Lord's Day 45 Name: _____

The third major part of the Catechism (Lord's Days 33-52) is entitled **Of Thankfulness.** In this section, two major subjects are treated: The Law and Prayer. In the Law God speaks to us; in prayer we speak to God. Our prayers are made in response to what God has said to us. We will see, repeatedly, that true prayer depends on how well we have listened to God's speech to us.

A. The necessity of prayer (Question and Answer 116).

1. Prayer is necessary because it is the _____

_____. Why does God require thankfulness of us?

_____

_____

2. Prayer is necessary also because God is pleased to give us our needs in the *way* of prayer. He has linked together His giving with our asking. In this way we honor God as our Father.

a. What does God give us in the way of prayer? _____ and

_____.

b. What three things are stated about the attitude of the one who prays?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

3. What is prayer? (Give as good a definition as you can.) _____

_____

_____

4. Is prayer a privilege or a requirement? (In answering this question, consider that it may be both, and explain how.) _____

_____

_____

B. The requirements of God-heard prayer (Questions and Answers 117, 118).

1. Prayer honors God. Prayer is an act of worship.

a. Therefore, prayer must be made to _____ and no one else.

b. How do we know who God is? _____

2. In prayer, we must be struck by the amazing fact that sinful, unworthy creatures have fellowship with the Most High, Holy God!

a. Quote that part of the answer that teaches us this. _____

_____

_____

b. In the prayer of the Pharisee and the Publican (Luke 18:10-14) what is the key difference between these men? _____

_____

3. Praying from the heart, we must be fully persuaded (believe) that God will answer us. This confidence underlies all true prayer.

a. On what basis will God hear us? _____

b. How do we know this? _____

4. We must also hear God speak to us regarding the *content* of our prayers.

a. Question and Answer 117 tells us we may pray for all things. "_____

_____"

b. Question and Answer 118 tells us that this means _____

_____.

c. That we pray for all things necessary means we do not concern ourselves with luxury. Is it possible that necessities differ from one time to another, or from one person to another? (Give examples.) _____

_____

_____

5. What does Jesus teach about prayer in the following passages? After each reference give the substance of His teaching in a few words.

a. Matthew 6:5, 6: _____

b. Matthew 6:7, 8: _____

c. Luke 18:1-7: _____

6. What is the relation between the Lord's Prayer and our prayers? _____

_____

7. Sometimes the child of God finds it difficult to pray, finds it difficult to find the proper words to express the longing of his heart. According to Romans 8:26, 27, we are to remember in those cases that _____

_____.