

Student Name _____

Please use this checklist to track the application process for each child applying:

FORMS, RECORDS, AND FEES

- Student Application
- Supplemental Questionnaire
- \$250 Application Fee (*This fee is "per child." If your child is not accepted, \$225 is refundable. The fee is non-refundable if your child is accepted and you choose not to enroll*)
- A copy of report cards from the most recent quarter and the previous year
- Transcript Request Form or copies of current transcripts
- Copies of all standardized testing results
- (2) Student Recommendation Forms have been given to: (*These forms should be sent directly to Westminster by the person making the recommendation*)

- _____
- Church Recommendation Form has been given to: (*This form should be sent directly to Westminster by your pastor, elder, or deacon.*)

READINGS

- I have completed the required reading from *Wisdom and Eloquence* (Appendix A; Chapters 1-4).
- I have read the 'Reformed Faith Pie' by OMPC Senior Pastor, Dr. Bob Flayhart.
- I have read the most current Westminster Student & Family Handbook.
- I have read *The Children's Catechism*, or *The Shorter Catechism with Scripture Proofs*.

INTERVIEWS AND TESTING (*scheduled through Enrollment Coordinator*)

- The parent interview is scheduled for: _____
- The student testing¹ is scheduled for: _____
- The student interview² is scheduled for: _____

POST- ACCEPTANCE

- Return Family Commitment Form with the New Student Fee by the due date stated on the Acceptance Letter.
- State of Alabama Immunization Form (*This must be on file before your child may attend class at Westminster*)

¹ Testing for grades 1 and 2 include phonograms

² Student interviews are required for applicants entering grades 6 and up

Child's Name: _____ Grade Entering: _____ for School Year _____

Date of Application: _____ Sex: _____ Date of birth: _____

The Westminster School at Oak Mountain
STUDENT APPLICATION

Family Information

Family Name: _____ Family Phone: _____
(example: Mr. and Mrs. John Doe)

Family Address: _____
(street address) (city) (state) (zip)

Oak Mountain Presbyterian Church **Member:** _____ Yes _____ No

Father's Name: _____ Work Phone: () _____

Employer: _____ Position: _____

Email Address: _____ Emergency or Cell Phone: () _____

Mother's Name: _____ Work Phone: () _____

Employer: _____ Position: _____

Email Address: _____ Emergency or Cell Phone: () _____

Siblings: _____ - _____ - _____
(name) (age) (name) (age)

_____ - _____ - _____
(name) (age) (name) (age)

Siblings' Schools: _____

Church Membership: _____ Pastor's Name: _____

Church Address: _____

Student's School History

School last attended: _____ Dates attended: _____

Address: _____
(street) (city) (state) (zip) (phone)

Other schools attended: _____ Dates attended: _____

_____ Dates attended: _____

Student's extracurricular activities and hobbies: _____

If your child has previously been enrolled in school or has been home-schooled, please list the curricula that your child has most recently studied:

Grammar: _____ History: _____

Bible: _____ Math: _____ Latin: _____

Literature/Reading: _____

Please list several assigned books that the student has read during this current school year.

Personal Philosophy

1. Suppose you were to die tonight and God met you at the gates of heaven and said, "Why should I let you into My heaven?" What would you say? _____

2. Do you agree to have your children taught in accordance with the attached Statement of Faith? If there are any points in it which are inconsistent with your convictions, please explain briefly.

3. How did you hear about Westminster? _____

4. Why do you want your child to receive a Christian education? _____

5. Why do you want your child to receive a classical education? _____

6. Why do you want your child to attend Westminster? _____

7. How do you think parents should participate in the education of their children? _____

8. Is any parent, stepparent, or guardian opposed to a Christian education? _____
If so, please explain. _____

9. How do you believe discipline should be administered in the home? _____

10. How are you involved in your church? _____

11. How is your child involved in your church? _____

This form was completed by: _____
(father, mother, or both parents)

Child's Profile: _____ **(Name of student applicant)**

Westminster is not for every student. For your child's best interest, please be candid when you answer the following questions.

1. Has your child ever been referred for testing or placed in a special program? Yes No
2. Has your child received any other special help or tutoring? Yes No
3. Has your child ever repeated a grade for any reason? Yes No
4. Has your child ever been suspended or expelled from a school? Yes No
5. Has your child ever seen a counselor/doctor/psychiatrist for any type of social, behavioral, or mental problems? Yes No

If so, briefly describe the nature of the problem. _____

6. Has your child ever been diagnosed by a counselor/doctor/psychiatrist as having hyperactivity or attention deficit disorder? Yes No

If so, please explain. _____

7. Do you suspect or have you been told that your child might have dyslexia? Yes No

8. Does your child have any other medical conditions that we need to be made aware of?
Yes No If so, please explain. _____

9. Please describe your child's character strengths and weaknesses. _____

10. Please describe your child's academic strengths and weaknesses. _____

11. Other than providing your student with a classical and Christian education, are there any particular expectations that you have of Westminster? _____

I certify that all information provided in this application is correct. I understand my financial commitment and the dates that tuition payments are due, and I agree to faithfully meet my obligations to Westminster.

Parent or Guardian _____ Date _____

Supplemental Admissions Questionnaire

(This is an "open book" questionnaire; our answers are attached.)

Family name _____

1. Will you support the school in the following areas of your child's education?

Circle, please. Y=Yes N=No Q=Qualified Answer

Outside reading	Y	N	Q
Frequent memorization (K-6)	Y	N	Q
Latin	Y	N	Q
Classical Philosophy	Y	N	Q
Scripture memorization	Y	N	Q
Adherence to uniform policy	Y	N	Q

Qualifications explained: _____

2. If a conflict arises between you (or your child) and the classroom teacher, an administrator, or the school board, how would you attempt to resolve it? At what point, if any, would you call or write to other parents? _____

3. Which virtues would you most like your child to exhibit? _____

4. With regard to your personal priorities for your child, which is more important: high achievement or doing one's best? _____

How do you communicate this to your child? _____

5. If you found that your child was sinking academically, how would you respond? _____

6. How much time for homework is tolerable in your family (hours per night, which nights)? _____

7. Should a grade of **C** be a cause for pride and praise if a child is working to the best of his/her potential? _____

Why or why not? _____

8. Would you expect a teacher in a class of 15 children to spend 25% of his/her effort on one child with academic, behavioral, or emotional problems, even if that child were yours? _____

9. How do you promote spiritual values in your home? _____

ANSWER KEY to Supplemental Admissions Questionnaire

Why are we giving you an open-book test? It's similar to a driver's license examination. You get the questions and answers ahead of time because the goal is not to flunk applicants, but rather to make sure they read and understand the material. Each question we've asked deals with real-life concerns of parents at classical and Christian schools. When you read our answers, which reflect the school's philosophy, you may wholeheartedly agree, or you may not agree at all. If you don't agree, then you have three choices. First, you can decide not to enroll your child and choose another school more in keeping with your philosophy. Second, you can be honest about your disagreement, but plan to go along with our philosophy of education. Third, you can agree and figure out you can always object later. However, if this isn't a school you can appreciate unreservedly (or at least tolerably) and support without major changes, the best course would be to back out gracefully now. The Lord God (Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Ephesians 6:4) requires parents to be active leaders in the education of their children, but that responsibility does not include trying to reshape an entire class or institution to suit individual preferences.

Positive criticism and ideas are always welcome, especially when they are in line with our adopted philosophy. We are eager to answer any questions you may have which will help you make a good decision.

1) You would be surprised how often a parent will object to one facet of the school. He may love the reading program but doesn't see why his child has to memorize, take Latin, or follow the dress code. We are making choices concerning our curriculum, and we believe they are good ones. We expect parents to support them. We will constantly seek to upgrade the curriculum. However, no aspect of the curriculum is optional, and school policies should be willingly obeyed. If your attitude is not supportive, your child will sense it, and this will be reflected in his work and attitude at school.

2) Conflicts should be resolved at the lowest level possible, in accordance with Matthew 18. If you have a problem with a teacher, the principal, a board member, or other parents, you must first meet with the person involved. If an agreement cannot be reached, both parties should then approach the next level of authority. You should not gossip with other parents about a problem.

3) Answers to this question will vary from family to family and child to child, but we would like to get an idea of what values are important to your family.

4) Wise parents will not contribute to modern society's worship of success by paying too much attention to the outward marks of achievement. Our goal is for every child to do his best, to work up to his potential in every area. Not every child can high-jump seven feet, and not every child can make the honor roll. All children have their strengths and their weaknesses.

5) Our curriculum goals will demand much effort from every child. Parents of children who must work harder to keep up with academic demands may well need to limit extracurricular activities and insist on completion of homework on some nights. We don't work academics around extracurricular activities; studies come first.

6) We will set certain guidelines for homework. We will base these guidelines on what we believe are reasonable, necessary amounts for most children. We also highly value family time and will do all we can to respect yours. If your child uses the time given in class to work, normally he should not have an excessive amount of homework.

7) Children in classical schools often find that good grades are harder to earn at these schools. A grade of C may represent average achievement at Westminster, but may also represent excellent effort by a given child. That child should not be made to feel inferior by a parent's expectations for higher marks. If you want uniformly high grades, this may not be the school for you. If you want high and meaningful achievement, it is a good choice.

8) A teacher's attention is never going to be evenly divided among children, nor is a parent's among his own children. There is a point at which we are being unfair to the compliant majority. This is a small school with a conservative budget and limited resources, and we simply can't be all things to all people.

9) There is no right answer here, of course. We want to know what is important to your family.



THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN

STUDENT RECOMMENDATION FORM FOR KINDERGARTEN

NAME OF APPLICANT _____

SCHOOL YEAR _____ (upcoming)

GRADE _____ (upcoming)

Because Westminster is a classical, Christian, and covenant school, we try to evaluate each student's character and ability in that light in order to help assure success in our rigorous academic curriculum. Please give a copy of this form to your child's primary teacher and a copy to any other non-family member adult who has close personal knowledge of your child's character, ability, and behavior in a group setting. The following is a list of possible options: principal, headmaster, counselor, classroom teacher, MDO teacher, coach, Sunday school teacher, music teacher, or choir director.

This information is treated confidentially. By signing this form, I understand that I waive my rights to read this form or see the comments in the recommendation. **Parent's Signature:** _____

Mark all that most consistently describe this child:

<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys large motor activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient
<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys small motor activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Defiant
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive member of the classroom	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive interaction with peers
<input type="checkbox"/> Responsive to classroom limits	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive relationships with adults/teachers
<input type="checkbox"/> Responsive to teacher directions	<input type="checkbox"/> Aware of others' needs
<input type="checkbox"/> "Goes with the flow"	<input type="checkbox"/> Easily frustrated
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheerful	<input type="checkbox"/> Physically hurtful when frustrated
<input type="checkbox"/> Resilient	<input type="checkbox"/> Enthusiastic about learning
<input type="checkbox"/> Short tempered	<input type="checkbox"/> Can't sit still
<input type="checkbox"/> Confident	<input type="checkbox"/> Hits or bites
<input type="checkbox"/> Observer	<input type="checkbox"/> Slow to warm-up
<input type="checkbox"/> Respects materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Developmentally appropriate attention span

Social/Emotional Development

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never
Works and play cooperatively				
Enters group activities appropriately				
Cries when frustrated				
Chooses to be alone				
Tends to lead				
Tends to follow				
Uses words to resolve conflict				
Is able to be redirected by teacher				
Accepts responsibility for behavior				
Is able to solve problems without adult help				
Adjusts well to new situations				

Approach to Learning

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never
Asks for help when necessary				
Tries new activities of own choice				
Tries new activities that are teacher-directed				
Needs teacher support to stay on task				
Makes transitions easily				
Follows classroom routines				

Language Development	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never
Understands and follows oral directions				
Is able to communicate ideas, feelings, and needs				
Speech is intelligible				

Other	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never
Responsible for personal belongings (coat, lunchbox)				
Toilets independently				
Is willing to participate in room clean-up				
Separates easily from parent(s) at drop-off				
Parent(s) set limits with child				
Child responds to limits of parent(s)				
Parent(s) respectful of teacher(s) & school				
Parent(s) responsive to teacher feedback				
Parent(s) contribute to preschool & classroom				
Parent(s) support classroom systems & expectations (i.e. arriving on time, follow thru with school requests, pick-up on time)				
Parent(s) agree with your view of the child				

Would you want this child in your class again? Yes No

Is there additional information that can be better conveyed in a phone conversation? Yes No
 I can best be reached during these hours: _____ at this phone number: _____

Additional comments and/or specific areas of concern:

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend this applicant to Westminster in terms of his/her academic performance and personal character:
 Enthusiastically Strongly Fairly Strongly Without enthusiasm Not recommended

What was your relationship to the student and what was the time period during which this relationship occurred? _____

Signed: _____ Please print name: _____

Mail to:
 WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN
 Attn: Admissions
 5080 Cahaba Valley Trace
 Birmingham, AL 35242



THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN

STUDENT RECOMMENDATION FORM FOR GRADES 1-6

NAME OF APPLICANT _____

SCHOOL YEAR _____ (upcoming)

GRADE _____ (upcoming)

This information is treated confidentially. By signing this form, I understand that I waive my rights to read this form or see the comments in the recommendation. **Parent's Signature:** _____

Personal Development

	Area of Strength	Age Appropriate	Progressing	Area of Concern
Exhibits confidence				
Exhibits self-control				
Accepts responsibility for behavior				
Solves problems constructively				
Accepts limits				
Is considerate				
Plays cooperatively with peers				
Respects rights and property of others				
Respects needs of others				
Shares and takes turns				
Is able to make appropriate choices				
Makes transitions with ease				
Responds positively to constructive criticism				
Is imaginative				
Is able to lead				
Is able to follow				
Is responsive to and respectful of adults				
Has a sense of humor				

Academic Development

	Area of Strength	Age Appropriate	Progressing	Area of Concern
Is able to concentrate and listen attentively				
Exhibits intellectual curiosity				
Works independently				
Works cooperatively				
Is willing to try new activities				
Adjusts to routines and rules				
Follows directions				
Responds to teacher-initiated activities				
Responds to child-initiated activities				
Completes tasks in a timely manner				
Focuses on the task at hand				
Is a self-starter				
Expresses thoughts clearly				
Enjoys school environment				
Turns in assignments in a timely manner				

Other

	Area of Strength	Age Appropriate	Progressing	Area of Concern
Is responsible for personal belongings				
Has organizational skills and good work habits				
Demonstrates small motor control and coordination				
Demonstrates large motor control and coordination				
Demonstrates speech development (articulation)				
Parent(s) set limits with child.				
Child responds to limits of parent(s).				
Parent(s) are respectful of teacher(s) and school.				
Parent(s) are responsive to teacher feedback.				
Parent(s) contribute to classroom.				
Parent(s) support classroom systems and expectations (e.g., arrive on time, follow through with school requests, pick up on time).				
Parent(s) agree with teacher's view of the child.				

What are the first words that come to mind when describing this student?

Has this student ever been suspended or requested to withdraw? Yes No

Have there been incidents of bullying or being bullied? Yes No

Would you want this child in your class again? Yes No

Is there additional information that can be better conveyed in a phone conversation? Yes No

I can best be reached during these hours: _____ at this phone number: _____.

Additional comments and/or specific areas of concern:

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend this applicant to Westminster in terms of his/her academic performance and personal character:

Enthusiastically Strongly Fairly Strongly Without enthusiasm Not recommended

What was your relationship to the student, and what was the time period during which this relationship occurred? _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please print name: _____

<p>Mail to: WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN Attn: Admissions 5080 Cahaba Valley Trace Birmingham, AL 35242</p>



THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN

STUDENT RECOMMENDATION FORM FOR GRADES 7-12

NAME OF APPLICANT _____

SCHOOL YEAR _____ (upcoming)

GRADE _____ (upcoming)

Because Westminster is a classical, Christian, and covenant school, we try to evaluate each student's character and ability in that light in order to help assure success in our rigorous academic curriculum. Please give a copy of this form to your child's primary teacher and a copy to any other non-family member adult who has close personal knowledge of your child's character, ability, and behavior in a group setting. The following is a list of possible options: principal, headmaster, counselor, classroom teacher, MDO teacher, coach, Sunday school teacher, music teacher, or choir director.

- General Citizenship** Very solid citizen well mannered Fairly mature Adequate, not outstanding; makes excuses Immature, often in trouble
- Leadership** Positive influence Capable of leadership but not a leader A follower Negative influence
- Cooperation** Cooperative and constructive Generally cooperative Cooperative when serves personal interest Decidedly uncooperative
- Dependability** Consistently Generally dependable Fulfills obligations when convenient Undependable
- Emotional Stability** Exceptionally stable Basically stable Erratic Hyperemotional

Have discipline issues gone beyond the classroom?

- Yes No

If yes, did the conditions and nature of the offense require suspension or expulsion?

- Yes No

Would you want to have this student in your classroom again?

- Yes No

What additional observations do you have regarding this applicant's behavior? _____

What are the applicant's major personal strengths? _____

What are the applicant's major personal weaknesses? _____

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend this applicant to Westminster in terms of his/her academic performance and personal character:

- Enthusiastically Strongly Fairly Strongly Without enthusiasm Not recommended

What was your relationship to the student and what was the time period during which this relationship occurred? _____

Signed: _____

Please print name: _____

Phone number: _____

This information is treated confidentially. By signing this form I understand that I waive my rights to read this form or see the comments in the recommendation.

Parent's Signature: _____

Mail to:
WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN
Attn: Admissions
5080 Cahaba Valley Trace
Birmingham, AL 35242



THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN
CHURCH RECOMMENDATION FORM
(One per family)

To: _____

(Name of Church)

From: _____

(Name and address of applying family)

(Please include the name of the pastor, elder, or deacon to whom you wish to direct this form and the name and address of the church.)

Re: Application for student admission to The Westminster School at Oak Mountain

Name of student(s) seeking admission: _____

To the applying family:

After completing the top portion of this form, please give this form to a pastor, elder, or deacon who knows your family well, and have him return this form directly to the school.

Please return directly to:

THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN
Attention: Admissions
5080 Cahaba Valley Trace
Birmingham, AL 35242

Please answer the following questions concerning the above-named family.

Are the parents members in good standing in your church? Yes No

Is this family actively involved in the life and community of your church? Yes No

Please rate your recommendation of this family.

Highly recommend Recommend Conditionally recommend Do not recommend

Please rate your recommendation of this student.

Highly recommend Recommend Conditionally recommend Do not recommend

Comments (optional): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Position: _____

Phone: _____



THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN

Transcript Request

Dear Parent:

Please complete the following information. After signing the form, please take this form to your child's school.

To the principal/counselor/headmaster at: _____

Child's Current School/Address and Phone Numbers

Please release and mail the following items (any that are applicable) for my child to Westminster:

- A copy of the most recent report card or progress report for the current year
- A copy of any standardized test scores from the current year
- Copies of report cards from the previous two years
- Copies of standardized test scores from the previous two years
- A school profile, if available
- Transcripts

Student's Name

Child's Primary Teacher

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN

Attn: Admissions

5080 Cahaba Valley Trace

Birmingham, AL 35242

Thank you for taking your time to assist us in this way. Your prompt response is greatly appreciated.

The Westminster School at Oak Mountain, 5080 Cahaba Valley Trace, Birmingham, AL 35242
Phone: (205) 995-9694 – Fax: (205) 980-9095 – Website: www.westminsterknights.org



THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN

STATEMENT OF FAITH

This statement of faith contains the essential biblical doctrines that guide the ministry of the school. These primary doctrines define the perspective from which all classes are taught and are one of the tools that is used in the hiring of faculty and administration. Issues not discussed in this statement of faith will not be emphasized in the teaching of the school. Many such issues are important but the school recognizes that Christians are at liberty to reach different conclusions regarding them. The school's recognition that Christians disagree on these topics, however, should not be interpreted to mean that the school believes that there are no right answers to these questions. Issues not settled by this statement of faith will ultimately be resolved by reference to The Westminster Confession of Faith (with the exception of Chapter 21, Section 8, which deals with the Sabbath).

Sovereignty of God: God sovereignly controls all that occurs in His world and in His church. His plans and purposes always prevail; nothing can thwart them.

Inerrancy of Scripture: God's written Word, the Bible, is free from error and is completely trustworthy. It is His Truth and is the final authority in all matters.

God's Creation of the World and Man: The Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, alone has existed from eternity past and in His wisdom decided to create the universe from nothing. God spoke and it came into existence. Humanity did not evolve from lower life but was created by God. Man, male and female, was created with dignity in that he was made in God's image and was created in humility in that his purpose is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.

Fall of Mankind: All mankind participated in Adam's fall from his original sinless state and are thus lost in sin and totally depraved.

God's Dealing with Man: God has bound Himself to man by way of a covenant. Initially God committed Himself to give life to Adam upon the condition of his perfect obedience. When Adam sinned, God made a new covenant. In this covenant He bound Himself to save a people for Himself. He also committed to keep the terms of the covenant on behalf of man by the work of Jesus Christ. Therefore, the confidence and hope of believers are in God's covenantal faithfulness rather than in their own performance.

Jesus, Savior of Sinners: Jesus Christ is the unique Son of God and the only Savior of the world. Fully God and fully man, He was born of a virgin and lived a sinless life. He alone secured our salvation by His substitutionary atonement on the cross and by His righteous life imputed to us. Jesus rose bodily from the dead, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will come again in power and glory.

Justification by Faith Alone: Sinners are justified by faith alone. They do not deserve salvation, and they cannot earn it. Justification is granted by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Empowering Holy Spirit: Every true believer in Jesus Christ is indwelt and empowered by the Holy Spirit, who enables believers to live a godly life and to perform good works.

Body of Christ: All believers are spiritually united in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the church. Every believer is a member of the body of Christ.

Final Judgment and Resurrection: At the second coming of Christ, the saved and the lost will be bodily resurrected and judged. The saved will be resurrected to eternal life, and the lost will be resurrected to eternal condemnation.

Calvinism – This is what most people think of when they hear the word, “Reformed.” It relates to the “5 Points of Calvinism” using the acrostic, “TULIP.” Total Inability, Unconditional Election, Limited Atonement (or Particular Redemption), Irresistible Grace, and Persevering Grace (or Perseverance of the Saints).

Church Authority – This relates to whether one has a “high” or “low” regard for the visible Body of Christ on earth. While the Roman Catholic Church has taken church authority and raised it on par with Scripture, evangelicalism has tended to dismiss the authority of the historical church, minimizing past creeds and confessions in the name of the priesthood of believers. Individual interpretation has taken priority over the leadership of historical church authority.

Covenant Continuity – Reformed Christians believe in one covenant of grace administered in two covenant administrations. There is only one plan of redemption and one invisible church in all eternity. Though the visible church in the Old Testament (OT), Israel, was also a nation and the visible church in the New Testament (NT) is not a civil government, yet true believers in Israel were the true church and true believers after Pentecost are the true Israel. Thus the OT Scriptures are the Scriptures of all believers and not just of Israel as a nation.

Church Government – Reformed church government relates to a biblical division of offices according to elder and deacon. In addition, the spiritual oversight of a congregation is given to a plurality of elders, never to just one. Deacons are not “junior elders” but are men of a specific gift set according to service, mercy, and administration.

Grace – All of life is to be lived out in light of the grace of God. While much emphasis is often given, and rightly so, to the doctrine of justification by grace alone through faith alone, Reformed Christians also emphasize sanctification by grace through faith.

Hermeneutics – When it comes to interpreting the Scriptures, the Reformed hermeneutic, is that everything from the OT applies to the NT saints except that which is specifically changed by NT data. This is in contrast to the dispensational hermeneutic which asserts that nothing from the OT applies to the NT church except that which is specifically repeated by NT data.

Sacraments – Sacraments are signs and seals of the covenant of grace which involve a mysterious work of grace in the church applied by the Holy Spirit. Whereas the Roman Catholic Church makes the sacraments magical rather than mysterious, much of evangelicalism has removed the mystery and made them mundane. The Reformed view of the Lord’s Supper is that believing Christians actually participate in the life of the resurrected Christ through the means of the sacrament as the Holy Spirit mysteriously strengthens the believers’ union with Christ.

Sovereignty – Reformed Christians take great comfort and have their faith assured through the emphasis on the absolute sovereignty of God over every detail of life, small and large.

World and Life View – Reformed Christians realize that the sacred/secular dichotomy adopted by much of evangelicalism is unbiblical. All of life is sacred, and the redemptive power of the gospel is to infiltrate every arena of life, as Christians are salt and light in culture and society.

