

Concepts of the Lord

We are taught that the Lord is present with every person, urging and pressing to be received and that a person receives Him, when he acknowledges the Lord as his God, Creator, Redeemer, and Savior (*True Christian Religion* 766).

To help students learn about the Lord and acknowledge all that He does for them, the General Church curriculum focuses on a different concept of the Lord at each age level. Here are the concepts for kindergarten through grade 6, along with quotes from the Word.

The Lord is our Heavenly Father



Kindergarten

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Thy name" (Matt. 6:9).

"Let the children come to Me" (Luke 18:16).

You, O Lord, are our Father (Is. 63:16).

The Lord is the heavenly Father of all people and all people are His spiritual children (see *Divine Providence* 330).

The Lord is our Heavenly Father, Creator, and Provider



First Grade

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth (Gen. 1:1).

The Lord is the Creator and Savior of all people (*Divine Providence* 330:8).

In heaven, the Lord is Father of all and loves all His children so the whole of heaven resembles one family (see *Arcana Coelestia* 2360).

Peace has in it confidence in the Lord, that He directs all things, provides all things, and leads to a good end (*Arcana Coelestia* 8455).

The Lord is our Shepherd and Creator



Second Grade

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want (Psalm 23:1).

God created man in His own image (Gen. 1:27).

He who trusts in the Lord is led into all the goods and truths of heaven (*Apocalypse Explained* 375:34).

The Lord is called "shepherd" because He will feed them with Divine truth, and thereby lead to the good of love, and thus to Himself (*Apocalypse Explained* 701:19).

The Lord is the Divine Provider and Lawgiver



Third Grade

"I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach them" (Ex. 34:28).

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul (Psalm 19:7).

Spiritual truths are the truths the Word teaches about God, that He is the One Creator of the Universe: that He is Infinite, Eternal, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent, Provider (*Divine Wisdom* 11).

The Lord is the Hero of War



Fourth Grade

Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and His name is God, Hero, the Father of Eternity (Is. 9:6).

Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and a Hero. The Lord a Hero of war (Ps. 24:8).

As the Lord alone conquered the hells without the aid of any angel, He is called Hero... (*Doctrine of the Lord* 14).

The Lord is the King of Kings



Fifth Grade

God is King of all the earth (Ps. 47:7).

King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Rev. 19:16).

Your eyes will see the King in His beauty (Is. 33:17).

The Lord is called "King" in His Divine Human, because this is the Messiah, the Anointed the Christ... (*Apocalypse Revealed* 664).

The Lord is the Prophet and Preserver



Sixth Grade

The Lord preserves the faithful (Ps. 31:23).

By the Lord as the Grand Prophet is symbolized the church itself and the Word itself (*Doctrine of the Lord* 15:8).

Everyone who thinks of God from essence, makes one God, saying, God created and preserves us, redeems and saves us, enlightens and instructs us (*Apocalypse Revealed* 611:7).