

Family Discussion Guide

Class Session 7 – 2017-2018

Ascension, Pentecost and the Establishment of the Christian Church

During this seventh month of Confirmation Instruction you learned about the events after Easter when Jesus ascended into heaven, the coming of the Holy Spirit and the spread of the Gospel message to the world.

Essay Assignment

Everyone in the confirmation classes will use the time between March 10, 2018 and April 15, 2018 to write an essay. ***For Seventh Graders***, this will give you an opportunity to review and reflect on what we've talked about during confirmation this year and take this opportunity to write a Statement of Faith (essay) on this. ***For Eighth Graders***, this will give you the opportunity to write Your Statement of Faith (essay) – especially after you have completed these two years of confirmation instruction.

Your essay – statement of faith – should:

1. Be typed and be at least one half page long if single-spaced or one full page long if double-spaced. (Please use a size 12 font with 1" margins on the page.)
2. ***7th Graders*** – your Statement of Faith will be read by the staff and kept until the end of your 2nd year of confirmation instruction.
3. ***8th Graders*** – your Statement of Faith will be read by the staff and may be used at either your Confirmand Banquet or on Confirmation Sunday.

Return your written assignment by **April 15, 2018** to the office along with any other Family Discussion Guides or Make Up Packets you have yet to complete.

Your Essay or Statement of Faith should answer the following questions:

- **What does it mean to be a baptized child of God?**
- **What is the significance of Jesus dying on the cross mean for you personally?**
- **How does your faith make a difference in your life when things don't go well?**
- *(8th Graders only)* **What gifts does God give you in the Lord's Supper?**
- *(8th Graders only)* **What does "confirmation" mean to you?**
- *(8th Graders only)* **What verse did you select as your confirmation verse and why is that verse particularly meaningful to you?**
- **How do you plan on growing in your faith after confirmation instruction is done?**

"Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses." (1 Timothy 6:12)

Parent Report Form

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Student's Name:

Parents, for this last assignment your student has been asked to write an essay. The instructions are listed in this handout.

Please help your child formulate their essay and hand them in by April 15.

Eighth Graders

An Information Sheet was handed out in March. Please have them complete it and turn it in before March 25. This has information on it that we need for sending invitations for the Confirmand and Parent Banquet, their choice of verse for their confirmation verse, and other information needed for our records. If they have lost the sheet, please contact the office for another copy.

Also, a School Picture is needed by March 25 for 8th Graders - these will be used for Confirmation Sunday and will be returned to you.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Seventh Graders:

- Essay is due to the church office by Sunday, April 15.
- Serving the Confirmand Banquet on Tuesday, May 1. Students will be divided into two work teams. A postcard will be sent out with details and assignments.

Eighth Graders:

- Essay is due on Sunday, April 15.
- Information sheet and picture due March 25.
- Eighth Grade Class Trip is scheduled for **April 19-21**.
- **Confirmand Banquet** - a special evening for 8th graders and their parents
 - **Tuesday, May 1, 6 pm**
- **Confirmation Sunday - May 6, 2018**
 - Arrive by 10 am
 - Parents sit on the aisles to easily come forward at the time of the blessing
 - Pictures will be taken by photographer following the service, details about this will be shared at the Banquet
 - Other details will be outlined at the Confirmand Banquet