Contents

Confirmation Means Memories: Family in Faith Journal  5
See It, Say It, Hear It: Memory Work Made Easier  5
Before You Are Confirmed  7

Lessons:
1  First Commandment  9
2  Second and Third Commandments  11
3  Fourth Commandment  13
4  Table of Duties, Church and State  15
5  Fifth Commandment  17
6  Sixth Commandment  19
7  Table of Duties, Home and Work  21
8  Seventh Commandment  23
9  Eighth Commandment  25
10  Ninth and Tenth Commandments  27
11  Close of the Commandments  29
12  Table of Duties, Calling throughout Life  31
13  Apostles’ Creed, First Article A  33
14  Apostles’ Creed, First Article B  35
15  Apostles’ Creed, Second Article A  37
16  Apostles’ Creed, Second Article B  39
17  Apostles’ Creed, Third Article A  41
18  Apostles’ Creed, Third Article B  43
19  Morning and Evening Prayers  45
20  Lord’s Prayer, Introduction and Conclusion  47
21  Lord’s Prayer, First and Second Petitions  49
22  Lord’s Prayer, Third Petition  51
23  Lord’s Prayer, Fourth Petition  53
24  Blessing and Thanksgiving  55
25  Lord’s Prayer, Fifth Petition  57
26  Lord’s Prayer, Sixth and Seventh Petitions  59
27  Baptism and Its Benefits  61
28  How Baptism Works  63
29  Baptismal Life  65
30  Confession and Absolution  67
31  Guilt and Peace  69
32  Office of the Keys  71
33  Sacrament of the Altar  73
34  Benefits of the Sacrament of the Altar  75
35  Worthy Reception  77
Confirmation Means Memories: Family in Faith Journal

As you and your parent or mentor read God’s Word and pray together, something marvelous happens: you grow in maturity as a believer. The Family in Faith Journal provides an opportunity for you to capture that experience and create a lifelong keepsake.

Take turns with your parent or mentor writing in the journal. During the week feel free to write down your thoughts and prayers, add photographs, or even doodle. Since confirmation is such a special learning experience, your family may wish to purchase a quality journal or use a sturdy composition notebook for your writing.

See It, Say It, Hear It: Memory Work Made Easier

Almost every congregation requires memory work as part of confirmation studies. Before you panic, learn a little bit about how to do memory work so that you will be better prepared for your assignments.

When you study your memory work, you want to focus on the text in every way possible. Here are some practical steps:

1. Choose a quiet place with few distractions (no TV, radio, or computer).
2. Carefully read your memory passage out loud up to seven times in a row. (This sounds like it will take forever. But even long passages will take only about three minutes.) As you read, listen to yourself speak.
3. Close your catechism and see how much you can say out loud without mistakes.
4. When you can say the passage without opening your catechism, find someone who will listen to you recite the passage and correct your mistakes.
5. Choose a regular time of day when you can study (e.g., before or after a meal, after you get home from school).
6. Talk with your parents about making the catechism the basis of your family devotions.

If your congregation requires lots of memory work, ask for opportunities to recite passages both on the day of your confirmation classes and on Sunday morning before or after church.
Before You Are Confirmed

Lutheran churches have traditionally based confirmation on three Bible passages. Review these passages and prayerfully consider your maturity in the faith.

Matthew 28:19–20
- I am baptized in the name of the triune God.  
- I have learned God's Word as summarized by the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer.  
- I believe these teachings by the grace of God's Holy Spirit, and by His power I strive to obey them.

Matthew 10:32–33
- I publicly confess that Jesus Christ has saved me from sin by His death and resurrection.  
- I actively participate in Divine Services.  
- I can witness about salvation in Christ to those outside the church.

1 Corinthians 11:28
- I examine my life and faith before coming to the Lord's Supper.

Remember, confirmation is only the beginning of your life as a mature Christian. The Lord wants you to continue in worship, devotions, and Bible study throughout your life.
After Jesus grows up, God calls John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus' ministry of salvation. Read Matthew 3.

1. If God created a perfect world, then why did people need John the Baptist's ministry of repentance?

Table Talk

Based on the story of Copernicus, can Christians be good scientists? Explain your answer.

Are scientists always right? Give examples.

Science is based on observing facts and reporting those facts. Who observed the origins of the universe?

The human brain has 30 billion nerve cells. In order for you to sit here today, billions of these cells must work with other cells with exact timing. Your brain sends out messages to over 200 muscles just for you to sit down. How could this happen by mere accident, or chance, as the evolutionists suggest?

Bible Study

After Jesus grows up, God calls John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus' ministry of salvation. Read Matthew 3.

2. Briefly describe John's preaching. What does it tell you about how the Creator feels about His creation?

3. What happened when Jesus was baptized?

4. What three divine persons were heard or seen at Jesus' Baptism?

5. The word “trinity” or “triune” means three (tri-) in one (-une). How does this story reveal God's three-fold nature?

6. How does this story reveal the Creator's power over creation? His love for creation?

7. Contrast John's preaching with the heavenly Father's words in 3:17. How do these passages show the Law and Gospel character of God?

Family in Faith Journal

Take a tour of the sanctuary and identify as many symbols of the Trinity as you can find. Choose your favorite and sketch it in the Family in Faith Journal.
Fun for Review

Characters: Bobby, Billy, Amy, Suzy, various people to make background animal noises

Setting: Zoo

(Zoo noises are heard, but die off when dialogue begins.)

BOBBY: Look at these animals!
BILLY: (Mockingly) Oooh! Animals. I’m so impressed!
AMY: Oh, Billy! Don’t be such a cynic!
BOBBY: A what?
SUZY: She means someone who doesn’t appreciate God’s creation … or everything that He provides for us.

BOBBY: Look at all of the different kinds of animals! God is so amazing!

(An animal noise is made as each animal is named.)

AMY: Look, a Clydesdale horse!
SUZY: Sheep!
BOBBY: An elephant!
BILLY: Okay, I guess I like that rattlesnake over there.

AMY: Hey, a gazelle!
SUZY: Hmmmm, I never knew a gazelle made a noise like that.

BILLY: And you guys think God made these animals? I think they’re all products of an evolutionary process that probably started on the Galapagos Islands about a billion years ago.

AMY: Oh, Billy, Billy, Billy. You can’t possibly tell me you believe that all of this is just some quirk of nature?

(A duck quacks.)

BILLY: She said, “QUIRK”! (The duck quacks again.)

SUZY: And where do you think we came from, Billy?

BILLY: See that ring-tailed monkey over there? (A monkey sounds.)

BOBBY: Oh, come on, strong-willed Bill. You’ve said it in church and probably never even thought about what you were saying.

BILLY: Said what?

BOBBY: What do you think it means when we confess, “I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth”?

BILLY: There you go bringing God into the picture again. Keep it for Sunday, boys and girls.

SUZY: How can you look at this world and not think of Almighty God? I see beautiful mountains or a magnificent sunset and I say, “Thank You, Lord.”

AMY: I see these animals and think to myself, “Wow, Lord! You’ve made some amazing creatures.”

(All animal sounds chime in.)

BOBBY: I look at us! Everything God has blessed us with: our clothes, food, and, dare I say, even our parents?

AMY: Everything we need to support this life comes from God.

BILLY: Oh yeah? Well, I see a broken world—and animals that bite …

(Something growls. They all simultaneously take one step backward.)

BILLY: What did this poor loser of a world do to deserve all of this?

BOBBY: Actually a lot.

AMY and SUZY: Sin!

BILLY: Then why would God still provide all of those so-called beautiful things? What’d we do to deserve that?

BOBBY: Not a thing, bub.

AMY: Nope. Nothin’.

SUZY: It’s called love.

BOBBY: It’s called grace.

AMY: Admit it, Billy-boy, you’ve got a lot to be thankful for.

BILLY: Yeah, yeah. I suppose.

BOBBY: Hey, guys! Let’s go look at that gazelle again. I think he’s finally cleared his throat.