(When I Joined the Church)

Question #1

Do you acknowledge (yourself) yourselves to be a sinner (sinners) in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?

| The world's number one problem is | It is not simply a world | problem,; it is a personal |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| problem. Romans 3:23 says that we have "all | and come | of the glory of |
| God." | | |
| The shorter Catechism (Q. 14) says that sir | າ is any lack of | unto or of |
| the law of God. We may sin by what G | od forbids, or we may sin by | what |
| He commands. We may sin with our bodies and w | e may sin with our | We may feel that we |
| are "not very bad," but it only takes one | to make us a sinner. | |
| The real problem is | of which "sins" are only t | he symptom. Sin is like a |
| which has corrupted man's heart. T | Γhat is why God says in Ezek | iel 36:26 that He will give |
| us a new heart and put His within | us. The result is the | · |
| Sin has terrible consequences. It breaks fe | llowship with God as well as | s with The |
| ultimate result is | | |
| Since God is and | , He hates sin and must | punish sin. But God is also |
| a God of That is why God extends to | us His sovereign | through the gift of |
| His We must, however, | our sinfu | ulness before we can be |
| forgiven. | | |

(When I Joined the Church) Question # 2

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Saviour of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

People have for centuries viewed Jesus in different ways. He has been seen as

| Α | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Α | | |
| And/or an | | |
| The real question is whether He is _ | or man. | |
| The truth is that He was | . We see this revealed in His | and in |
| the Word of God. Jesus was God come in th | he | |
| The reason He came was to be the | of sinn | ners. He came to |
| provide | | |
| This includes redemption and | Th | nis was made possible |
| as Jesus became our | and satisfied God's h | oliness and His |
| · | | |
| Through the offering of Jesus on the | e cross, the believer is cleansed | and his sin is |
| This is applied to us pe | ersonally when we place our tru | ıst in |
| for salvation. | | |
| The message of what God has done | e for us is called the | which means |
| "Good News!" | | |
| It is not enough to just believe in Je | sus, however. We must person | ally |
| Him if we are to have life. | | |

(When I Joined the Church)

Question #3

Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becometh the follower(s) of Christ?

| Our rule of faith and | is the Word of God which tells us that God wants us |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| | be like Jesus. This could cost us our |
| Our | |
| Perhaps even our families or our | · |
| | m God gives us in Jesus. God does not set us free to do as we e to Jesus. James 1:25 describes us as those |
| who live by the law of | |
| Liberty without law = | |
| Law without liberty = | |
| The law of Liberty = controlled _ | |
| Following Jesus requires resolve | and commitment. |
| Resolve says, "I intend to | ." |
| Commitment says, "I | " |
| The source of the life that God w | vants us to live is Himself. We see this portrayed in g in the flesh. |
| | fe. To put it another way, the Christian life is not trying |
| | living in me. The way He does this is in the Person of the The of the Spirit is something that only |
| | is why I must make my promise to follow Jesus |
| " upon th | ne grace of the Holy Spirit." |

(When I Joined the Church)

Question #4

Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability? (PCA)

Do you promise to serve Christ in His Church by supporting and participating in its worship and work to the best of your ability? (Old PCUS)

| God calls us to be servants. He frees | us from the service of | to become |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| the servants of His Son. Some consider this | a burden while others con | sider it a |
| · | | |
| Paul, Peter, John, and others in the N | New Testament even calle | d themselves |
| of the Lord Jesus. This wa | as service rooted not in fo | rce but in love. It is a great |
| privilege to be a L S | of one who loves as Jo | esus loves. |
| We serve the Lord by serving (minist | ering to) others. We must | remember, however, tha |
| although we are servants our fellow m | an, we are the servants _ | the Lord. Our orders |
| come from Him alone. | | |
| God calls us to serve Him in His Chur | ch. The Church is not a bu | ilding. It is |
| The Greek word EKKLESI | A means " | <u>-</u> |
| The Church is really those who have come o | out of the world and separa | ated themselves unto the |
| The Bible uses the following te | erms to describe this relati | onship: |
| of Christ | | |
| of Christ | | |
| My service in His Church will include | my | of the Church and my |
| participation in the Church's worship and | to the bes | t of my ability. (My ability |
| is really ability.) | | |
| My support of the Church will include a | of my tim | ie and my finances. |

(When I Joined the Church)

Question #5

Do you submit (yourself) yourselves to the government and discipline of the church and promise to study (further) its purity and peace?

| Since the Church is His Body and His Bride, my | position (my relationship to Him) must be one of |
|---|--|
| There are three basic kinds of Church governn | nent: |
| C | |
| E | |
| P | |
| Spirit and Word, by the ministry of | lory, to rule and teach the Church, through His , thus mediately exercising His own authority and nd establishment of His" |
| The Church, then, is not a democracy; it is a _ | and Christ is its |
| In the Presbyterian Church, those who are call two orders of these: | ed to rule are called There are |
| T E | |
| R E | |
| Their primary function is spiritual | The purpose of their ministry is |
| to preserve the peace and | of the Church. In exercising this function, |
| may sometim | es be necessary, but is never to be used to |
| destroy. Its purpose is always to reclaim and r | estore. |
| The source of peace, purity, and order is | enthroned in the lives and |
| fellowshin of His people the Church | |