

CONFIRMATION MENTOR PROGRAM

BOOK ONE

Dear Mentor and Student:

You are about to embark on an adventure this coming year that will bring you much joy! Together you will spend time exploring your faith and life and getting to know one another. This program is meant to take place during Advent and Lenten Suppers but anytime you meet is acceptable if it's acceptable to both of you and the confirmand's parents.

There are five different sections in this booklet from which to work. Included are some "ice-breakers" in order to get to know each other better and several other topics relevant to faith life. Feel free to use these sections however you wish. If you do not get through all of them – don't worry about it. If you would like to take more time on one subject please do so! You are asked to meet at least 5 to 8 times. The most important thing we want is for you to establish a relationship and help each other to grow in your faith.

Thank you, Mentors, for agreeing to guide a confirmation student and share of yourself in the process. And thank you, Confirmands, for opening yourself to getting to know an adult member of our congregation. You will have much to share! May God bless and keep you this year as you both, and all of us, "journey with Jesus" together.

MENTOR CALENDAR

Advent 2018

December 5, 12, 19 – worship at 5:30PM

Supper following.

Lent 2018 –

Mar. 6 (Ash Wed.) Worship at 700PM

Mar. 13, 20, 27 – Apr. 3, 10, Worship at 5:30PM

Supper following.

Apr. 18 – Maundy Thursday; Worship 7PM

Apr. 19 – Good Friday; Worship 7PM

April 21 – Easter Sunday

***MODULE 1**

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Where were you born?
2. What are some of your best memories?
3. Do you have any sad memories?
4. Where did/do you go to school?
5. What was/is your favorite subject?
6. What do you do (want to do) for a living?
7. Are you happy?



ICE-BREAKER:

- *Share three things you enjoy doing with others.
- *Share three things you enjoy doing alone.
- *Describe something you enjoy doing that you do not believe a teenager/adult would enjoy.

FIND OUT SOMETHING ABOUT EACH OTHER'S FAITH EXPERIENCE.

- *Have you always gone to church?
- *Why is it important for you to be a church member?
- *Tell about a time in your life when your faith has changed.
- *When did you first know you were a Christian?
- * What do you expect from the Confirmation/Mentor program?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear Lord and Savior – we thank you for this time together as Christian friends. Be with us as we meet in your name and as we better get to know each other and become closer to You. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

***MODULE 2**



GOD AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

- *When you were 5 years old how did you imagine God?
- *How do you imagine God now?
- *How has your understanding of God changed over the years?

Read the following creeds together. Circle the words or phrases that you especially enjoy or find interesting.

From the Apostle's Creed (older version)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. . . I believe in the Holy Spirit. . .

From the Nicene Creed (older version)

I believe in one God: the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. . . and I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spake by the prophets.

From a Modern Affirmation

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good. . . We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.

From the Korean Creed

We believe in the one God, maker and ruler of all things, Father of all people, the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love. . . We believe in the Holy Spirit, God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength.

- *Which of the sections on God from the four creeds do you like best? *Which creed makes the most sense to you when it talks about the Holy Spirit? Why?

Do you ever feel that God is with you in a very real way? When or where has that happened? Do you ever feel like God has left you alone? Talk about when and where that feeling has been with you.

Read the following Bible passage.

*"Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.
2Tim. 12:14*

What does it mean that the Holy Spirit is "living in us"?

Closing prayer: Father God, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit, be with us we pray as we go about our week. Allow us to know your presence in our work or our leisure – in joy or sadness. Thank you Gracious Lord for your loving guidance and care. In Jesus name. Amen.

***Module 3**

Worship

- 1) Please spend some time discussing a previous worship service either during Lent or on a regular Sunday.

- *What was special about it?
- *What did you like or not like about it?
- *Did the worship make you feel closer to God?

ICE-BREAKER – *The church is called into being through the Spirit as a community in Christ. It is a bridge between the old and the new, between the advent of Jesus and the final day. It is marked with God's grace and love. Yet all too often, the church is criticized for not living up to what it is supposed to be in spirit. People often have strong feelings about their church. Explore together these questions about your church:*

- *Name five things you like about your congregation
- * The church is often called the "body of Christ." Do you feel this name is appropriate to your congregation? Why or why not?
- * If you could change anything about your congregation what would it be?

2) **How many parts of the worship service can you remember?**
Make a list of everything that happens in your Sunday morning worship.
Then find a bulletin (or look at a hymnal) and see how well you did.

Read Psalm 95:1-6

- * This Psalm talks about making a “joyful noise” when we worship. Does your church reflect this Psalm?
- * What comes to your mind when you hear the word “worship”?
- * If you could pick out the most important part of a worship service, what would it be? Why?
- * What are some of the differences between our services and the services you have attended at other churches? Similarities?

Read John 4:24

What does it mean to worship in “spirit and truth”?

CLOSING PRAYER: Dearest Father, grant that our church may be a place of welcome and love. Allow that all who enter her doors may feel your presence. Help each of us to be Christ-like in our words and actions as we continue to share the good news of the Gospel with others. In Jesus’ name. Amen.



***Module 4**

Spiritual Life

1) *The regular practice of spiritual disciplines like prayer, meditation, and study is crucial to the life of faith. You will spend this module discussing prayer and its place in your life.*

*Discuss how it feels when you pray. What would make it easier or more comfortable?

* What do you pray about? *(if you are comfortable sharing this)*

*How often do you pray?

*Make a list of world issues that should be remembered in your prayers.

2) *In addition to prayer there are other practices of the spiritual life that include meditation, study, fasting, worship, and service.*

*How do you incorporate these activities of the spiritual life already?

* In which areas would you most like to grow in your practice of spiritual living?

* How might daily prayer affect your attitude toward the events of the day?

* How might Bible study affect your prayer life, and life in general?

* Is it difficult to maintain the practice of daily prayer? If so, why?

* What might need to change for daily prayer and involvement in other spiritual disciplines to be a regular part of your life?

*Do you believe these practices can actually change things in your life and in the world?

3) Closing Prayer: Write a brief prayer reflecting what you spoke of in this module asking God to help you make more time for study and prayer.

***MODULE 5**

HOPE AND GROWTH

1) Read Romans 8:31-39

- * How does being a follower of Christ give us hope?
- * In your past, what were some of the things that kept you from having a better relationship with Jesus Christ?

2) List some of the ways your church gives people an opportunity to grow in their faith.

- * In which of these areas have you participated?
- * Which ones do you think you will take advantage of in the future?

3) List some ways that you can help other people in the church to grow, or experience God's hope for the future. (For example, teaching Sunday or volunteering to be a confirmation mentor)

4) *If you have ever been a Sunday School teacher, VBS teacher, or helped in any way in the church, were your efforts appreciated?*

* What does it feel like to help others grow in their faith or find hope for facing the future?

* What does being a Christian disciple mean to you?

* How do you feel about your relationship with God at this point in your life?

* Have you seen yourself grow over the years in your understanding of God?

* What hopes for the future do you have regarding your life in Christ?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for this time of Lenten study and the opportunity to get to know each other as Christians and as ordinary people. We give you praise that your gift of Jesus Christ has given us this time together. Continue to bless us with healthy and loving relationships and continue to guide us in all we do in your name. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.



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