

Questioning Instructions

As part of their final preparation for Confirmation students may choose to express their faith through a personal faith interview and questioning. The confirmand is given the opportunity to sit down with Zion's Pastor, the Minister of Youth and Parish Education, his/her parents, and the family's elder for a friendly visit and discussion of his/her faith. This will be an opportunity for instruction for all involved, for correction (if needed)—but most of all for witness and mutual encouragement in the Christian faith.

Topics for this discussion time will be what the confirmand believes about...

- 1) The Christian faith
- 2) The confirmand's own relationship with Jesus Christ and his/her understanding of what that means
- 3) The basics of the faith according to the six chief parts of Christian doctrine as presented in Luther's Small Catechism

This line of questioning will seek to be more balanced between what the confirmand knows (in the head) and what is believed (in the heart). As human beings, we can only observe what another person knows, because only God can read the heart.

"...if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." (Romans 10:9-10)

The *Memory Work* sheet lists out all the things the student will have committed to memory through this year of confirmation instruction and will serve as a basis for this discussion. Memory of the actual parts of the Catechism (The Ten Commandments, The Creed, The Lord's Prayer, The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, The Sacrament of the Altar) is encouraged, but practical knowledge and application are most important.

Questioning will need to take place at the church on one of the following Sundays: March 31, April 7, or April 14. A schedule will be posted in February to pick your date/time.

Possible Questions for Confirmation Questioning

The Ten Commandments

Please recite the Ten Commandments.

Ask for a meaning to any of the Ten Commandments.

The first three commandments describe our relationship with who?

The last seven commandments describe our relationship with who?

What is the purpose of the law (Commandments)?

Can anyone keep the Ten Commandments perfectly?

The Apostle's Creed

What is a creed?

Please recite the creed.

What have you learned about God the Father in Confirmation this year?

What do you believe about Jesus?

What is the work of the Holy Spirit?

In your own words, explain what it means to you to be a Christian. What do you believe?

The Lord's Prayer

What are some of the things that we pray about when praying the Lord's Prayer?

Why is prayer important in the life of a Christian?

How and when do you pray?

Baptism

In your own words, explain what Baptism is.

What gives power to Baptism?

What are the benefits of Baptism?

Why is your Baptism important in your everyday life as a Christian?

The Lord's Supper

How did the Lord's Supper begin?

Can you recite the words of institution?

What are you receiving in the Lord's Supper?

What makes a person worthy to receive the Lord's Supper?

What are you looking forward to about receiving the Lord's Supper?

Final Questions

What does Confirmation mean to you?

What does it mean to you to be a member of our congregation?

How do you plan to continue to grow in your faith after Confirmation?

Do you have any questions about the Bible, the Christian faith, our church, etc.?