

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

## Confirmation Independent Study/Make-up Lesson

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### Lord's Prayer: The Father's Character

1. Review: (match each title or name on the left to the part of Confirmation Instruction.)

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|---------------------|---|
| ___ Apostles' Creed | a. A list of God's expectations for his people, that can be summed up as "Love God and love your neighbor."                     |
| ___ Lord's Prayer   | b. A once in a lifetime sacrament that is lived out every day by turning from evil and embracing Christ Jesus as Lord & Savior. |
| ___ 10 Commandments | c. A regularly repeated sacrament that reminds us that the Lord Jesus Christ is with us and in us.                              |
| ___ Holy Communion  | d. A short summary of belief about who God is and what he has done for us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.                      |
| ___ Baptism         | e. An outline for prayer that Jesus gave to his followers.  |

2. Read what follows from Luther's Small Catechism and answer the questions below:

#### **The Introduction**

Our Father, who art in heaven. (Our Father in heaven)

*What does this mean?*

With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

#### **The First Petition**

Hallowed be thy name. (Holy be your name.)

*What does this mean?*

God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

*How is God's name kept holy?*

God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

From Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, [www.cph.org](http://www.cph.org)

TRUE or FALSE For us to call God, "Father," is just a metaphor, not a reality, because it's spiritual.

TRUE or FALSE God does not want us to bother him with the little details of our lives because he has so many other more important things to take care of.

TRUE or FALSE God wants us to want to be holy like he is, even though he is God and we are not.

TRUE or FALSE We don't need to seek God's help in order to speak and live in a way that honors God—we can do that all by ourselves.

TRUE or FALSE Pastors are holier than normal people.

TRUE or FALSE If we don't make sure our beliefs and opinions line up with the truth of the Bible then we are not honoring God's Name.

3. Read Matthew 6:5-15.

a. Define the word hypocrite: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. What did Jesus say about how the hypocrites prayed (v. 5)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. What reward did Jesus imply that the hypocrites would get for their prayers (v. 5)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

d. Jesus said the Father would reward those who prayed to him in secret (v. 6). What kind of reward(s) do you think he would have wanted us to think of? (Check all that apply)

- Having the attention and favor of God the Father.
- Gaining confidence to make a hard choice or important decision.
- Being able to feel superior to others.
- Getting over anger and disappointment with other people or situations.
- Getting clear answers to prayer.
- Becoming sure that you are in control of what happens.
- Getting answers to questions through the Holy Spirit.
- Being sure that you will be taken care of, kept safe, and provided for even if you are not sure how.
- Being able to just not care and be happy instead.
- Having a special feeling of being loved by God.
- other \_\_\_\_\_

e. TRUE or FALSE We call it the Lord's Prayer because it is the form of prayer used and taught by the Lord Jesus Christ.

- f. TRUE or FALSE According to Jesus, it is important to have the right words in your prayers, even if you are not sure about what you are saying, because God is more likely to answer the prayer if it sounds impressive and religious. (v. 7)
- g. TRUE or FALSE Because the words of the Lord's Prayer come from the Lord himself, it is a powerful and effective prayer even when we say it without thinking about what we are saying or meaning it. (v. 7)
- h. TRUE or FALSE According to Jesus, the more good reasons you can give for God to grant your prayer request, the more likely He will be persuaded to grant your request. (v. 7-8)
- i. TRUE or FALSE According to Jesus a good reason to pray is because the Father already knows what you need. (v. 8)
- j. TRUE or FALSE When Jesus taught us the words of the Lord's Prayer, he didn't include the words at the end, "for thine is the Kingdom, and power, and the glory, forever and ever." (v. 13-14).
- k. TRUE or FALSE According to Jesus it is no use to pray to be forgiven by God if we have not forgiven others who sinned against us. (v.12, 14-15)
- l. TRUE or FALSE From Jesus' teaching on prayer we can conclude that a very important reason for prayer is to become more able to put God's will ahead of our own desires.
- m. TRUE or FALSE The "we" in "*Our Father . . .*" includes Jesus and other people who I am praying for or praying with.

4. Read Psalm 103:8-13

- a. List any five characteristics of God your Father that appear in this passage:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Which of the characteristics of God in Psalm 103 is most important to you, and why?

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5. Read John 14:12-14 & John 15:16.
- a. TRUE or FALSE Praying "in Jesus' Name" is a magic formula that guarantees we will get from God whatever we happen to be asking for.
  - b. TRUE or FALSE Praying in Jesus' Name means approaching God the Father on the basis of Jesus' merit rather than our own merit.
  - c. TRUE or FALSE Praying in Jesus' Name means the things we pray for are in line with Jesus' values and purposes.

6. Read 1 Peter 1:14-16

- a. In your own words, describe what it means to be holy in everything you do: \_\_\_\_\_

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- b. Explain **why** you **want** to be holy as the Lord your God is holy? \_\_\_\_\_

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7. In the boxes below, describe the person you know yourself to be on the inside, and the person others see on the outside:

*the inside me*

*the outside me*

Is there anything you want to change about the inside you, or the outside?

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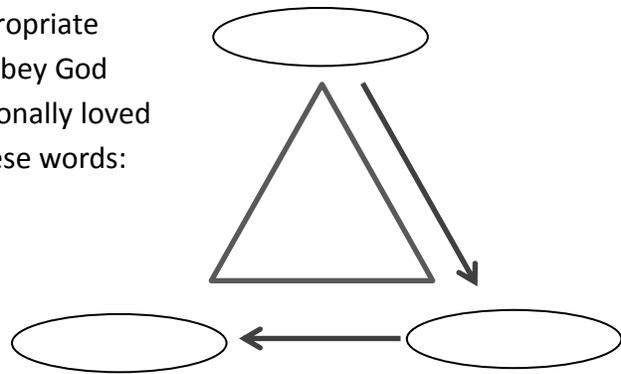
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8. Read Psalm 139:1-4. How does it make you feel to know that the Lord knows you better than you even know yourself? \_\_\_\_\_

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9. In the diagram to the right, write the appropriate words in the circles to illustrate that we obey God because we identify with being unconditionally loved by our heavenly Father. [Choose from these words: Obedience, Father, Identity]



10. Choose the best option below that helps explain what it means to pray, "Our Father in heaven, holy be your Name":

- a. I want to do my part to help change this world to be how You want it to be.
- b. I want to know You, and be like You, and help others know You by my example.
- c. I want me and others to be protected from believing the devil's lies.
- d. I want me and others to have enough to live on.

11. Write three things you can pray for now: [1] something about your personal relationship with God [2] something about or for your family [3] about something happening in the world outside of this community; and say a prayer for these concerns.

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_