

OBJECTIVES

- Students will share about their Discipleship Projects and discuss the choice involved in Affirmation of Baptism.

THEOLOGICAL STATEMENT

Faith is not something we earn or prove—it is a gift from God that we are invited to live out. As we reach the end of our Confirmation journey, students are invited to reflect on how they have grown as disciples and consider what it means to intentionally claim the promises made for them in Baptism.

In this session, students will share their Discipleship Projects, reflecting on ways they have experienced and practiced faith through worship, service, learning, relationships, and life in community. Their projects provide an opportunity to recognize that discipleship is not simply about knowing more about God, but about living in relationship with God and our neighbors.

Students will also begin a conversation about Affirmation of Baptism. In Baptism, God claims us, loves us, forgives us, and makes us part of the body of Christ. At Affirmation of Baptism, we do not “become Christian” or earn our place in the church. Instead, we are invited to publicly say yes to the faith that has been shared with us and to make our own commitment to continue growing as followers of Jesus.

This is an important choice. Students are encouraged to approach Affirmation of Baptism thoughtfully and honestly—not because they are expected to have every answer or have perfect faith, but because they are being given the opportunity to reflect on what they believe, what they hope for, and how they want to live as disciples of Jesus.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

Discipleship Projects

DISCUSSION

Take some time to discuss these questions as a family during the course of the week. Take advantage of drive times, meal times, and bed time to build in these important faith conversations.

- Do you think you have changed over the course of this program? How? In what ways?
- What questions do you still have? What do you still want to learn more about?

THE CONFIRMATION QUESTION

As the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism approaches later this fall, we are all excited to honor you for the time and effort that you have put into this journey to discover your faith and values. You have done wonderful work. You also have the opportunity to make a choice: whether or not to get confirmed at this time. You may already know what you want to do. You may want to talk it over with someone. You may want some more time to think about it. We want to emphasize that this is your choice: not your parents', not Erin's, not the pastors', not your small group leaders'—but yours. You need to choose what is right for you at this time. Whatever it is you choose, we hope it is an honest response from your heart and your gut and your mind. If it is, we are certain it will be the right choice.

- What do you think it means to make a public affirmation of faith?
- Confirmation also requires keeping promises that were made at your baptism. What do you think those promises are?
- What does being confirmed mean to you?
- What do you think would be good about being confirmed?
- What do you think would be the downside of being confirmed?
- Most importantly, do you want to be confirmed? Why or why not?

DISCIPLESHIP PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

If you were not at this week's Learning Event, you will need to present your Discipleship Project to your small group at the next Learning Event.