 116:1–2; Rom. 15:30. 13. Eph. 6:18. 14. Mic. 7:7. 15. Matt. 26:39.

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