

# LLC Confirmation School Curriculum

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LLC Board Approval: 2/26/2010

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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72</b>

## Foreward

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Confirmation School has long been a precious part of the work of God's Kingdom among our youth. During Confirmation School, important topics concerning faith and Christian doctrine are discussed. It supports the work of the Christian home and Sunday school to root our youth in faith and in the Kingdom of God. This work is done with the prayer that the living seed of God's Word would find good soil in the hearts of our youth.

Over the years, the Confirmation School curriculum has been developed and modified. The material in this current curriculum is divided into core lesson topics and optional lesson topics. It is the intent that these topics would cover the basic matters of faith and of the Word of God, including essential matters of Christian doctrine. The curriculum also includes timely topics pertaining to the life of our youth today and the work of God's Kingdom. Feedback on the lesson topics and objectives is welcome. This is not a final document but rather one that will need periodic review and update.

Much work has gone into the development of this curriculum framework for Confirmation School. It has been done to provide the directors and teachers with lesson topics and objectives planned to teach our children about the basic matters of living faith and the word of God. It is our prayer that it will serve that purpose. In the end, we know that our lessons are done as the work of planting and watering among our children, and God alone can give the increase.

## To the Confirmation School Director

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To the Confirmation School Director:

This Confirmation School curriculum is intended as a framework. It provides both core and optional lesson topics. The lessons themselves are not provided here. That is left to the Confirmation teachers. However, with each lesson, the following is provided: learning objectives, Scripture references, and a list of resources.

The lesson topics have been chosen to cover the basic matters of faith and of the Word of God, including essential matters of Christian doctrine. It is important that all of the core lesson topics be included in the Confirmation School agenda. In addition to these core topics, several optional lesson topics are provided. Directors can feel free to choose from these topics to fill in the balance of the agenda.

The core curriculum is structured on the basis of the following general lesson categories:

- The Bible
- The Triune God
- Fundamental Questions
- Caring for Faith
- Church History
- Christian in Society
- Christian Faith in the Life of the Young
- Music in the Life of a Christian

In addition to the lesson material, this document includes teaching suggestions and lesson planning guides that are intended to help our Confirmation School teachers in their planning.

Along with lessons, Confirmation School includes devotions, which generally begin and end each day. A list of suggested devotion texts is provided in this document. Those who are assigned devotions can feel free to use these suggestions or to select an appropriate and timely devotion text.

At the end of this document, the Confirmation Examination is provided. This is the oral examination that is to be used as a part of the Confirmation Exercise. The entire Confirmation Exercise is also provided, along with a skeleton agenda. Based on circumstances, the agenda may need some modification by the director. However, it is expected that the core lesson topics and the Confirmation Exercise and Examination will be a part of all of the LLC Confirmation Schools.

## To the Confirmation School Teacher

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To the Confirmation School Teacher:

The Confirmation School curriculum material provides a framework of lessons for Confirmation School. It is intended to provide a review of the fundamental content and teachings of God's Word.

Note that this material does not provide the lesson content. Those lessons are most effective that are planned by the person who is doing the teaching. For that reason, the following are provided for each lesson: lesson topic, objectives, Scripture references, and a list of resources.

The scope of some lessons is fairly broad. In planning the lesson, the teacher should select from the list of objectives those that will be the focus of the lesson. Many lessons have more objectives than can be reasonably taught in a single lesson. The teacher should feel free to select those objectives that seem most appropriate. The teacher should then become familiar with the Scripture portions that relate to the lesson and with the resources that might be incorporated into the lesson or provide information for the teacher.

This document also includes some teaching suggestions and lesson planning guides. These are intended as support to those teachers who may feel unfamiliar with lesson planning or may want some hints to improve the effectiveness of their teaching. However, we would like to encourage our teachers to freely serve as you have been asked to serve. Your lessons need not be perfect. Nor do they need to fit some other person's mold. Be free to use the gifts that God has given you to develop lesson approaches that work for you. Remember that your lessons are made alive by the Good Shepherd and remember also to freely use the word of the gospel with the students.

Youth is an inestimably important time for the sowing of God's Word. Jesus commanded His disciples to go and teach. The children of God today want to observe this command. The enemy of souls knows the importance of this work and hates it. The enemy would want this work to be done incorrectly. Therefore, we do not want to have conflict or discrepancy regarding what we believe and what we teach. The teacher also is a sinner, besieged by the enemy of the soul. For this reason, it is important that at each moment each of us can believe our own sins forgiven.

The work of God is not done with single gifts. When preparing lessons, one can freely ask others for instruction and help. Asking for help does not mean that one is a poorer teacher than another. Humility is needed when identifying the essential theme and boundaries of a lesson.

We want to teach our youth in a way that they can relate it to personal experience. The teacher should ask him/herself: what does this Scripture portion mean to a believer today? What does God want to teach through this? Even extensive information about a topic does not help if a student does not understand what the teacher is talking about.

Faith is a joyous matter. Also, teaching and working with our youth can be done with a happy mind. Kindly, friendly teaching touches the heart of the student and opens it to receive God's Word.

God blesses the work of the humble, obedient teacher. We can gladly sow and water the seed. God gives the growth.

## Description of Confirmation

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Confirmation is a school where young people are taught to personally treasure the gift of living faith as the means of gaining eternal life in heaven. This instruction also emphasizes the blessings of living a Godly life on this earth. “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God” (Eph. 2:8). “For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith” (Rom. 1:17).

Emphasis is on three areas of instruction:

- Lessons on the Bible and Martin Luther’s small catechism
- Instruction on the practices and traditions of living Christianity
- Guidance on living a Godly life, including life in the congregation

Learning opportunities are fostered by formal lessons, as well as by structured and other interaction with staff and fellow students.

## Using this document

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Study the materials before Confirmation School begins. Become acquainted with both the layout and content expectations. Each lesson page includes the following:

- the lesson title
- what you want the students to learn (objectives)
- Scripture references
- vocabulary
- examples of additional resources
- notes or teaching suggestions to support the lesson

### **Core and Optional Lessons**

The Confirmation School curriculum contains both core and optional lessons. The core lessons are to be taught at each LLC Confirmation School. There are also optional lesson slots on the agenda that are to be filled from the list of optional lessons.

### **Objectives**

The objectives are listed at the top of the page. In some cases, the objectives may include more than you think you can reasonably teach in one class period. If so, feel free to choose those objectives you find most important or interesting. It is not necessary to do everything. Remember that it's always better to learn less and learn it well than to cover more and walk away with little understanding.

### **Class Assignments**

There are many forms of class assignments to consider. The traditional question set is only one possibility. Sometimes it is more effective to have students answer two or three questions that require the student to consider the meaning of the lesson as opposed to a long list of questions. A question can be posed in more than one way. Consider the following approaches:

Who did Jesus see as he was walking by the Sea of Galilee? What were they doing? (Matt. 5:18) What did Jesus say to them? (Matt. 5:19)

**--OR--**

In Matthew 5:18, we read that Jesus saw Simon and Peter fishing beside the sea of Galilee. What did Jesus ask of them? What do you think Jesus was actually asking them to do with their lives?

What did Jesus do in the ruler's house? (Matt. 9:25)

**--OR--**

Read Matthew 9:18-19, 23-26. This tells about a miracle in which a girl died and Jesus brought her back to life. How did the people react when Jesus told the crowd that she was not dead? What do you think the people learned from this?

## **Questioning**

One type of question only requires lifting a word or basic information from the text without understanding. The other type of question causes the student to think about what it means. The questions can be worded in a way that gives the student some information to help begin interpreting the text. Poor questions can err in one of two ways: either it can be one that requires no understanding to give a correct answer, or it can ask for so much general interpretation or analysis so as to be overwhelming to the student. Not only is it important to carefully craft questions, but it is also important to think about what questions will be used during the lesson. Think about this in advance. Good questioning techniques take work to develop.

## **Reading**

Sometimes a reading assignment, such as an article from a recent *Voice of Zion* issue or another Christian publication, can be effective.

## **Journals**

An effective strategy for assignments (and note-taking) is to require students to keep a journal or notebook. All assignments (and notes) can be kept together in the journal. Assignments could include specific questions to be answered, but they could also include writing a “journal entry” reflecting, for example, on what they learned from the previous lesson.

## **What to do with class assignments**

Keep in mind that assignments can be responded to in several ways.

- Often the teacher will go over the assignment responses with the students at the next class.
- Sometimes the teacher can collect the assignments, write responses for the students, and return them at the next class. (If the work is being kept in a notebook or journal, it is possible that the whole notebook would be collected.)
- Finally, it is possible that sometimes the assignment is not shared with the class or read by the teacher at all. For example, maybe a lesson is teaching about prayer. A teacher may assign the student to write a personal prayer to God that will never be read by anyone else.

## **Use of the Bible**

Encourage the use of the Bible. Remember that students need to be taught how to use the Bible. There are several ways to look up information, and students can be taught to use the reference section, concordance, and listing of the books at the beginning of the Bible. Students can be encouraged to follow along in their Bibles when the text is read during services. They should be encouraged to find and follow along—and at times, read—the Bible references used in class. Auditory learners can use audio recordings of the Bible at home; many are available. After all, the Bible is the most precious of all books.

## Teaching Suggestions

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Teaching involves many skills that can be practiced and improved each time a lesson is taught. Each teacher has his own unique style. We can learn from each other, but it is important to remember that God has given you the gifts He intended for you. Use those gifts for the honor and glory of His name. The work of teaching children about the Word of God and the gospel of the forgiveness of sins is a most precious task. We want to teach children in meaningful ways that they can relate to their own experiences. The following suggestions are intended to help promote effective learning:

- Preparation is of utmost importance! Numerous resources are given for the lessons. Most of these are not intended to be read to students (nor by students) during class time; rather, they are intended to be used by the teacher in planning the lesson. Of course, during the lesson it is good to read some Scripture passages, excerpts from resource materials, or supportive stories. It is also good for the students to look up a main Bible reference that will be read together or by the teacher. We want all students to know that all lessons are based on God's Word. The lesson itself is not a story or Bible text, however. The teacher must plan the lesson in advance!
- Visual aids (e.g., pictures, simple drawings, objects, overhead transparencies, maps) make the lesson more meaningful and interesting. Adding visuals significantly increases retention of learning. Understanding increases when concepts are connected to familiar ideas/images.
- Plan for variety to help keep attention. Providing opportunities for students' interaction increases interest and attention. Responding to questions and relating personal experiences concerning the theme of the lesson are important. Writing is another mode of learning (e.g., students could keep a notebook in which they write main points from each lesson as well as personal thoughts or experiences). Making pictures or diagrams can be another effective learning mode. There are endless possibilities, but variety is a powerful way to strengthen a lesson.
- Clarify vocabulary. Having children see, say, and even show the meaning of new words aids comprehension and retention. Students might write special words in their notebooks.
- Asking questions is an important part of learning. All children need opportunities to ask and answer questions, not just the knowledgeable or outgoing children. Some children will need encouragement, perhaps easier questions to foster confidence. It is important to allow *wait time* (time and opportunity for the brain to process information) when asking for a response.

- Students should demonstrate a summary of the learning in some way at the end of the lesson. This greatly increases retention and enables the teacher to check whether the students have learned the intended concepts.
- Pleasant learning climate, enthusiasm, and reinforcement of desirable behaviors promote positive attitudes toward learning what God's Word teaches.

## Lesson Planning Outline

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This lesson plan outline may be useful to the teacher when planning lessons. It calls attention to the important parts of a lesson. There are always several stages to planning the lesson: preparation and gathering resources, building the lesson, implementing the lesson, and following up the lesson with homework and assessment of student learning. Consider the following steps to determine whether each step is appropriate for the particular lesson or students, and decide whether it should be included in the lesson plan.

- 1. Review of previous lesson:** What concepts/memory work need to be reinforced?
- 2. Objectives for new lesson:** What learnings or key concepts do I want students to get?
- 3. Procedures:** What will I do to best help children learn this lesson?
- 4. Set:** Lead into the new topic, get children ready to focus attention on the lesson, and relate new learning to something students already know
  - (a) involve all students
  - (b) relate to the objective(s) of the new lesson

Examples:

- Show a wrapped gift and briefly discuss gifts prior to a lesson on the greatest gift.
- Have the children think about a time when they have seen a parade before discussing Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.
- Discuss invitations and kinds of occasions the children might have received invitations for before a lesson on the parable of the man who sent his servant to invite guests to a wedding feast.

- 5. Objectives:** Students are made aware of the objective(s) and the purpose of the learning.

- having objectives guides the teacher's planning for the lesson
- informing students of objective prior to lesson aids their learning
- students will know what they should have learned at the end
- answers "Why are we doing this?" and puts the learning in context

Examples:

- Today we will learn why God's Kingdom is sometimes compared to a flock of sheep, and we will be able to tell who is the shepherd of this flock and who are the sheep.
- Most of you have heard before of the Law and the Gospel; today we will learn what they are and which one belongs to the believer.

- We are going to hear what Jesus said about a widow who gave all her money; it will teach us how we are to give to the work of God’s Kingdom.

**6. Instructional Input:** Students acquire new information about the knowledge they are to receive.

- main body of lesson
- think about what will be taught to the students, how the information will be taught, and how to check that they understand what is taught
- Question 1: What are the learnings?
- Question 2: What will the teacher do to provide the learnings?
- Question 3: How will the students show what they have learned?

Examples:

- I will tell you a story about two boys; think about which boy was walking in light and which in darkness. (teacher action)
- Look at this picture of a soldier; I will explain each of the pieces of armor that the soldier is wearing. (teacher action)
- Here are four possible reason for baptizing a child, numbered one through four; signal me which you think is the best answer by holding up that number of fingers. (checking students’ understanding)
- Write down the three parts of repentance that we talked about today. (checking students’ understanding)
- Turn to your neighbor and summarize what you just learned. (checking students’ understanding)

**7. Guided Practice:** Students are given the opportunity to use new knowledge with guidance.

- The teacher sometimes needs to circulate among students, observing and helping them during practice or some activity.
- The teacher should clarify or explain something before the lesson has ended.
- Remember that this clarification is important when an assignment will be given for outside of class.

**8. Independent Practice:** Students are given the opportunity to use new knowledge and/or skills independently.

- usually involves work that is assigned to be done outside of class
- may include memory work, answering questions, writing about the lesson, or other exercises

**9. Evaluation:** How will you know what the students have learned?

- (a) In summarizing the lesson, the students should summarize what they have learned, not the teacher summarizing what he thinks he has taught.
- (b) How will the teacher check whether students gained the intended learning (e.g., questions, summary by learners, written responses or illustrations, etc.)?

Examples:

- List on your paper the four kinds of ground that we heard about in the parable that we studied today.
- List as many names for the Kingdom of God as possible and illustrate one of them.
- I will give each of you the chance to tell one thing you learned in today's lesson.

## Effective Teaching Summaries

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### **The Fundamentals**

- Students really learn best by *doing* something with the intended learning.
- Students need to do their own thinking and exploration.

### **The Techniques**

#### Initiating learning activities

- Relate new activities to student experience.
- When introducing “unique” materials, provide unstructured time.
- Introduce all new terms/vocabulary orally and in writing.
- Organize materials for quick and easy distribution.
- Keep teaching materials hidden until they are needed.
- Introduce each activity before distributing materials.

#### Managing Learning Activities

- At the start of each activity, check all of the students.
- Avoid “talking” over group noise. Insist on quiet attention.
- Separate “talk time” from “work time.”
- Avoid “telling” and concluding for students.
- Prompt student discussions by joining groups as an observer.
- Resolve differences by returning to the materials.

#### The Art of Questioning

- Don’t ask “everyone questions.”
- Pause at least 3 to 5 seconds after asking each question.
- Avoid repeating student answers.
- Put student names at the END of directed questions.
- Turn student questions back to the students.

#### Instructions on Giving Instructions

- Make instructions as concrete as possible.
- Give instructions in “different ways.”
- Give instructions in “bite-sized chunks.”

#### Techniques for Concluding Learning Activities

- Alert students to the approaching end of each activity.
- Use a “group focus” to display information for discussion.

## Devotions

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During the Confirmation School, each day typically begins and ends with a devotion. The purpose of the morning and evening devotions is to pause and quiet in the hearing of God's Word. The devotions frame the day at Confirmation School. They remind the students and the staff of the purpose for being at Confirmation School. They help the students to learn about God's Word. They provide instruction and comfort to students and staff.

Devotions should not be too lengthy. A typical devotion might last about 15 minutes, although this is not a rigid guideline. Usually devotions involve one of the speaker brothers reading a text from the Bible and speaking about the text. However, devotions can take other forms as well. Sometimes there is a reading that has an important spiritual message for the students. Other options can also be considered. However, devotions should have a spiritual focus. Morning and evening devotions also generally include a prayer.

Devotional moments provide an opportunity to consider timely and relevant Bible texts that may not be covered in the Confirmation School lessons. Following are some suggestions for Bible portions that can be considered for devotions. Some of these suggestions contain longer portions of scripture than would be used in a devotion. In those cases, a shorter text can be chosen from the suggested chapter. This is not an exhaustive list. There are certainly many other appropriate texts that are not listed here.

### Suggested texts:

- Cain and Abel (Gen. 4)
- Noah and the Flood (Gen. 6, 7)
- The Call of Abraham (Gen. 12)
- The Birth of Isaac (Gen. 21)
- The Sacrifice of Isaac (Gen. 22:1-13)
- Jacob and Esau (Gen. 25:24-34)
- Joseph in Egypt (Gen. 39, 40)
- The Birth of Moses (Exo. 2)
- The Passover (Exo. 12)
- Man Does Not Live by Bread Only (Deut. 8:3; Matt. 4:4)
- I Have Set Before You Life and Death (Deut. 30:19-20)
- David and Goliath (1 Sam. 17:38-51)
- Nathan's Parable to David (2 Sam. 12:1-14)
- The Shepherd's Psalm (Psa. 23)
- Thy Word is a Lamp unto My Feet (Psa. 119:105)
- Unto Us a Child Is Born (Isa. 9:6)
- Parable of the Hidden Treasure (Matt. 13:44)
- The Greatest in the Kingdom (Matt. 18:1-4)
- Parable of the Unmerciful Servant (Matt. 18:23-34)
- Peter's Denial (Matt. 26:69-75)
- The Baptismal Command of Christ (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)
- Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)
- House Built on Rock and on Sand (Matt. 7:24; Luke 6:48)
- The Parable of the Sower (Matt. 13; Mark 4; Luke 8)
- Feeding of the Multitude (Matt. 15:32; Mark 8:1)
- Jesus Calms the Storm (Matt. 8:23; Mark 4:37; Luke 8:22)

- God So Loved the World (John 3:16)
- The Keys of the Kingdom (Matt. 16:19; Matt. 18:18; John 20:22-23)
- Doubting Thomas (John 20:26-31)
- Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:27-39)
- Repentance of Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9)
- Repentance of Cornelius (Acts 10)
- The Gospel is the Power of God (Rom. 1:16-17)
- The Kingdom of God is Righteousness, Peace, and Joy (Rom. 14:17)
- The Greatest of These is Love (1 Cor. 13:13)
- Jerusalem Which is Above is Free (Gal. 4:26)
- For by Grace Are Ye Saved Through Faith (Eph. 2:8-9)
- For There is One Body (Eph. 4:4-6)
- Forbearing One Another, Forgiving One Another (Col. 3:12-15)
- Holding Faith and a Good Conscience (1 Tim. 1:18-20)
- The Grace of God Teaches (Titus 2:11-12)
- Faith is the Substance of Things Hoped For (Heb. 11:1-3)
- Surrounded by a Cloud of Witnesses (Heb. 12:1-2)
- Sin Brings forth Death (James 1:14-15)
- Holy Men of God Spake as Moved by the Holy Ghost (2 Pet. 1:19-21)
- If We Walk in the Light (1 John 1:7)
- If Any Come unto You and Bring Not This Doctrine (2 John 10-11)
- Be Thou Faithful Unto Death (Rev. 2:10)

## Written Evaluation

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Teachers at confirmation school have evaluated students, primarily so they are aware of any areas that they would want to revisit prior to the end of the confirmation school. This written evaluation has often been completed near the end of the Confirmation school, and a group discussion about the students' answers follows.

It may work best to have written thoughts from the students at the beginning of confirmation school. In this way, the teachers are aware of the students' understanding of certain topics or terms and they can be visited about during the course of the camp. If the students are asked to explain a few central terms, it is not an overwhelming task.

The terms that students are asked to explain are: Kingdom of God, Grace, Sin, and Repentance. These central tenets of faith appear many times throughout the curriculum and in a variety of lessons. Review of the students' explanations of these terms at the start of the confirmation school can provide the teaching staff background on areas to focus on throughout the camp.

Our faith is not based on some measure of our understanding. It is good to remember how Jesus taught His disciples, "Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:4).

NOTE: The following sample is also in the Appendix for handout purpose.

**LLC Confirmation School**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain in your own words the following terms:

**Kingdom of God**

**Grace**

**Sin**

**Repentance**

## Section 1: The Bible

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## Lesson 1.1: The Holy Bible – The Book of Books

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1. Student will understand that while God speaks to us in nature, the fate of our lives, and the phases of nations, He especially speaks to us in the Holy Scripture and our Redeemer Jesus Christ.
2. Student will understand that the Holy Scripture is given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit and is thus God's own word.
3. Student will understand that the Bible is not an encyclopedia of history, the world, and nature and its phenomena, but rather the revelation of God's works for the redemption and salvation of man.
4. Student will understand that the Bible speaks of God with pictures and narratives which attempt to illustrate what God is like.
5. Student will understand that the Bible is Christian faith and life's highest guide.
6. Students will understand that the Bible is a closed book that is opened by the Holy Spirit. It is to be read with prayer.
7. Student will understand that the message of Jesus Christ is the principal content of the Bible and for that reason should be read seeking Christ and the salvation He brought.
8. Student will be able to use the Bible and want to study it daily.
9. Student will become acquainted with Jesus' teachings by reading together or individually one of the gospels during confirmation camp.

**Scripture:** Eph. 6:17; Gal. 1:8; Ps. 119:105; 12:6; Isa. 40:8; Jer. 23:29; John 12:48;  
Rom. 2:16; John 14:26; 1 Cor. 2:10-14; Eph. 1:17; 3:15; 1 Pet. 1:12; 1 Pet. 1:20,21; John 5:39

**Resources:** CD 4, CD 5, CD 6, CD 7, BF 2; Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 19-26  
Regarding Objective 3: “The Bible is not a textbook of natural science, geography, medical science or history. Answers to questions, which a book is not written for, should not be sought from any book. The Bible is the textbook of one matter alone, which is faith. The Bible is written for this reason that man would know how God saves sinful man” (*The Mystery of Faith*, Keijo Nissila).

## Lesson 1.2: The Message of the Old Testament

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1. Student will understand that the principal content of the Old Testament is the Law and the promise of the Messiah.
2. Student will know the types of books in the Old Testament, the primary content of each type, and where they are found.

**Scripture:** Exod. 20; Deut. 18:15-18; Ps. 2:1-12; 16:7-11; 22:1-18; 69:1-36; 72:1-19; 53:1-12; Zech. 12:9-11; 13:6,7; Mal. 3:1-6

**Resources:** BF 3

## Lesson 1.3: God's Chosen People – The History of Israel

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1. Student will understand the nature and purpose of God's election of the people of Israel.
2. Student will see how God has revealed His salvation plan in the lives and events of His chosen nation.
3. Student will know the main periods in the history of the Old Testament congregation: pre-patriarchal, patriarchal, formative, united monarchy, divided monarchy, exile, restoration.
4. Student will know the important characteristics of each period.
5. Student will know to which period each of the books of the Old Testament belongs.

**Scripture:** Exod. 19: 5,6; Deut. 7:6-9; Rom. 9:1-5

**Resources:** Luther's Preface to the Old Testament, esp. paragraph dealing with Exod.; Bright's "History of Israel" "Chronological Outline"

## Lesson 1.4: The Patriarchs

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1. Student will know who the patriarchs are and when they lived.
2. Student will know the main elements of the patriarchs' lives.
3. Student will understand the main messages of the patriarch's lives and faith.

**Scripture:** Gen. 11:26-50:26; Matt. 8:11; 22:32; Luke 3:8; 13:28; 16:23; 19:9; John 8:39-56;  
Rom. 4:1-3,12,13,16; 9:7-13; Gal. 3:6-9,18; 4:28; Heb. 7:1-9; 11: 8,21;  
James 2:21-23

**Resources:** BF 8,9; See "Chronological Outline"

## 1.5 Moses – The Law Giver

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1. Student will know the main phases of Moses's life (Three forty year periods: early years, in the wilderness of Midian, the wilderness journey).
2. Student will understand Moses' work and role as God's servant.

**Scripture:** Acts 7:20-45; Heb. 11:24-26; Exod. 3:7-4:17; 33:11-23; Deut. 34:1-8; 18:15-18; Num. 12:3; John 1: 17; Gal. 3:17-24

**Resources:** Chronological Outline; K.G Leinberg's Bible History Parts 24-30

## 1.6 Kings of the Old Testament

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1. Student will know the first three kings of Israel and the main phases of their lives.
2. Student will understand how these three kings found favor or disfavor with God.
3. Student will know how the kings of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah sinned and fell away.
4. Student will understand how the kings Hezekiah and Josiah pleased God.

**Scripture:** 1 Sam. 13:11-14; 15:1-35; 23:1-29; 28:3-25; 31:1-13; 1 Sam. 16:1,7,11,13;  
2 Sam. 11-12; 1 Kings 3:3-15; 11:1-13; 2 Chr. 36:15, 16; 1 Kings 16:23-33;  
2 Kings 21:1-16; 2 Kings 18-20; 2 Chr. 29-32; 2 Kings 22:1-23:30; 2 Chr. 34-35

**Resources:** BF 10; Chronological Outline; K.G. Leinberg's Bible History Parts 34-42; 46-47

## 1.7 Prophets of the Old Testament

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1. Student will understand the office and calling of the prophets.
2. Student will know when and where the prophets worked.
3. Student will understand the message of the prophets.

**Scripture:** Jer. 1:4-8; 20:7-9; Zech 1:9; Gal. 3:19; 2 Pet. 1:20,21 Matt. 7:12; 1 Pet. 1:10-12;  
2 Chr. 36:15,16; Jer. 25:3-7; Luke 1:70; 11:47-51; Acts 3:21; Isa. 1:16-18; 43:1,25; Ezek.  
18:21-24; Mic. 7:18,19; Matt. 7:12; 22:36-40; Luke 18:31-33; 24:25-27,44; John 1:45;  
Acts 3:18-24

**Resources:** BF 11; See "Prophets" K.G. Leinberg's Bible History Parts 46-47, 49

## 1.8 The Message of the New Testament

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1. Student will understand that the principal content of the New Testament is the message of Jesus Christ's life, suffering, death, and resurrection, and the life of the early congregation.
2. Student will understand why the Old and New Testaments are one completeness.
3. Student will understand that the Old Testament was the Bible of Jesus and the disciples.
4. Student will know the types of books in the New Testament, the primary content of each type, and where they are found.

**Scripture:** Matt. 1:1 Mark 1:1; Acts 1: 1,2; 1 Cor. 2:1,2; 2 Cor. 4:5; John 5:39; Acts 10:43; Matt. 4: 4,7,10; 13:14,15; 22:31,32; Mark 10:6-9; Luke 4:16,17; 24:44; Acts 2:14-21, 25-28; 1 Pet.1:24

**Resources:** BF 16; CD 29

## 1.9 The Four Gospels

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1. Student will know the meaning of the word gospel.
2. Student will know the main message of the gospel.
3. Student will understand how the synoptic gospels complement one another.
4. Student will understand how the gospel of John, although different in its content than the synoptic gospels, conveys the same message about Jesus Christ.

**Resources:** BF 13

NOTE: Lesson is also in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday school curriculum. See following 2 pages.

## Lesson 4: The Four Gospels (From LLC Sunday School Curriculum)

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- A. The student will know when the gospels were written and who wrote them.
- B. The student will understand that the main message of the gospels is the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ for our redemption.
- C. The student will understand that Matthew, Mark, and Luke all present the same description (synoptic) of the life and ministry of Christ.
- D. The student will understand that while the Gospel of John differs in content from Matthew, Mark, and Luke, it conveys the same message about Jesus Christ.

**Scripture:** Matthew 3:11-17, 26:1-56, 28:9-20; Mark 1:1-11, 14:10-42; Luke 3:16-22, 24:44-53;  
John 1:29-34, 10:7-18, 13:31-38

**Vocabulary:** historical, synoptic, gospel, evangelist

**Resources:** *By Faith*, p. 43; *Eerdmans' Handbook to the Bible*, pp. 468-548

**Memory Work:** Catechism review

**Note:** Following is an outline of some key information that may be helpful to the teacher.

### A. Gospel of Matthew

1. Matthew is the author. (Matt. 9:9, 10:1-3; Mark 2:13-14; Luke 5:27-32)
2. Written after the Gospel of Mark around the third quarter of the 1st century

### B. Gospel of Mark

1. Mark, disciple of Peter, wrote Peter's memories of Christ. (Acts 12:12, 12:25, 15:37; Col. 4:10; 2 Tim. 4:11; 1 Pet. 5:13)
2. Written after the martyrdom of Paul and Peter, about 70 A.D.

### C. Gospel of Luke

1. Luke, a doctor, traveled with Paul on many of his missionary journeys.
2. Luke also wrote the Book of Acts while traveling with Paul.
3. Luke recorded Paul's memories of Christ. (Acts 16:10-17, 27:1-37, 28:1-14)
4. Written after 70 A.D.

### D. Gospel of John

1. John is the author. (Matt. 4:18-22, 17:1-2; Mark 14: 33-34; Luke 22:8; Acts 12:1-2; Rev. 1:1)
2. Written near the end of the 1st century
3. John wrote this gospel after most witnesses of Christ's life had died.
4. John was more concerned with the spiritual meaning of Christ's life because he was writing for believers who were believing without seeing.

5. John was now writing for all people of the world; he refers to Christ as the Son of God, not a messiah only for the Jews.

## 1.10 The Acts of the Apostles

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1. Student will know who is the author of Acts.
2. Student will know the main parts of Acts and the main content of each part.
3. Students will understand how the Early Congregation operated and spread the message of the gospel.

**Scripture:** Acts 1:1; Luke 1:4-7; Acts 13:1-4,46,47; 10:9-20; 2:42-47

**Resources:** BF 14; K.G Leinberg's Bible History Parts 40-49

NOTE: Lesson is also in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday school curriculum. See following page.

## Lesson 11: The Early Congregation—Acts of the Apostles (From LLC Sunday school curriculum)

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- A. The student will learn that the Acts of the Apostles, written by Luke, is a record of the early congregation in the beginning of the New Testament time.
- B. The student will study examples in the Acts of the Apostles that illustrate the operation of the Holy Spirit in the congregation.
- C. The student will learn that there are parallels between the early congregation and the time we are living as believers today.

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**Scripture:** Acts 1:1-26, 2:1-47, 3:1-9, 3:19, 4:11-12, 5:1-11, 5:17-20, 10:34-35, 26:15-18, 28:28

**Vocabulary:** apostle, Pentecost, persecution, martyr, gentile

**Resources:** *By Faith*, p. 45; LLC *Bible Reference Materials* binder, Acts of the Apostles section

**Memory Work:** Catechism review

## 1.11 Letters of the New Testament

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1. Student will know the authors of the New Testament letters.
2. Student will understand that the letters deal with issues that faced the Early Church, such as the second coming of Christ, the office of the Law, how Christians relate to the government, how do Christians properly partake of Holy Communion, how believers relate to alcohol, adultery, divorce, unbelieving people, etc.
3. Student will understand how these instructions can help us today in our lives.

**Scripture:** 1 Thess. 4:15-5:2; James 5:7,8 Gal. 3:19-26; Rom. 13:1-7; Tit. 3:1; 1 Pet. 2:13-17; 1 Cor. 11:17-34; Rom. 13:13; Eph. 5:18; 1 Thess. 5:7,8; Gal. 5:19-21; 1 Cor. 7:10-17; 7:39; 2 Cor. 6:14-18

**Resources:** BF 15

## Section 2: The Triune God

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## 2.1 God Reveals Himself

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1. Student will understand that God has revealed himself to us as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
2. Student will know the three principle creeds of Christian faith.
3. Student will know the articles of the Apostle's Creed.
4. Student will understand the work of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as explained in the Holy Scriptures and Luther's explanation of the Creed.

**Scripture:** Gen. 1:26; 3:22; Isa. 6:3, 8; 11:2,3; 48:16; 61:1; Tit. 2:13; John 1:14,18;  
1 John 4:9; John 10:30,38; 12:45; 14:7-10; Prov. 30:4

**Resources:** CD 43; See Nave's: Trinity; God – Fatherhood; Jesus – Divinity; Holy Spirit

## 2.2 God, Our Heavenly Father

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1. Student will understand that according to Jesus' teaching, God is our Heavenly Father, who loves His children like a good father loves his own children.
2. Student will understand that God, as our Heavenly Father, knows all our needs both temporal and spiritual, and provides us all that is necessary.
3. Student will understand that as a believer he/she has the right to approach God as a child would his/her own father.
4. Student will realize that faith is sure trusting in God as the Heavenly Father.

**Scripture:** Exod. 4:22; Ps. 68:5; Matt. 6:8,25-34; 7:7-11; Heb. 11:6; James 1:5-7

**Resources:** CD 11; Small Catechism: Lord's Prayer – 1<sup>st</sup> petition

## 2.3 God's Will – How is it Fulfilled?

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1. Student will understand that the commandments God has given to mankind, especially the Ten Commandments, are for our protection and that they are the law of life.
2. Student will understand that God himself is acting in the world and battles against evil by the means of social order and human relations.
3. Student will understand that God's Ten Commandment Law reveals what God's expects from us in relation to Him and other people.
4. Student will realize that God's command of love is the summary of His law and will.
5. Student will understand that God's will touches both a person's private life and society.
6. Student will understand that in new situations of life, one is to ask again and again what the will of God is.
7. Student will understand that while the Law obligates man to do God's will, it also reveals his/her transgressions and drives him/her to Christ.

**Scripture:** Rom. 13:1-7; Matt. 22:35-40; Rom. 13:10; Rom. 13:8-10; Prov. 14:34

**Resources:** CD 18, 19, 20

## 2.4 Jesus – The Promise Fulfilled

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1. Student will know some of the major prophecies concerning Jesus that are in the Old Testament.
2. Student will know the main phases and work of Jesus' life.
3. Student will understand that God's salvation work climaxes in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

**Scripture:** Luke 2:41-50; 3:21,22; 4:1-13; John 3:16; Rom. 3:19,20; 5:13; Gal.3:24,25;  
1 John 4:9,10

**Resources:** K.G. Leinberg's Bible History Parts NT 1-39

## 2.5 Jesus of Nazareth – Man and God

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1. Student will understand that Jesus of Nazareth is both true man and true God.
2. Student will understand that Jesus' origin was unique: He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
3. Student will realize that Jesus, as true man, like us experienced pain, hunger, sorrow, joy, fear and so on, but was nonetheless without sin.
4. Student will understand that Jesus spoke of himself as the Messiah and God's Son.
5. Student will understand that Jesus, as true God, had a unique relationship with the Father and that the Father has given Him all power in heaven and on earth.

**Scripture:** Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:19-23; Phil. 2:9,10; Heb. 1:2,3; 1 Pet. 3:22

**Resources:** BF 19b; See Lesson 1.2: The Message of the Old Testament; CD 29; CD 30-38

## 2.6 Jesus, Our Savior

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1. Student will understand that Jesus' salvation work was a crucial victory over sin and death, even though they will be destroyed completely at the end of time.
2. Student will know the passion history of Jesus and understand that He died for our sins and corrected the Fall in paradise.
3. Student will realize that he/she can receive his/her sins forgiven on the basis of Jesus' suffering and sacrificial death.

**Scripture:** Rom. 5:12,18,19; 1 Cor. 15:22-26,51-57; 2 Cor. 5:18-21; Rev. 1:17,18; 20:14 Matt. 26:14-27:66; Mark 14:12-15:47; Luke 22:7-23:56; John 18:1-19:42; Gen. 3:15,21

**Resources:** BF 20; CD 39; K.G. Leinberg's Bible History NT Parts 30-35

## 2.7 The Holy Spirit, Our Teacher

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1. Student will realize that the office of the Holy Spirit is that of Sanctifier.
2. Student will understand that God sent His Holy Spirit into His Congregation; it has also spoken through the prophets of the Old Testament. The Holy Spirit speaks to us in our bosom and through the spoken word in God's congregation.
3. Student will realize that the office of the keys is a function of the Holy Spirit. Forgiveness is the office of the Spirit and not the office of mere words.

**Scripture:** Matt. 16:15-19; John 20:19-23; Acts 10:43; Rom. 3:24,25; 1 Cor. 6:11; Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14; Heb. 4:15; 9:7-12; 1 John 1:7; 5:13; 1 Pet. 1:18, 19; Rev. 5:9; 7:14; Jer. 1:4,5; Rom. 15:16; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 5:25-27; 2 Thess. 2:13,14; 1 Pet. 1:1,2; 1 John 1:9

**Resources:** BF 21; Apostle's, Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds

## 2.8 The Holy Spirit Continues the Work of Christ

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1. Student will understand that the work of Christ continues in this world as the work of the Holy Spirit in Christ's congregation, the kingdom of God.
2. Student will understand that God has a congregation here on earth; it is made up of believers who are joined by the bonds of the Holy Spirit.
3. Student will understand the work of the Holy Spirit as it is explained in Scripture, the third article of the Creed, and Luther's explanation of the third article of the Creed.

**Scripture:** Matt. 7:21-23; Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 13:11; Luke 12:11, 12; John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7-13; 2 Pet. 1:20, 21; Acts 2:2-4; Acts 19:13-16; Rom. 5:5; 1 Cor. 4:20; 6:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 3:4,5; 1 Thess. 1:5; 4:7, 8; 2 Tim. 1:14; Rom. 8; John 20:22,23; Acts 2:38; Matt. 7:21-23; Acts 19:13-16

**Resources:** BF 21; CD 44-49

### Section 3: Fundamental Questions

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### 3.1 The Most Precious Matter in Our Lives

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1. Student will understand that to know God and our Savior Jesus Christ is the most precious matter in man's life.
2. Student will understand that God reveals himself to all people in nature, the universe, and the history of nations. This is called the general revelation.
3. Student will understand that this general revelation is not sufficient for knowing God.
4. Student will understand that God has especially revealed himself in the history of Israel, the message of the prophets, and finally in His Son, Jesus Christ.
5. Student will understand that only in Jesus Christ can man truly know God.

**Scripture:** Matt. 4:4; 6:21, 33; 13:44-46; Phil. 3:7,8; Hos. 6:6; Heb. 11:1,6; James 2:19;  
John 10:9; 14:6; Rom. 5:1,2; 2 Cor. 4:6; Eph. 2:12,13; Col. 1:20-22; Heb. 7:25;  
1 Pet. 3:18

**Resources:** BF 1; CD 1; CD 4; CD 5

## 3.2 Creation of the Universe

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1. Student will understand that God has created the universe and all that is in it.
2. Student will understand how to relate what the Bible teaches concerning the origin of the universe to the teachings of natural science.
3. Student will understand that while God is almighty and holy, He is, nonetheless, near us in His love.
4. Student will understand that for those who trust in God the future is always open, for God in His wisdom guides world events and creates new things.

**Scripture:** Gen. 1-2; John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16; Heb. 11:3; Ps. 19:1-3; Job 12:7-9; Isa. 43:1-4

**Resources:** BF 4; CD 3; CD 10; CD 12; CD 13

### 3.3 Creation of Man

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1. Student will understand that God has created man from the dust of the earth and gave him an undying spirit.
2. Student will understand that God has created man in His own image and in His fellowship so that he/she can speak to God and hear His speech.
3. Student will understand that God has created man both male and female.
4. Student will understand that everyone will have to answer for his/her deeds and omissions before God.
5. Student will see that the human worth that God has given him/her is significant.
6. Student will understand that he/she is not here by accident, but by the will of God, and that God takes care of him/her.

**Scripture:** Gen. 1:27,28; 2:18,21-24; Job 34:11; Ps. 62:12; Jer. 17:10; Deut. 32:5; Job 14:5; Ps. 8:3-6; Nahum 1:7; Acts 17:26-28; 2 Tim. 2:19

**Resources:** CD 14; CD 15; K.G. Leinberg's Bible History OT Part 2

### 3.4 The Fall

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1. Student will understand that through the Fall, sin and death have entered the world.
2. Student will understand that as a result of the Fall, sin dwells in his/her members.
3. Student will understand that sin is the transgression of God's will and the committing of iniquity against our neighbor.
4. Student will understand that leaving good undone is also sin.
5. Student will understand that sin is in essence the falling away of the heart from God and rebellion against Him.
6. Student will understand that sin appears both in relations between people and in distortions of community life.
7. Student will understand that although God hates sin and condemns it, He loves sinful man and wishes to save him from everlasting condemnation.

**Scripture:** Rom. 7:17-21; James 4:17; 2 Chr. 12:14; Jer. 17:9,10; Matt. 22:39,40;  
Rom. 13:9,10; Gal. 5:14; James 2:8; Exod.22:21, 22; 23:1-3,6,7;  
Lev. 19:15,35, 36; Deut. 27:19; Amos 5:11,12; Ezek. 18:21-32

**Resources:** CD 21-28; K.G. Leinberg's Bible History OT Part 3; "Sin and its Consequences", LLC  
Website – Timely Topics

## 3.5 Conscience

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1. Student will understand that a properly functioning conscience is bound by God's Word and the Holy Spirit.
2. Student will understand that in a conscience bound by the Scripture, he can hear God speaking.
3. Student will wish to learn to hear God speaking in his conscience.
4. Student will see that it is significant that God wishes to forgive and cleanse the conscience.
5. Student will know how to care for his/her conscience.

**Scripture:** Gen. 39:7-12; Dan. 1:8; Gen. 3:7,8; 1 Sam. 24:5; 2 Sam. 24:10;  
Job 15:20-25; 27:5,6; Ps. 32:3,4; 38:1-22; 40:11,12; 51:1-19; Prov. 16:25;  
Jer. 6:15; Luke 11:33-36; Acts 24:16; Rom. 2:14, 15; 7:15-23;  
1 Tim. 1:18,19; 3:9; Heb. 9:14; 10:22; Isa. 1:16,18; 1 Pet. 3:15-17;  
1 John 3:20-21; 1 Cor. 4:3-5; Ps. 139:23,24

**Resources:** CD 16

## 3.6 The Law and the Gospel

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1. Student will understand that God gave the Law to give knowledge of sin and drive man to Christ.
2. Student will understand that the Gospel promises man the forgiveness of sins and salvation in Christ without the works of the Law. In the gospel a new man is born.
3. Student will understand that those who have through the Gospel come into faith cannot be touched by the condemnation of the Law.
4. Student will understand that when the Holy Spirit sanctifies man, the grace of God teaches him to forsake sin and live in obedience to God's will.

**Scripture:** Heb. 4:12, Matt. 4:23; 5:18; Mark 1:14,15; 24; Luke 10:25-28; John 1:17;  
Gal. 3:13, 24; Rom. 3:20; 7:7-13; 1 Thess. 1:5; Rev. 14:6; Isa. 55:1; Jer. 31:31-34; Gal.  
2:16; 5:4,18; Mark 16:15; Rom. 10:4; 2 Cor. 3:6-11; Gal. 3:25; 1 Tim. 1:8,9; Rom. 6:12-  
14; Col. 3:1-13; Tit. 2:11-14

**Resources:** CD 55; See Lesson 2.3 “God’s Will – How is it Fulfilled?”; See Lesson 2.7 “The Holy Spirit, Our Teacher”; Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 49-54; “The Law and the Gospel”, LLC Website – Timely Topics

### 3.7 Death, Resurrection, the Final Judgment

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1. Student know that there are three kinds of death and understand the consequences of each.
2. Student will know that at the end of time Christ will appear in His glory and awaken all the dead.
3. Student will know that on the Last Day all will be gathered before Christ's judgment seat.
4. Student will know that finally God will create a new heaven and earth and completely destroy sin, evil, and death.
5. Student will understand that everlasting life is fellowship with God, that it begins in faith already in temporal life and that everlasting condemnation is final separation from God.
6. Student will see that those that believe in Christ do not need to fear Christ's second coming, for it is a day of joy and victory for His own.

**Scripture:** 1 Thess. 4:13-17

**Resources:** BF 29, 30; CD 107-110

### 3.8 Repentance and Conversion—Entering God’s Kingdom

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1. Student will understand the three parts of conversion identified in the Augsburg Confession.
2. Through the means of repentance narratives in the Bible and real life experiences, the student will understand that God has established a single means of entering the fellowship of His grace which we call conversion.

Conversion happens in only one way; it is not a process of evolving, but is a particular event which happens in the twinkling of an eye.

3. Student will understand that a sinner is made righteous, that is, acceptable to God when he/she is believes the gospel and is thus converted, for faith owns Christ's work of redemption. Conversion is followed by the righteousness or amendment of life.

**Scripture:** John 14:16,17,26; 15:26; 16:7-15; Rom. 8:9; John 13:34,35; 17:11,21,22;  
Acts 2:42,44-47; 1 Cor. 1:10; 10:16,17; 12:13; Eph. 2:18-22; 4:3-6; 5:29,30,32; Phil.  
1:27; 2:1,2; 1 John 1:3,7; 5:1; 2 Kings 5; Luke 15:11-24; John 3:1-8; 10:9; Matt. 16:19;  
Acts 8:26-38; 9:1-18; 10:23-48; Rom. 10:13-17; Eph. 5:26; Tit. 3:5; 1 Pet. 1:23; John  
3:16; Rom. 3:21-26; 6:20-23; Eph. 2:8; Gal. 5:16-26; Tit. 3:1-8; James 2:17,18,20

**Resources:** BF 19a; BF 24; CD 71; Augsburg Confession: Article XII; Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field* p. 41-48

### 3.9 The Church Law of Christ

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1. The student will understand three steps in the church law and how they may be used in practice.
2. The student will understand that the “church law of Christ” is not truly a law, but rather a principle that Christ has given for care of men’s souls. The foundation of the law is the love of the undying soul.
3. The student will know where this teaching is found in the Bible.

**Scripture:** Matt. 5:29-30, 18:7-9, 18:15-20

**Vocabulary:** law, principle

**Resources:** *Bible Class Book I*, lesson IX; *Voice of Zion*, April 1978 “Church Law of Christ”; *New Testament Homework Questions*, lesson 6; “The Church Law of Christ” LLC Website – Timely Topics; “Brethren, if a Man be Overtaken in a Fault”, LLC Website – Timely Topics

## Section 4: Caring for Faith

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## 4.1 Baptism

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1. Student will understand that baptism is not new birth but the covenant of a good conscience.
2. Student will understand that in the covenant of baptism he/she can take refuge in God's love and forgiveness.
3. Student will understand the obligations of the covenant of baptism.
4. Student will know the scriptural foundation for child baptism.
5. Student will know how to arrange and perform a baptism.

**Scripture:** 1 John 1:7-9; 1 Pet. 3:21; Acts 2: 38-41; 8:35-38; 9:17,18;10:44-48; Mark 16:15,16; Gal. 3:27; Rom. 6:3-6; Mark 10: 13-16; Matt.18:3-6

**Resources:** BF 25; Small Catechism Part IV; CD 59; CD 60; Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 61-65

## 4.2 Confession

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1. Student will understand that confession is the confessing of sin and the receiving of absolution.
2. Student will understand why a child of God uses confession.
3. Student will understand who has the power to forgive sins.
4. Student will understand the office and responsibility of a confessor father or mother.
5. Student will understand that we are saved by faith not confession, but that confession is a grace privilege that helps us to care for our conscience and preserve faith.

**Scripture:** Ps. 32:1-5; Prov. 28:13; Acts 24:16; 1 Tim. 1:19; 3:9; Heb. 10:22; 12:1-3; James 5:16; Matt. 18:18; John 20:22,23; Rom. 1:17; Eph. 2:8

**Resources:** BF 27; Small Catechism Part V; CD 83; Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 87-92; “Confession”, LLC Website – Timely Topics

## 4.3 Holy Communion

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1. Student will know that Jesus Christ himself has instituted Holy Communion.
2. Student will understand that Communion is celebrated in remembrance of Christ's sacrificial death.
3. Student will understand that Jesus Christ himself is present in the bread and wine which we receive.
4. Student will understand who are acceptable and unacceptable Communion guests.
5. Student will understand the benefits of Holy Communion.
6. Student will understand that Holy Communion is also the feast of God's family and as such is a meal of fellowship.
7. Student will understand how he/she should conduct him/herself at the Communion table.
8. Student will distinguish between Communion and conversion—there is no new birth in Communion.

**Scripture:** 1 Cor. 11:26; Luke 22:19, 20, 22; 1 Cor.10:16; 1 Cor. 11:27-29

**Resources:** BF 26; Small Catechism Part VI; CD 62; Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 66-71

## 4.4 Prayer

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1. Student will know what prayer is and will be able to pray as God's Word teaches.
2. Student will be able to say the Lord's Prayer, the Benediction, and to understand their meaning.
3. Student will understand that the Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ make intercessions on our behalf.
4. Student will understand that God hears our prayers but may delay in fulfilling them or may give us that which is more needful for us.

**Scripture:** Matt. 6:5-15; Ps. 42:1,2; 100; 130; 150; Num. 6:24-26; Rom. 8:24-28; 34; Heb. 7:25; Exod. 17:10-13; Jer. 29:11-14; Luke 18:1-8; John 16:23-30; Acts 12:1-11; 16:25-34; Ps. 66:20; James 5:16

**Resources:** BF 28; CD 78-82; Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 72-77; "Prayer", LLC Website – Timely Topics (2 introductions)

## Section 5: Church History

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## 5.1 Luther and the Reformation

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1. Student will understand the main reasons for the Reformation.
2. Student will know the main phases and events of Luther's life.
3. Student will know the main principles of Lutheran doctrine (the Word of God is Christian faith and life's highest authority and guide, man is saved by faith alone, and the priesthood of believers).
4. Student will recognize Luther's principle works (the Small Catechism, his translation of the Bible, and his hymns).

**Resources:** *Martin Luther, A Faithful Servant of God*

## 5.2 Lars Levi Laestadius – The Laestadian Movement

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1. Student will understand the main phases of Laestadius's life, repentance, and work.
2. Student will understand how Laestadianism spread in Scandinavia.
3. Student will know how Laestadianism spread to North America.
4. Student will know the general history of the early Laestadian congregations
5. Student will know the major heresies, their doctrinal errors, and when they occurred.
6. Student will understand that Laestadianism is not merely an ethnic movement, but open to all penitent sinners.

**Resources:**     *The Boy Who Loved Flowers*

### 5.3 The Gospel Work Today

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1. Student will understand when and why the LLC was established.
2. Student will understand the mission and role of the LLC.
3. Student will know the primary work forms used by the LLC.
4. Student will understand how the LLC funds its work.

**Scripture:** Gen. 2:15;

**Resources:** CD 17

## Section 6: Christian in Society

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## 6.1: In the World but not of the World

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1. Student will understand that a Christian is a citizen of two worlds: the kingdom of God and this world.
2. Student will understand how a Christian is, on the one hand, separated from this world, and, on the other, involved in it.
3. Student will understand that because a Christian's conscience is bound to God's Word, he/she cannot always do something because, "Everyone else is doing it."
4. Student will understand that a Christian wishes to live as he/she believes at home and in public and work constructively in the society in which he/she dwells.
5. Student will understand that God also wishes them to fulfill His will in the various situations of social life.
6. Student will understand that God wants him/her to confess their faith in word and deed in life's situations and thus confess the Lord.
7. Student will understand that Christ has promised to be with His own every day, everywhere.

**Scripture:** Matt. 10:16; John 3:19; 17:9-11, 14-17,19,25; 18:36,37; 2 Cor. 6:14-18;  
James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17; Gen. 39:9; 2 Cor. 7:1; Col. 3:17; Jer. 29:7; 2 Cor. 5:9; Matt.  
6:24; Matt. 5:13-16; 10:32,33; 2 Tim. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:14-17; Matt. 18:20; 28:20; Mark  
16:18; Luke 10:19

**Resources:** Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 95-99

NOTE: Lesson is also in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday school curriculum. See following page.

## In the World but not of the World (From Sunday School Curriculum)

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1. The student will understand that a Christian is a citizen of two worlds: the kingdom of God and this world.
2. The student will understand how a Christian is, on the one hand, separated from this world, and, on the other hand, involved in it.
3. The student will understand that, because a Christian's conscience is bound to God's Word, he cannot always do something because "everyone else is doing it."
4. The student will understand that a Christian wishes to live as he believes, at home and in public, and work constructively in the society in which he dwells.
5. The student will understand that God wishes him to fulfill His will in the various situations of social life.
6. The student will learn to ask and seek God's will in social issues.
7. The student will understand that God wants him to confess his faith in word and deed in life's situations and thus confess the Lord.
8. The student will understand that Christ has promised to be with His own every day, everywhere.

**Scripture:** Matt. 5:13-16, 6:24, 10:16, 18:20, 28:20; John 3:19, 17:9-25, 18:36-37;  
2 Cor. 5:9, 6:14-18, 7:1, 10:32-33; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17; Gen. 39:9; Col. 3:17; Jer.  
29:7; 2 Tim. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:14-17; Mark 16:18; Luke 10:19

**Vocabulary:** conformed

**Resources:** *By Faith*, pp. 102-135; *From Victory to Victory*, pp. 14, 35;  
*The Voice of Zion*, October 1997

## 6.2 Our Responsibility for Nature

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1. Student will understand that man has been placed upon the earth not only to "cultivate" the earth but also to keep it.
2. Student will understand the problems caused by the depletion of natural resources.
3. Student will understand the significance that preserving a clean environment has in man's life.
4. Student will understand man's responsibility to future generations in his role as "keeper" of the earth.
5. Student will understand that extreme environmental movements may teach unscriptural positions and sometimes are linked to an unscriptural spirituality.

**Scripture:** Gen. 1:26,28; 2:15

**Resources:** BF 32,33; CD 89

## 6.3 The Young Christian – School, Work, Leisure Time

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1. Student will understand the significance of work and study in man's life.
2. Student will understand that man is responsible to God for both his/her work and free time.
3. Student will begin to see the problems connected with work and study and ask how God's will can be accomplished in them.
3. Student will see work and study as an opportunity to serve God and neighbor.
4. Student will see work, study, and free time as an opportunity to fulfill him/herself.
5. Student will understand that everyone has the human worth that God has given him/her regardless of their profession or accomplishments.
6. Student will understand the dangers and temptations that are especially associated with leisure time and how to combat them.

**Scripture:** Dan. 1

**Resources:** BF 34; CD 90; Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 107-112

## 6.4 The Sabbath

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1. Student will understand that God has commanded a day of rest so that man has opportunity to pause beside God's Holy Word and to also rest and refresh his mind and body.
2. The student will be able to explain how the Sabbath day is honored and give examples that demonstrate their understanding.

**Scripture:** Gen. 2:1-3; Ex. 16:23-30, 20:8-10; Heb. 4:4-10

## 6.5 The Christian and Society – Relating to Other Groups of People

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1. Student will understand that God wishes him/her to fulfill His will in the various situations of societal life also.
2. Student will learn to ask for and seek God's will in various issues of societal life.
3. Student will understand that God wishes him/her to confess faith in word and deed in different situations of societal life and thus confess their Lord.
4. Student will see the significance of Christ's promise to be with His own every day, everywhere, also in societal life.
5. Student will understand that as God's creation people are equal, but at the same time different and unique.
6. Student will try to develop his/her own and the group's attitude toward acceptance of other groups and cooperation with them without departing from the teachings of God's Holy Word.
7. Student will learn to find methods for diminishing tension between groups, understanding here also the significance of asking and granting forgiveness.

**Scripture:** Prov. 14:34; Jer. 29:7; Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Tim. 2:1,2; 1 Pet. 2:13-15; I Kings 3:7-9; Ps. 5:8; 17:5; 143:8, 10; Prov. 1:7; 11: 10,11; 29:8; Eccl. 9:18; Matt. 5:13-16; Gen. 39:1-9; Ps. 23; 34:7-10,15,17; 84:11; Prov. 1:33; 2:21,22; Nah. 1:7; Matt. 28:20; Mark 16:18; Luke: 10:19; John 16:33; 2 Cor. 4:16-18; Gen. 1:27; Acts 10:28; 17:26-28; Gal. 3:28; Job 31:13-15; Ps. 33:13-15,18,19; Matt. 5:13-16; Heb. 12:14; Rom. 12:18-21;

**Resources:** BF 36; “Neither Jew nor Greek”, LLC Website – Timely Topics

## 6.6 Differences Between Nations – Rich and Poor

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1. Student will learn to value his/her own national heritage as a gift of God, but at the same time relate positively to other nations.
2. Student will understand that God wishes that every people would be able to live in its own land and follow righteousness.
3. Student will understand that we are to strive to resolve conflicts between nations with peaceful means.

**Scripture:** Acts 17:26, 27; Prov. 14:34; Ezek. 18:32; 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9; Ps. 34:14;  
Matt. 5:9

## 6.7 Saved to Serve

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1. Student will know how diakonia, or Christian service, originated.
2. Student will know the most important forms of diakonia.
3. Student will know how diakonia is performed in his/her own congregation.
4. Student will learn to serve and wish to participate in his/her congregation's diakonia.

**Scripture:** Acts 6:1-6

**Resources:** BF 37; CD 85

## Section 7: Christian Faith in the Life of the Young

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## 7.1 Freedom and Responsibility

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1. Students will understand that God wishes him/her to grow in a manner that will let him be a responsible person so that others can trust him.
2. Students will understand that freedom and responsibility go together
3. Student will understand that he/she is responsible for his/her deeds and omissions both to man and God.
4. Student will understand that he/she can obtain forgiveness from others and from God when they have failed to be worthy of others' trust.
5. Student will develop a desire to become a responsible neighbor.
6. Student will understand that life is a gift from God and that he/she is responsible to Him, for each other, for his/her society, and that he/she has individual responsibility in a group also.
7. Student will understand that in Christian faith there is no question of do's and don't's, but rather the preservation of true freedom with a pure conscience.

**Scripture:** Matt. 7:12; Ps. 51:1-8; Matt. 25:14-30; 31-46; Luke 10:25-37; 12:42-48; 17:7-10; 1 Cor. 10:24; Ps. 32:5; 103:1-4,8,10-14,17; Luke 15:11-24; John 8:34-36; Rom. 14:13-23; 1 Cor. 6:24; Gal. 5:1; 1 Pet. 2:15, 16

## 7.2 Becoming an Adult

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1. Student will understand that becoming an independent adult is an important stage in his/her life, and that physical maturity does not automatically ensure emotional maturity.
2. Student will understand that it is God's will that he/she become an independent adult.
3. Student will know the changes that commonly occur as a result of development and maturation.
4. Student will recognize the most common difficulties of adolescence.
5. Student will understand that God wishes him/her to honor his/her parents even in the conflicts of adolescence.
6. Student will understand that God is with him/her and helps in the difficulties of becoming an independent adult.

**Scripture;** Gen. 2:24; Luke 2:52; Lev. 19:32; Prov. 1:8,9; 23:22; 30:17; Luke 2:51;  
Rom. 12:3,10,16,17; Eph. 6:1-4; Col. 3:20; 1 Tim. 4:12; 2 Tim. 2:22; 1 Pet. 5:5, 6 Ps.  
119:9; Eccl. 11:9-12:1; 1 Tim. 6:11,12

## 7.3 Courtship

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1. Student will understand that sexuality is part of God's creation work and a gift which He blesses when it is used in faith and obedience to His Word.
2. Student will understand that as God's creation man and woman are equal, although they are different.
3. Student will understand what kinds of sexuality are wrong in the light of God's Word.
4. Student will understand the purpose of courtship and how a believer conducts him/herself in courtship.
5. Student will understand how he/she can avoid temptation in courtship (for example, by listening to God's Word, discussing our temptations with other believers, caring for our conscience, choose a believing, a sincerely believing group of friends, choose only good reading and listening materials, choose good and constructive hobbies).
6. Student will understand what are the most important characteristics in a life's companion.
7. Student will feel responsibility in the matters of love and courtship and understand that God forgives sins and failing in this area also.
8. Student will understand the difference between infatuation and courtship.

**Scripture:** Gen. 1:27,28; 2:23,24; Exod. 20:14; Song of Sol. 2:7; Matt. 5:28; John 8:1-11; Rom. 1:22-27; 1 Cor. 6:9,15,16,18-20; 7:1,2,7-9; 10:8; Gal. 5:19; Eph. 5:5; 2 Pet. 2:11; 1 John 2:16; Gen. 2:23,24

**Resources:** BF 35; “Christian Courtship”, LLC Website – Timely Topics (2 introductions)

NOTE: Lesson is also in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday school curriculum. See following page.

## Courtship (From LLC Sunday school curriculum)

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- A. The student will understand that sexuality is part of God's creation work and a gift that He blesses when it is used in faith and obedience to His Word.
- B. The student will understand that as God's creation, man and woman are different but nevertheless equal.
- C. The student will understand what kinds of sexuality are wrong in the light of God's Word.
- D. The student will understand the purpose of courtship and how a believer conducts him/herself during courtship.

**Scripture:** Gen. 1:26-28, 21:6-8; Ps. 127:3-5; Eph. 5:1-5, 5:21-33; Acts 15:2; 1 Cor. 5:1-5, 5:13, 7:9; Gen. 24

**Vocabulary:** courtship, adultery

**Resources:** *From Victory to Victory*, p. 75-82; "Christian Courtship," 1996 Outlook Summer Services Youth Discussion, presentation by Dan Rintamaki; *Voice of Zion*, March 2003, April 2003, June 2003

## 7.4 Marriage and Family Life

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1. Students will understand that God has established marriage as the basic relationship for mutual life, for the protection of love between man and woman, and securing the life and development of children.
2. Student will recognize the outward and inward prerequisites for establishing a family.
3. Student will learn to see marriage as a continuing growth and duty in changing life circumstances.
4. Student will understand that the unmarried and single state are just as worthy roles and forms of life as the married state.
5. Student will understand that marriage is instituted and ordained by God, and that this union only ends with the death of one spouse.

**Scripture:** Gen. 1:28; 2:24; Prov. 18:22; 19:14; 31:10-12; Matt. 19:5; John 15:8-12;  
1 Cor. 13; Eph. 5:22-33; 6:1-4; Col.3:18-21; 1 Cor. 7:1,6-9,17

**Resources:** BF 35; CD 93, 94; Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 100-106

NOTE: Lesson is also in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday school curriculum. See following page.

## Lesson 22: Marriage and Family Life (From LLC Sunday school curriculum)

- A. The student will understand that God has established marriage as the basic relationship for mutual life, for the protection of love between man and woman, and to provide a secure environment for the life and development of children.
- B. The student will become familiar with Scripture portions that teach about marriage as a union between a man and a woman and about the permanence of marriage.
- C. The student will understand that marriage is a permanent union that endures through good times and difficult times and is severed only by death.
- D. The student will understand that children are God's gifts to the parents.
- E. The student will understand that birth control and abortion are against God's Word.

**Scripture:** Eph. 5:22-29, 6:4, 6:1-4; Gen. 1:27-28, 2:18, 2:24, 3:16; Matt. 18:6, 19:5-6; 1 Peter 3:1, 3:6-7; Col. 3:19; Prov. 18:22

**Vocabulary:** union, birth control, abortion, nurture

**Resources:** *Pastors Guide to Christian Weddings*; *Siionin Lahetysehti*, No. 11, 1997; "The Sanctity of Marriage," 1999 LLC Detroit Summer Services, presentation by Walt Lampi; *Luther's Small Catechism*; *Voice of Zion*, March 2004, October 2003, September 2003, June 2003, January 1999

## 7.5 Tobacco and Intoxicants

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1. Student will understand that the Bible exhorts us to sobriety and why it does so.
2. Student will understand that a Christian does not need to escape reality with the help of intoxicants.
3. Student will understand that the law forbids the use of tobacco by minors and as a result its use is sin for them.
4. Student will understand that Christian freedom requires responsibility for both one's own behavior as well as others.
5. Student will understand that the users of intoxicants are to be helped in their difficulties.

**Scripture:** Prov. 20:1; 23:29-32; Isa. 5:11; Matt. 15:10,11,17-20; Luke 21:34-36;  
Rom. 13:13,14; 1 Cor. 3:16,17; 6:9,10; Gal. 5:21; Rom. 14:17; 15:13;  
Eph. 5:18-20; Rom. 13:1-7

NOTE: Lesson is also in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday school curriculum. See following page.

## Lesson 22: Tobacco and Intoxicants (From LLC Sunday school curriculum)

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- A. The student will understand that true faith also leads to righteousness of life in the matters of tobacco and intoxicants as well. We thus desire to abide by the teachings of the Bible and the Holy Spirit in God's congregation.
- B. The student will understand that the Bible exhorts us to sobriety and why it does so.
- C. The student will understand that the law forbids the use of tobacco by minors, and as a result its use for them is a sin.
- D. The student will understand that Christian freedom requires responsibility for both one's own behavior as well as others.
- E. The student will understand that it is necessary to resist temptations of tobacco and intoxicants in the same way that we resist other temptations.
- F. The student will understand the sins involving tobacco and intoxicants can be put away and forgiven in the same manner as other sins.

**Scripture:** 1 Tim. 3:15; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; Gal. 5:19-21, 6:1-2; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; 1 Pet. 2:13-17; Col. 3:20; Heb. 4:14-16, 13:17; Eph. 4:1-3; James 1:13-16; 1 John 1:7-10; Prov. 20:1; Isa. 5:11

**Vocabulary:** intoxicants, righteousness of life

**Resources:** *Bible Class Book II*, pp. 107-109; *Voice of Zion*, July 1993, September 1999, March 2000

## 7.6 Being our Brother's Keeper

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1. The student will understand that being a true friend means that you care about your friend's undying soul.
2. The student will understand that being our "brother's keeper" means that we speak to them in love about avoiding sin and to encourage them to ask for forgiveness if they have sinned.
3. The student will understand that he/she has helpers or escorts on the journey of faith. These escorts help us to get back on the right path when we stray and help us to remain on the right path.
3. The student will understand that we should be thoughtful of others and should include others in our activities.
4. The student will be able to give examples of how to befriend and help others.

**Scripture:** Gen. 4:1-15; 2 Sam. 12:1-13; Eccl. 4:9-11; Matt. 18:15-20; 2 Cor. 2:3-4; Gal. 6:1-2; Eph. 4:1-3, 32; Phil. 2:1-4; Col. 3:12-17; James 5:19-20; Rom. 1:16

**Vocabulary:** escort

**Resources:** *Voice of Zion*, February 1997, August 1998, May 1998, February 2000, April 2001, September 2003, February 2004, April 2004

## Section 8: Music in the Life of a Believer

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## 8.1 Music in the Life of God's Congregation

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1. Student will understand the significance of music in the life of God's congregation, in Biblical times as well as the present.
2. Student will understand why songs and hymns are important in the lives of God's children.
3. Student will understand the role of music in the worship service.
4. Student will understand the selection and use of music in connection with the themes of the church year.

**Scripture:** Lev. 19:17; Ps. 141:5; Prov. 27:5,6; Matt. 18:15-17; Luke 17:3; 1 Cor. 5:2, 11;  
Gal. 5:13; 6:1, 2; Eph. 5:11; Tit. 2:11-13; Matt. 9:10-13

## 8.2 Music in the Life of a Believer

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1. Student will understand why some music is unsuitable and other music suitable for a Christian.
2. Student will understand how to differentiate between suitable and unsuitable music.
3. Student will recognize the power and effect of both the words and music in music on the listener.
4. Student will understand the benefits and proper use of music.

**Scripture:** Gen. 4:21; Exod. 15:1,20,21; Jdg. 5:1; 1 Sam. 16:16-23; 1 Ch. 6:31,32; 15:16,22,27,28; 16:7,41,42; 23:5,27,30; 25:1,7,8 ; 2 Chr. 5:8,12,13; 7:6; 20:19-28; 29:25-28; Ps. 137:1-5; 150:1-6; Ezra 3:10,11; Neh. 12:27-29; Amos 6:5; Mark 14:26; Ps. 33:1-3; 89:1; 92:1-3; Isa. 5:12; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Gal. 6: 7,8; 1 John 2:15-17

## Section 9: Optional Lessons

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## 9.1 Technology and the Believer (Especially internet, cell phones, text messaging)

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1. Student will understand that it is not sin for a believer to use new technology.
2. Student will understand that the internet (email and social networking sites), cell phones, and whatever new may come along are communication tools. The Bible has much to say about appropriate communication for a believer.
3. Student will understand that the internet offers great benefit to the faith life of believers through the websites of believers, especially with webcast sermons and other resource material.
4. Student will understand that God can/will help in fighting the temptations presented by the internet.
5. Students will be aware that technology (Internet, videos, music, games, etc.) also is an area for watchfulness in faith and that the enemy of souls also uses this tool to entice the believers into sin.

**Scripture:** James 5; Col. 3:8; Matt.15:11

## 9.2 Mission Work Today (especially foreign mission work)

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1. Student will understand that mission work is done according to the command of Christ to “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...”
2. Student will understand that mission work today is very much like the events recorded in the book of The Acts.
3. Student will understand that God directs the mission work effort and as believers we are obligated to do the work that God directs.
4. Student will understand that mission work happens in God’s, not man’s time, and God will reveal where and when it will happen.

**Scripture:** Acts 1:1-8; Acts 3; Acts 8:26-40

## 9.3 Concerns of the Teen Years

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NOTE: Lesson is to be conducted in boys' and girls' separate groups.

1. Student will understand that physical, emotional and psychological changes of the teen years are a normal part of maturing and are common to all people.
2. Student will understand that sexual desires are emerging and this also in normal. Yielding to these desires inappropriately, including self abuse (masturbation) is sin according to the Bible.
3. Student will understand that the need to reproduce is among the strongest forces in our lives. God has instilled these desires to assure future generations. The only appropriate place to satisfy that desire is in marriage.
4. Student will understand that older believers understand these matters from personal experience and they are a source of strength in understanding and coping with the temptations and falls that may occur.

**Scripture:** Rom. 1:17-32; 1 Cor. 6:9

## 9.4 Right and Wrong

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1. Student will understand that many accepted teachings in the world today are not according to the Bible and are contrary to Christian teachings.
2. Student will understand that the teachings of the Bible are timeless and are just as relevant for our lives today as they were when they were first written.
3. Student will understand that we can trust these teachings and stand up to the incorrect teachings of the world as is necessary to preserve personal faith and good conscience.
4. Student will understand that he can trust that God blesses those who live according to His word.

Scripture references included in the Right and Wrong pamphlet, included below.

Right and Wrong

### **INTRODUCTION**

We live a time during which the concept of right and wrong has blurred. It appears that many people accept the philosophy of moral relativism, denying the existence of moral truths. As a result many base their beliefs on the ever-changing tide of popular opinion and thus have no enduring foundation upon which to build their lives. The Bible, once widely respected and esteemed as the foundation for Christian faith, is now commonly believed to have only symbolic value, more significant as a source of history and culture than moral guidance.

Our beliefs direct our lives and guide our actions. They have consequences with regard to both eternal life and this life. As individuals and as a society we will reap the consequences of our actions. Thus with heartfelt concern we wish to draw attention to the following issues and present our position on them..

### **GOD'S WORD**

We believe that the Bible is God's Word. While men have written the Scripture, they have not done so as an expression of their own will, but God has moved them by His Spirit to express His own will (2 Pet. 1:20,21; 2 Tim. 3:16). God's Word is not to be treated or regarded in the same manner as man's word but rather granted our highest esteem and reverence.

### **God's Word is Christian faith's highest authority**

We believe that God's Word is Christian faith's highest authority and thus Christian faith's guiding principles and doctrine must be examined and evaluated in the light of God's Word.

## **God's Word is unchanging and eternal**

The claim that God's Word is bound to time and shackled to the culture of its time does not do justice to God's revelation. According to Jesus, the content and the message of the Word of God does not change along with changes in the world. God's Word is always timely. We cannot relinquish this principle. Jesus says of the permanence of His Word: "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away" (Luke 21:33).

The central message of the Bible is salvation in Jesus Christ

The teaching about Jesus Christ and the salvation that God in His love has prepared in Christ is the central message of the Bible. Man is saved alone by grace, through faith, on the merits of Christ. Only faith in Christ justifies man and makes him acceptable to God (John 20:31; Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:8).

## **FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES**

### **Concept of God**

Increasing numbers of people have rejected belief in the Triune God revealed in the Bible. They prefer instead to create a concept of God that conforms to their own notions. We believe that there is no living God beside Him who has revealed himself in Jesus Christ and His Word. God is love. He is also holy, righteous, and unchanging. He hates sin but loves sin-fallen mankind.

### **Concept of man**

Modern man's self-image has become both more individual-centered and human-centered. Understanding of the fact that man is responsible to both God and his fellowman has dimmed.

The view that man is basically good is also widely held. This view is contrary to God's Word. While God created man in His image (Gen. 1:26) and has intended that man live in unity with Him, man was corrupted when the first human pair, Adam and Eve, fell into sin. As a result of this original sin, man's basic nature is no longer good but corrupted by sin and inclined to evil (Gen. 6:12,8:21; Rom. 3:10–12, 23). It is because of sin that there is so much evil in the world.

### **Sin**

Sin is one of the principal concepts of the Bible. Simply stated, sin is the falling away of the heart from God. Every person has a conscience and some kind of understanding of right and wrong. The voice of the conscience, however, is corrupted if it is not joined to God's Word. Knowledge of and reverence for God's Word has dimmed in our time and with it people's concept of right and wrong, of sin, has also dimmed. If teaching about sin ceases, man's awareness of his need for God's grace also ceases.

### **Man's value is based on creation and redemption**

Because every person is created in God's image (Gen. 1:26) and has been redeemed by Christ, every individual is of value, unique, and irreplaceable regardless of age,

position, occupation, race, gender, or other attributes. God wishes us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

True love for our neighbors is to help them when they are in need and to encourage them to live according to God's Word and support them in their endeavor to do so. It also includes warning them of the dangers of living contrary to the will of God (Lev. 19:17; Eph. 5:11; 2 Tim. 4:2).

### **God is Lord over life and death**

As knowledge increases and technology advances, man strives to take decisions of life and death into his own hands. This manifests itself, for example, in the prevention of conception, the termination of pregnancy, some kinds of gene manipulation, efforts to clone humans, and euthanasia. People have forgotten that God is the Creator and upholder of all, Lord over life and death. He alone has the power to create life and take it away (1 Sam. 2:6; Job 10:12; Ps. 139:13–16). He has not authorized man to control life. The duty of medicine is to protect life, alleviate suffering, and promote and maintain health while respecting humanity.

### **Doctrine and life go together**

Doctrine and life are closely joined. God blesses those who live according to His will. The gospel brings man freedom in Christ and gives him the power to serve God and his fellowman. It does not give him permission to live in sin (Gal. 5:13; 1 Pet. 2:16). God has lovingly set limits for man, like loving parents do for their children. The grace of God teaches us to reject sin and to live according to the instruction of His Word (Tit. 2:11,12).

## **CHRISTIANITY IN SOCIETY**

### **God's law as a foundation for society and its laws**

Just as God has established the so-called laws of nature, which govern the physical world, He has also established a moral law, sometimes called higher or natural law, which governs the lives of men. This law is universal, eternal, and unchanging. God reveals this law to all men by general revelation, that is, through nature, the fate of men's lives, and history (Rom. 1:19,20; 2:14,15), as well as in His Word. There it is briefly expressed in the Ten Commandments and even more briefly in Jesus' Two Great Commandments (Matt. 22:37–40).

Previous generations have recognized the existence and immutable nature of this higher law. They have understood that by His law God does not seek to hinder and oppress man but rather to protect life and all that which is sacred and precious in life. As a result, they strove to emulate God's law in the laws of our land. Recent generations and their elected leaders, legislators, and judges have challenged or denied the existence or validity of a higher law. Deviating from the truths of God's law and the teaching of His Word shakes the foundations of our society and threatens its survival.

### **The fear of the Lord grants security**

It is a benefit to our society that this and upcoming generations are given wholesome models for life and secure conditions for growth. These rise from the correct fear of God and from personal faith. "In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge" (Prov. 14:26).

### **Sober living is a part of Christian morality**

Sober living has always been part of Christian morality. The Scripture warns of the dangers of alcohol and other intoxicants. It teaches that the power of alcohol wars against the will and power of God (Isa. 5:11,12; 1 Cor. 6:10; Eph. 5:18).

The use of intoxicants causes immeasurable suffering and hardship in our society, affecting not only the user, but also others around them. Individuals in the public eye, including elected officials, civil servants, and educators, can teach the value of a positive, unimpaired lifestyle by providing an example of sober living in their own lives.

## **MARRIAGE AND FAMILY ISSUES**

### **God created marriage and family**

God has established marriage and family in His creation work and they are thus defined and governed by the natural law of God's creation (Gen. 2:18,23,24). Attempts to redefine marriage and family and to alter or resist their intended purpose thus injure families and society.

### **Marriage—A lifelong covenant between man and woman**

A fundamental change of values and concepts marked the so-called sexual revolution of the 1960s. Marital fidelity lost its significance. Sexual cohabitation has gained moral acceptance in our society. The fulfillment of nearly all one's inclinations has become permissible. This is manifested, for example, in legislation legalizing same-sex unions. God, however, instituted marriage as a lifelong covenant between man and woman. God's will is that sexual life between man and woman takes place only in the estate of marriage. The Bible always calls sexual relations outside of marriage fornication.

### **Divorce and remarriage**

God hates divorce (Mal. 2:16). Moses allowed divorce, but, as Jesus explained, he did so only because of the hardness of men's hearts, that is their unbelief, and that it had not been so from the beginning. Jesus taught: "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matt. 19:6; Mark 10:9).

The effects of increasing divorce are evident in our society. Truly divorce, in a person's innermost being, is always a wounding and pivotal change—not to mention the degree to which children and youth suffer when their parents part ways.

Because God established marriage as a lifelong covenant it ends only when one of the spouses dies. According to the Bible remarriage is acceptable only after a spouse has died (Luke 16:18; 1 Cor. 7:39).

### **Homosexual behavior is sin**

The Bible teaches that homosexual behavior is immoral and as such is sin (Rom. 1:24–27; Lev. 18:22). Appeals to God’s creation work and genetics do not justify homosexual relations, for even if in some cases the individual may not be responsible for the onset of the homosexual tendency, God’s Word nonetheless obligates him or her to abstain from its practice in the same manner that it obligates an individual with normal sexual inclination to abstain from extramarital sexual relations. God does not approve the sexual relations of partners of the same sex and He does not bless such relationships. It is with good reason that the Bible warns against this sin. The increase of homosexuality and its acceptance has always been an expression of moral decline.

### **God wishes to protect and strengthen marriage and families**

God’s Word seeks to protect and strengthen the family (Exod. 20:12; Prov. 1:8; Eph. 6:1–3). The family forms the fundamental unit of society and strong families are crucial to the health and preservation of society. Our society needs to value lifelong marriage and to support parenthood. Governments, policy makers, and public institutions at all levels should strive to support and strengthen marriage and families.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Bible teaches that true wisdom begins with the fear of God. He and His Word are eternal and unchanging. A life built upon the enduring values of God’s Word brings blessings to both the individual and society: “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” (Prov. 14:34).

God’s Word is a bright and true light. It exposes evil and gives man knowledge of his sin and convicts him of it, but it also tells of the forgiveness and life that God has provided in Jesus Christ and the keys of the kingdom of heaven with which His children forgive penitent sinners on His behalf and thus release them from the bondage of sin.

## 9.5 Doctrinal Schisms in God's Kingdom

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1. The student will understand that a heresy is a schism that separates from the Kingdom of God.
2. The student will understand that heresies have happened since the early time of the Old Testament and have still occurred in recent times.
3. The student will understand that a heresy happens due to a false spirit and generally is evidenced by doctrinal errors as well.
4. The student will become familiar with some of the heresies of the last century that have affected North American Christianity and some of the features of those heresies.

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**Scripture:** Acts: 24:14; 1 Cor. 11:19; Gal. 5:19-21; 2 Pet. 2:1; Judg. 3:1-4; Num. 16:1-50; Deut. 13:1, 18:20-22; 1 Kings 18:19-40; 2 Kings 10:21-28; Matt. 7:15-20, 14:5; John 5:43; Rom. 16:17-18; 2 Thess. 3:14-15; 1 Tim 4:1; 2 Tim. 2:16-19, 3:1-2, 3:5-9; Tit. 3:10-11; 1 John 2:18-19; 2 John 7, 9-11; 1 Pet. 2:1-3; 2 Peter 3:3; Jude 18-23

**Vocabulary:** heresy, schism, doctrine, false spirit, time of visitation

**Resources:**

**Memory Work:** Catechism review

**Note:** Following is an outline that can be incorporated into the lesson or can be used as a resource for the teacher.

**A. Old Testament References**

1. Why must heresies exist (Judg. 3:1-4)
2. Heresy of Korah (Num. 16:1-50)
3. Avoid heretics (Deut. 13:1, 18:20-22; 1 Kings 18:19-40; 2 Kings 10:21-28)

**B. New Testament References**

1. Why heresies exist (1 Cor. 11:19)
2. Avoid heretics (Matt. 7:15-20; Rom. 16:17-18; 2 Thess. 3:14-15; 2 Tim. 2:16-19, 3:5-9; Tit. 3:10-11; 2 John 10-11)
3. Heresies during the times of the Apostles (1 Tim. 1:19-20; 2 Tim. 1:15, 2:17-18; 1 John 2:18-19; 2 John 7)
4. Heresies during the last times (Matt. 24:5, 24:24; John 5:43; 1 Tim. 4:1; 2 Tim. 3:1; 2 Pet. 2:1-3, 3:3; Jude 18-23)

**C. Points to note**

1. Heresies have been experienced already from the Old Testament time.
2. Heresies were experienced during the time of the Apostles.
3. Luther writes of heresies during his lifetime.
4. According to God's Word, heresies will also exist during the last times.
5. Heresies have been experienced during this time of visitation.

**D. What is a Heresy?**

1. A heresy is a belief that is contrary to the doctrines of living faith.

2. References: 2 John 9-11; 1 Tim. 4:1; 2 Pet. 2:1-2

**E. Some Heresies of Recent Times**

1. The Large (Great) First Born (Iso esikoisuus): 1894
2. The “New Awakening” (Uusherännäisyys): 1894
3. Pollarism (Höllöläisyys): 1924
4. The Small First Born (Pikku esikoisuus, Kirkkokunta): 1930
5. The Ministers’ Heresy (Papin eriseura): 1960
6. The Torola Heresy: 1973

**F. Some Doctrinal Issues**

1. The Large First Born
  - extremely legalistic
  - ascetic (self-denial and abstinence)
  - spirit of self-righteousness
2. The New Awakening
  - law applies to believer (as a guide for good works and sober life)
  - public confession of sins
3. The Small First Born
  - combination of previous two
  - law applies to believer to reveal sin and as a norm for a good life
  - today a very ecumenical group
4. Pollarism
  - extreme leniency, freedom of the flesh
  - admonitions and exhortations do not belong to the gospel
  - one blessing suffices for a believer
  - rejected the confession of sins
5. The Ministers’ Heresy
  - wrong doctrine of the sacraments
  - wrong doctrine of the congregation
  - zealous approach to mission work
  - acceptance of all confessional writings (Book of Concord, etc.)
6. The Torola Heresy
  - leniency towards world and sin (e.g., music, television, worldly activities, etc.)
  - greeting of heretics
  - God’s Kingdom, the spiritual mother, can and does err
  - wrong doctrine of the congregation
  - wrong understanding of the Church Law of Christ
  - wrong understanding of Peter’s denial of Christ

## 9.6 Interaction Between Guys and Gals

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1. Student will understand what appropriate interaction is between guys and gals, especially at confirmation school. Interaction considers communication, relationships and touching.
2. Student will understand that behavior that is commonplace in schools may not be appropriate for believers at confirmation.
3. Student will understand that every person is to be treated with respect.

**Scripture:** 2 Tim. 2:22; Eph. 4:32

## 9.7 Depression

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This may be a relevant topic; to include as a lesson, some professional guidance seems necessary.

## 9.8 How do you deal with difficulties in life?

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1. Student will understand that in the refuge of God's love we can face reality, on the one hand accepting that which cannot be changed, and on the other striving to change that which can be changed.
2. Student will understand that suffering may be due to a variety of reasons and is not necessarily punishment for sin.
3. Student will understand that Jesus is near every person in his suffering, supporting and helping even if he does not always experience it to be so.
4. Student will understand that personal suffering or the suffering and death of another may be a call to repentance.
5. Student will understand that following Christ includes the attempt to remove the causes of suffering and empathy for people's suffering.
6. Student will understand that a Christian does not need to fear death, because Christ has been victorious over death.

**Scripture:** Gen. 3:16-19; Lam. 3:31-33; Gen. 50:20; John 9:1-3; Matt. 24:9; Ps. 119:35; 1 Cor. 11:32; Heb. 12:6,7; 1 Pet. 1:6,7; Luke 13:1-5; Isa. 40:11; 42:3; 53:4; 63:9; Matt. 8:1-3,14-17; 14:14; 15:32; 18:11-13; 20:34; Mark 6:34; Luke 7:13,14; 19:41,42; John 11:33-36; 2 Cor. 8:9; Heb. 4:15; Isa. 58:6,7,10; Matt. 24:34-45; Luke 10:30-37; James 1:27; 1 Pet. 3:8; Prov. 28:27; Rev. 1: 17,18

**Resources:** CD 12, 13, 24, 25, 67, 76,106,107

## 9.9 Maps of Paul's Journeys

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### Group Work Activity:

Given an outline map, students work in groups to plot the route of Apostle Paul's mission trips

1. Student will understand that Paul's missionary trips are well documented in the Bible and can be traced on a map.
2. Student will understand that God blessed Paul's work and many congregations started as a result of his preaching.
3. Student will understand that Paul's New Testament epistles were addressed to many of those congregations.
4. Student will understand that God guided Paul's travels and his work.

**Scripture:** Acts 13 – 28; Also, several of Paul's epistles make references to his journeys.

**Resources:** K. G. Leinberg's Bible History NT Parts 47-48

## 9.10 Fruits of Faith: A Tree is Known by Its Fruits

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1. Student will understand our behavior reflects the condition of our heart.
2. Student will understand other people cannot see our heart, but they can and do see our behavior. In fact, others people can only use our observable behavior as an indicator of the condition of the heart.
3. Student will understand that while it may be possible in the short run to present a 'public face' that masks our heart, in the long run our actions will reveal the true condition of heart.

**Scripture:** Matt. 7:15-20; Luke 6:43-45; James 1:21-24; Gal. 6:7-8

## 9.11 Prayers to God

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**Activity:**

Student writes a personal letter or a prayer to God

1. Student will understand that we can approach God with any and all of our matters, both temporal and spiritual.
2. Student will understand that God has promised to hear our prayers.
3. Student will understand that writing our thoughts often helps us to clarify our thoughts – it is difficult to articulate that which is unclear in our thoughts.

**Scripture:** Matt. 6:5-13; James 5:16-18

## 9.12 Proverbs: Signposts for Life

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1. Students will discover the richness of the Book of Proverbs.
2. Students will understand that the Proverbs were written by King Solomon.
3. Students will understand that the Proverbs apply to their lives and the lives of all people today.

**Scripture:** Proverbs

**Lesson Outline:**

- Brief Overview of the Book of Proverbs
- Teacher to explain a Proverb that is a personal favorite
- Group Work (groups of 4-5 students)
  - Assign a proverb to each group that relate to themes applicable to the age group. Some possible themes are: Friendship, Envy, Reputation, Laziness, Work (applies to school), etc.
  - Students create a sign that explains the meaning of the Proverb (Note: Signs can be shaped like road signs: for example, stop signs for proverbs that instruct not to do something.
  - Using their sign, students create mini-presentations to present their proverb to the rest of the class. (An additional or open period either later that day or the following day.)

## 9.13 Sermon on the Mount

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Note: This topic is too broad for one lesson. Perhaps a few points from the Sermon on the Mount could be taught in one lesson.

1. Student will understand that the Sermon on the Mount is Jesus' teachings.
2. Student will understand that the Sermon on the Mount contains much instruction.
3. Student will remember two of the teachings from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

**Scripture:** Matt. 5-7; Luke 6

## 9.14 Draw Pictures of Families

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1. Student will understand that children are gifts from God. Being a member of a family is a blessing from God.
2. Student will understand that not everyone comes from a big family but this is also according to God's will.

**Scripture:** Psalm 127; Luke 18:27-30

## 9.15 The Teachings of Jesus—Parables

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1. The student will understand that a parable uses a picture or real-life example to illustrate a concept or event.
2. The student will understand that Jesus used parables to reach people who closed their ears and hearts to other forms of preaching.
3. The student will understand that Jesus used parables to teach about many things, including God’s kingdom, forgiveness, love for our neighbor, coveteousness, vigilance in faith, steadfastness in prayer, God’s love for lost sinners, spiritual wisdom, etc.

**Scripture:** Matt. 7:24-29; 13:10-16, 18:23-25; Isa. 6:9-10; Jer. 5:21-24; Ezek. 12:2-11;  
Mark 8:14-19; Luke 10:25-37, 18:1-8, 15; John 12:37-41

**Vocabulary:** parable, coveteousness, vigilance

**Resources:** LLC Bible Reference Materials binder, Parables of Jesus section; Voice of Zion, January 1991 “Parables of Jesus”; Eerdmans’ Handbook to the Bible, p. 665

## 9.16 What is Eternal Life?

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**Resources:** Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 123-126

## 9.17 The Endeavor of Faith

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**Resources:** Uljas, *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, p. 78-86

## 9.18 Friendship

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**Resources:** “Friendship”, LLC Website – Timely Topics; “The Young and the Old”, LLC Website – Timely Topics

## Appendix 1: Confirmation Examination

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## LLC Confirmation Examination

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**1. What is the most precious matter in our life?** To know our Saviour, Jesus Christ by faith, and to become a child of God is the most precious matter.

**2. How has God created the visible and the invisible world?** By His Word.

**3. Why is man a unique being?** God created man in His own image and has given him a living soul and a conscience.

**4. What can separate man from God?** Sin.

**5. What is sin?** The falling away of the heart from God by thoughts, words and deeds that are contrary to His will.

**6 What is the "mother" of all sins?** Unbelief.

**7. How did the Scriptures come into being?** The saints of God wrote as they were inspired by the Holy Spirit.

**8. What is the principal message of the Old Testament?** The promise of the coming Messiah, the Christ.

**9. What is the main content of the New Testament?** The fulfillment of the promise of the Old Testament.

**10. How did God reconcile the sin-fallen world with himself?** By the giving of His only Son for the sins of the world.

**11. How does the mission of Christ continue in the world?** By the functioning of the Holy Spirit in His congregation.

**12. What is meant by the term: "fellowship of the congregation"?** The love, the bond of perfection, which joins the children of God together.

**13. What are some of the names given in the Bible for the congregation or kingdom of God?** Mother, Mount Zion, the pillar and ground of truth, the True Vine, the sheepfold, Jerusalem, the golden candlestick, the Bride of Christ.

**14. What offices did Jesus grant and entrust to the New Testament congregation?** He granted His Word and Sacraments to her.

**15. What are the two major parts of the living Word of God?** The Law and the Gospel.

**16. To whom does the Law belong according to the Bible?** To the unbelieving.

**17. What is the Gospel?** The Gospel is the good tidings of Jesus Christ.

**18. To whom is the Gospel preached?** To the penitent and remorseful.

**19. What is true repentance or conversion?** True repentance is actually nothing other than remorse and distress over committed sin, but along with this faith in the Gospel and the remission of sins in Jesus Christ. This is followed by a change of heart and the forsaking of sins.

**20. What is meant by the office the keys?** By this is meant the authority that Jesus gave to His children to forgive men's sins both on earth and in heaven.

**21. Where and with what words does Jesus bestow this power?**

In Matthew 16:19 where He says: "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

And again in John 20:22, 23, where He says "Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained."

**22. What are the sacraments?** Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

**23. Will the class please stand and recite the baptismal command.**

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (Matt. 28:19-20)

**24. What is the significance of baptism?** Baptism is the covenant of a good conscience.

**25. What is the benefit of Holy Communion?** Our faith is strengthened and we are assured of the forgiveness of sins.

**26. Who is an acceptable Communion guest?** A believer.

**27. What is confession?** Confession consists of two parts: the one is, that we confess our sins; the other, that we receive absolution from the confessor as of God himself, in no wise doubting, but firmly believing that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven.

Would the class please stand. (*Signal to the class to stand.*)

**28. Let us together recite the Lord's Prayer:** Our Father, who art in heaven: Hallowed be Thy name: Thy kingdom come: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who have trespassed against us: And lead us not into temptation: But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

**29. Let us together recite the Benediction:** The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up His countenance upon us, and give us peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

## Appendix 2: Confirmation Exercise

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## LLC Confirmation Exercise

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### **Guidelines for Directors - The Confirmation Exercise**

The LLC board has reviewed and approved the revisions to the Confirmation school exercise. These guidelines accompany the revised Confirmation exercise. Confirmation is a sacred act and includes the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Adding extras during the exercise can serve to distract us from the sacredness of the ceremony. Additional items lengthen an already lengthy exercise.

### **Picture Taking**

Picture taking can become quite distracting, and we wish to minimize it as much as possible. We would like you to communicate this to the guests during the family evening and again in the opening announcements for the Confirmation exercise. During the family evening, also announce the picture arrangements for the Confirmation Exercise. One-half hour before the start of the Confirmation exercise, the students will gather for a 10-15 minute photo session.

The following is suggested as wording for the opening announcement of the Confirmation Exercise:

*Welcome to the Confirmation service of the (year) (place) Confirmation School. Because Confirmation is a Sacred Act and also includes the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we prefer that pictures would not be taken during the service. Following the Confirmation, Communion will be served. After the students and staff have received Communion, please proceed up the center isle and depart from the side isles. We will begin our service with (hymn or song). This will be followed by (hymn or song) while the students enter. Following the entrance of the students we will be served by brother (N.N.)*

### **Staff Song**

If the staff wishes to select a meaningful song to sing to the students this can be part of the program prepared for the staff-student evening or the family evening instead of during the Confirmation exercise.

### **Student Songs**

The Confirmation exercise allows for one student song. During the course of the confirmation school, the students may practice additional songs. The family evening provides a good opportunity to incorporate additional student songs.

On some occasions classes have written their own songs. The director ought to make sure that the hymn is scriptural and substantive. The planned staff-student evening and the family evening may provide the most appropriate forums for composed songs.

## **1. Picture taking**

*Because the volume of picture taking during the sacred act has become quite distracting, we suggest that it be discouraged as much as possible. We recommend instead that a picture taking session be scheduled thirty minutes prior to the start of the service. At that time the class could be assembled before the altar and individual and group photos could be taken. It would also be appropriate to give the confirmands their roses at this time.*

## **2. Assemble students**

*Students should assemble and line up for their entrance about ten minutes prior to the ceremony.*

## **3. Announcements**

*Just prior to the beginning of the exercise, the service director should welcome the guests and announce the communion arrangements. In addition, directions may be printed on the back of the program. He/she will then announce the entrance hymn by saying: The congregation will now sing hymn number \_\_\_\_\_.*

## **4. Entrance hymn**

*Confirmation class and staff enter during this hymn and are seated. After the class has been seated, the service director will announce the beginning of the service, the next hymn and the speaker.*

## **5. Hymn**

## **6. Opening prayer**

## **7. Sermon** (Approximately 20 min.)

## **8. Hymn** (Collection during this hymn)

*The service director should announce the hymn, the collection, and that following the hymn our brother N.N. will confirm the class.*

## 9. Introduction

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*Confirming minister may keep an extemporaneous speech— 5 to 10 minutes in length—or read the following. If desired the minister may shorten this section by reading only paragraphs “a” and “d.”*

- a. Beloved young children of God (young people). Today, you have come to be confirmed and then to partake of the Lord's Holy Communion. Your Confirmation school is now over. During these days you have been taught, according to our Saviour's command of baptism and teaching, the central truths of our faith, as they stand in the Word of God, and as they are believed in the congregation of God.
- b. Faith is the most important matter in our life. The Apostle writes, "without faith it is impossible to please him [God]" (Heb. 11:6). The Bible unceasingly emphasizes the importance of personal faith. In its basic meaning, faith is not only knowledge of God and His Word, of the historical events concerning Jesus, and of the work of the Holy Spirit, but it is above all, personal trust and confidence in Jesus Christ and in His grace. Salvation cannot be found in anyone else. His suffering and death are the atonement of our sins. In the congregation of God we receive forgiveness of our sins, and we are justified by His grace, through faith, on account of the redemption which is in Jesus Christ.
- c. In faith we have with the grace of the forgiveness of sins, also fellowship with the congregation of God and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. This gives us power to confess our faith. Dear young children of God (young people): You (many of you) have been preserved during your childhood years as children of God in the fellowship and care of His kingdom. Today, you thank your heavenly Father for this. Now you will confess together your Christian faith and pray to God for power to give evidence of it in your life. In all of this, you are supported by the prayers of the children of God. May God give His grace to all of you and a desire for continual endeavoring in faith.
- d. On this festive day, young children of God (young people), you may believe all of your sins and transgressions forgiven in the name and precious atoning blood of Jesus. You can approach the future with a confident mind. The Lord Jesus Christ is the beginner of your faith, but He is also its finisher. He cares for you and preserves you in His kingdom, so that you would reach the goal of your faith, eternal life. Amen.

## 10. Prayer

Let us pray:

Almighty, Everlasting God. We thank Thee for all of Thy gifts, but we especially thank Thee that Thou hast enlightened and preserved us in the fellowship of Thy kingdom with the gospel of Thy Son. We thank Thee for Thy love. We pray that Thou would lead these young brothers and sisters (young people) who are to be confirmed, so that they could always grow in Thy grace and in the knowledge of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. We pray Thee: Give them the power of Thy Spirit to confess their faith, and to endeavor as Thy children according to the dignity of the gospel until the end of their lives. Give them one day the inheritance in Thy heavenly kingdom. Amen.

## 11. Examination

*If it is customary to openly examine the catechumens, the minister continues (he may use part or all of the questions):*

Beloved young children of God (young people). We hope that you have received through faith the correct understanding of God's Word and the teaching of Christ. Let us now discuss the central content of our faith.

### Examination

**1. What is the most precious matter in our life?** To know our Saviour, Jesus Christ by faith, and to become a child of God is the most precious matter.

**2. How has God created the visible and the invisible world?** By His Word.

**3. Why is man a unique being?** God created man in His own image and has given him a living soul and a conscience.

**4. What can separate man from God?** Sin.

**5. What is sin?** The falling away of the heart from God by thoughts, words and deeds that are contrary to His will.

**6. What is the "mother" of all sins?** Unbelief.

**7. How did the Scriptures come into being?** The saints of God wrote as they were inspired by the Holy Spirit.

**8. What is the principal message of the Old Testament?** The promise of the coming Messiah, the Christ.

**9. What is the main content of the New Testament?** The fulfillment of the promise of the Old Testament.

**10. How did God reconcile the sin-fallen world with himself?** By the giving of His only Son for the sins of the world.

**11. How does the mission of Christ continue in the world?** By the functioning of the Holy Spirit in His congregation.

**12. What is meant by the term: "fellowship of the congregation"?** The love, the bond of perfection, which joins the children of God together.

**13. What are some of the names given in the Bible for the congregation or kingdom of God?** Mother, Mount Zion, the pillar and ground of truth, the True Vine, the sheepfold, Jerusalem, the golden candlestick, the Bride of Christ.

**14. What offices did Jesus grant and entrust to the New Testament congregation?** He granted His Word and Sacraments to her.

**15. What are the two major parts of the living Word of God?** The Law and the Gospel.

**16. To whom does the Law belong according to the Bible?** To the unbelieving.

**17. What is the Gospel?** The Gospel is the good tidings of Jesus Christ.

**18. To whom is the Gospel preached?** To the penitent and remorseful.

**19. What is true repentance or conversion?** True repentance is actually nothing other than remorse and distress over committed sin, but along with this faith in the Gospel and the remission of sins in Jesus Christ. This is followed by a change of heart and the forsaking of sins.

**20. What is meant by the office the keys?** By this is meant the authority that Jesus gave to His children to forgive men's sins both on earth and in heaven.

**21. Where and with what words does Jesus bestow this power?**

In Matthew 16:19 where He says: "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

And again in John 20:22, 23, where He says "Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained."

**22. What are the sacraments?** Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

**23. Will the class please stand and recite the baptismal command.**

*(Signal to the class to stand)*

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (Matt. 28:19-20)

*(Signal to the class to be seated)*

**24. What is the significance of baptism?** Baptism is the covenant of a good conscience.

**25. What is the benefit of Holy Communion?** Our faith is strengthened and we are assured of the forgiveness of sins.

**26. Who is an acceptable Communion guest?** A believer.

**27. What is confession?** Confession consists of two parts: the one is, that we confess our sins; the other, that we receive absolution from the confessor as of God himself, in no wise doubting, but firmly believing that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven.

Would the class please stand. *(Signal to the class to stand.)*

**28. Let us together recite the Lord's Prayer:** Our Father, who art in heaven: Hallowed be Thy name: Thy kingdom come: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who have trespassed against us: And lead us not into temptation: But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

**29. Let us together recite the Benediction:** The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up His countenance upon us, and give us peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **12. Creed**

*The catechumens come before the altar. Note that the catechumens should stand and face the altar and minister throughout sections 12 and 13.*

The minister says: Let us now together recite the Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried: He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*The minister continues:*

Are you willing to walk accordingly, with the help of the grace of God, in your life of faith?

*The catechumens reply:*

Yes, I am.

*(The class will remain standing.)*

## **13. Exhortation and blessing**

You have now confessed your faith before God, our Heavenly Father, and His congregation. We pray that as living members of the body of Christ you would grow in Him, who is the head of the congregation.

May the God of peace sanctify you so that your spirit and soul and body would be found blameless in the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. Amen.

## **14. Class hymn**

*The class will now turn to face the congregation and then sing its class song.*

*We recommend that only hymns/from the LLC hymnal be used. (On some occasions classes have written their own songs. If this is desired, the director ought to make sure that the hymn is scriptural and substantive. Hymn #229 has been written specifically for confirmation and is especially appropriate.)*

*(The class can be seated.)*

## **15. Prayer**

Let us pray:

Merciful God, dear heavenly Father: We thank Thee for Thy great love, for Thou hast enlightened these young ones with Thy Word so that they have been able to confess in Thy congregation Thy grace and love in our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray: Enlighten and establish them with Thy Holy Spirit so that they would be preserved in the true faith and so that they would grow in the knowledge of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. On their own part, they are weak; strengthen them with Thy power. They are exposed to many temptations; protect them with Thy powerful arms. They must traverse a dangerous world; guide them with Thy instructions. Bestow upon them the grace of Thy Holy Spirit so that they would partake of the Lord's Holy Supper for the strengthening of their faith, love, hope and long-suffering. Strengthen them for the trials of life, comfort them with Thy peace, and refresh them with Thy joy. Give them the desire and the power to serve their neighbors and to fulfill their temporal calling. Help them always to be watchful h~ faith and to await the coming of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. Hear us, for the sake of Thy holy name. Amen.

## **16. Exhortations to parents and godparents**

*The confirming minister, camp director, or a teacher may keep a brief extemporaneous speech or read the following:*

Beloved brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ: We have this day been present at the confirmation of these young believers (people). During confirmation school they have become familiar with the central content of our faith and have become established in their endeavor of faith. They need the keeping of God throughout their lives to remain as His children.

Therefore, you the beloved parents, godparents, relatives, and friends of these young ones must help and support them so that they could grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ. Guide them in what is good and true, so that they could avoid temptations and overcome them. Carry them faithfully in prayer.

Embolden them with the gospel of Christ to live according to its honour and to fulfill their responsibility both as members of the congregation of God and in their temporal calling. Care for them with the word of grace, and teach them in love and truth, so that they would receive power to walk on the narrow way of life and would be preserved as children of God to the end. "The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:7)

## **17. Hymn**

## **18. Introduction to Communion**

Beloved brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ: Being assembled before the face of our beloved Heavenly Father, we now desire to confess our sinfulness and in faith pray for forgiveness and peace, saying thus in our hearts:

### **19. The Confession of Sins**

O Thou most merciful, crucified Lord Jesus Christ: Have mercy upon me, a wretched sinner, and look upon me with the eyes of Thine compassion, as Thou looked upon Peter when he had denied Thee, and as thou looked upon the sinful woman in the house of the Pharisee, and as Thou looked upon the thief on the cross, and grant me thy holy grace: that with Peter I would weep over my sins, with the woman which was a sinner I would love Thee with all my heart, and together with the thief I could behold Thy holy face in heaven forever. Amen.

### **20. The Absolution**

*The minister then reads the following:*

"If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John I: 7,9)

Our Lord Jesus Christ says to His disciples: "Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained." (John 20:22, 23) Beloved communion guest: Be encouraged to hold to these promises of God and believe all your sins forgiven in Jesus' name and blood and be of good cheer!

### **21. Thanksgiving and prayer**

Let us thank and pray:

Almighty God, merciful Father: We thank Thee for Thy great grace which Thou hast shown unto us, when in Thy Son Jesus Christ, Thou hast redeemed us, forgiving us our sins and promising us eternal life through Him. We pray for a childlike mind in order that we might be preserved in the fellowship of Thy forgiving love forever. Grant unto us the power of Thy Holy Spirit that we would be able to celebrate the Holy Supper of our Saviour in such a way that our faith would be refreshed by Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

It is truly meet, right, and blessed that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, Holy Father, Almighty Eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty; Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory; Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest. Amen.

### **22. The Words of Institution and the Lord's Prayer**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying: "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you; this do in remembrance of Me."

After the same manner, also, He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in my Blood which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; this do, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of Me."

Let us now all pray as our Lord Jesus Christ has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven; Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### **23. The Peace of God**

The peace of God be with you always!

*The congregation will here sing "O Lamb of God."*

### **24. Invitation**

The Lord Jesus says, Come, for all is now ready!

### **25. The Distribution**

*Following the invitation the confirmands will come to the altar and then the congregation. Suitable songs and hymns will be sung during the distribution.*

*The ministers distributing the bread and wine shall say, respectively:*

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, given for thee.

The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, shed for thee.

*After all have received the bread and the wine, the minister shall say to the communicants:*

May the Body and the Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ preserve your body and soul unto eternal life. Amen. You may go in the peace of God!

### **26. Prayer and Thanksgiving for the Communion**

*When the distribution of Communion is completed, the minister says:*

Let us thank and pray (*he then chooses one of the following options*):

**a.** O Lord, Eternal God, Thou Who made us partakers of Thy sacraments! We thank Thee for Thy grace and pray: Make us, with all Thine elect saints, to be partakers of Thine eternal honor and glory through Jesus Christ, Thy Son and our Lord, Who lives and has dominion with Thee and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.

**Or:**

**b.** Lord Jesus Christ, Thou who hast called us to this Holy Supper! We thank Thee that Thou hast nourished us with Thy Body and Blood, and that Thou hast refreshed us with Thy grace and goodness. Lord Jesus, into Thy hands we commit ourselves and wish to be Thine own forever. Amen.

**Or:**

**c.** We thank Thee, Almighty God, that Thou hast comforted and refreshed us with this precious and gracious Supper, and we pray unto Thee: Grant that it may increase our faith and our mutual love through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **27. The Benediction**

*In conclusion the minister shall say:*

Humble your hearts before the Lord and receive the Benediction: The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

## **28. Closing hymn**

## **29. Distribution of Certificates**

*The confirming minister, camp director, or a teacher will now announce the distribution of the certificates and read the names of the confirmands who will come forward to receive their certificate when their name is called. The staff will line up to congratulate the confirmands as they go by.*

## **30. Announcements**

*The minister will now announce the serving arrangements for lunch. Unless it is absolutely necessary, we recommend that you avoid making other announcements at this time.*

## **31. Hymn (Optional)**

## Appendix 3: Skeleton Agenda

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**LLC CONFIRMATION SCHOOL**

**SKELETON AGENDA**

**(11-day Confirmation School)**

**CONFIRMATION SERVICES**

**10:00 AM, Sunday, July XX, XXXX**

Confirmation School Lesson Breakdown

Core Lessons	50
Optional Lessons/Study Periods	16
Confirmation Preparation – Exam/Exercise/Class Song	5
Written Evaluation	1

**LLC CONFIRMATION SCHOOL  
SKELETON SCHEDULE**

**Wednesday, July X**

- 10:00 Staff Meeting - Meeting the needs of our camp
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 Staff Members Meeting continued review processing and orientation procedures, big brother/sister presentation, etc.
- 3:00 Coffee and Refreshments
- 3:30 Prepare for students arrival
- 5:30 - 6:30 Students arrive  
Supper
- 6:30 Processing of students - Lodging assignments, health service interview, etc.
- During this period the camp director and assistant director get acquainted with each student by individually visiting with him/her about his/her needs and concerns regarding camp or otherwise.
- Organized activities, and singing  
Also find out something about each student for “Let’s get acquainted”
- 9:30 Evening snack
- 10:00 Evening devotion:  
10:30 Lights out!

## Day 1

Thursday, July XX

- 7:30 Wake up
- 8:00-8:25 Breakfast
  
- 8:30 Morning devotion  
Flag raising
  
- 9:00-9:45 Orientation – Assignments
  
- 9:50-10:35 Orientation continued – Purpose of Confirmation School
  
- 10:40-11:25 Let’s get acquainted
  
- 11:30-12:00 Lunch
  
- 12:00-12:45 Core Lesson (1) Suggested Topic: “3.1 The Most Precious Matter in our Lives”
  
- 12:45-1:35 Recreation – student/staff (structured)
  
- 1:35-3:25 Refreshments / Sauna / Swimming / Concessions  
Girls 2:00-2:30      Boys 2:30-3:00
  
- 3:25-4:10 Written Evaluation
  
- 4:15-5:00 Core Lesson (2)
  
- 5:00-5:45 Supper
  
- 5:45-6:15 Clean the main building and dorms
  
- 6:15-6:55 **Prepare for Photo**  
**7:00** Students gather at the main building for **class photo**
  
- 8:05-8:50 Optional Lesson/Study period (1)
  
- 7:50-8:15 Refreshments
  
- 8:15-8:45 Confirmation Preparation – Exam/Exercise/Class Song (1)
  
- 8:45-9:30 Evening program  
Evening devotion
  
- 10:00 In the dorms
- 10:30 Lights out!

**Day 2**

Friday, July XX

- 7:30 Wake up
- 8:00-8:25 Breakfast
  
- 8:30 Morning devotion
  
- 9:00-9:45 Core Lesson (3)
- 9:50-10:35 Core Lesson (4)
- 10:40-11:25 Optional Lesson/Study Period (2)
- 11:30-12:00 Lunch
- 12:00-12:45 Core Lesson (5)
- 12:45-1:35 Recreation – student/staff (structured)
- 1:35-3:25 Refreshments / Sauna / Swimming / Concessions  
Girls 2:00-2:30      Boys 2:30-3:00
- 3:25-4:10 Core Lesson (6)
- 4:15-5:00 Core Lesson (7)
- 5:00-5:45 Supper
- 5:45-6:15 Clean the main building and dorms
- 6:15-7:00 Core Lesson (8)
- 7:05-7:50 Core Lesson (9)
- 7:50-8:15 Refreshments
- 8:15-9:30 Evening program  
Evening devotion
  
- 10:00 In the dorms
- 10:30 Lights out!

### Day 3

Saturday, July XX

- 7:30 Wake up
- 8:00-8:25 Breakfast
  
- 8:30 Morning devotion
  
- 9:00-9:45 Core Lesson (10)
- 9:50-10:35 Core Lesson (11)
- 10:40-11:25 Core Lesson (12)
- 11:30-12:00 Lunch
- 12:00-12:45 Core Lesson (13)
- 12:45-1:35 Core Lesson (14)
  
- 1:35-3:25 Refreshments / Sauna / Swimming / Concessions  
Girls 2:00-2:30      Boys 2:30-3:00
  
- 3:25-4:10 Core Lesson (15)
- 4:15-5:00 Core Lesson (16)
- 5:00-5:45 Supper
- 5:45-6:00 Clean the main building and dorms
- 6:00-6:15 Optional Lesson/Study Period (3)
- 6:15-7:00 Optional Lesson/Study Period (4)
- 7:05-7:50 Confirmation Preparation – Exam/Exercise/Class Song (2)
- 7:50-8:15 Refreshments
  
- 8:15-9:30 Candlelight discussion  
Evening devotion
  
- 10:00 In the dorms
- 10:30 Lights out!

**Day 4**

Sunday, July XX

7:30 Wake up  
8:00-8:25 Breakfast

8:45-9:30 Core Lesson (17) Suggested Topic; “ 6.4 The Sabbath”

NOTE: We would encourage events to be arranged at the camp for this day. If a director has the opportunity to attend services in a local congregation, this can be arranged. Below is a sample outline of such an outing.

10:00 Board Bus for area morning service

11:00 Services at [location]  
Lunch at [location]

1:00 Depart to [camp location]

2:00 – 2:45 Core Lesson (18)

2:50 – 3:35 Core Lesson (19)

3:40 – 5:00 Refreshments / Sauna / Swimming / Concessions  
Girls 3:45-4:15 Boys 4:15-4:45

5:00 – 5:45 Supper – Grilled food by Staff

5:45 – 6:00 Clean the main building and dorms

6:00 - 6:45 Core Lesson (20)

6:50 - 7:35 Core Lesson (21)

7:40 - 8:30 Refreshments / games / singing

8:45 – 9:30 Song Services  
Evening Service

10:00 In the dorms  
10:30 Lights out!

## Day 5

Monday, July XX

- 7:30 Wake up
- 8:00-8:25 Breakfast
  
- 8:30 Morning devotion
  
- 9:00-9:45 Core Lesson (22)
- 9:50-10:35 Core Lesson (23)
- 10:40-11:25 Core Lesson (24)
- 11:30-12:00 Lunch
- 12:00-12:45 Core Lesson (25)
- 12:45-1:35 Optional Lesson/Study Period (5)
- 1:35-3:25 Refreshments / Sauna / Swimming / Concessions  
Girls 2:00-2:30      Boys 2:30-3:00
- 3:25-4:10 Core Lesson (26)
- 4:15-5:00 Core Lesson (27)
- 5:00-5:45 Supper
- 5:45-6:00 Clean the main building and dorms
- 6:00-6:15 Optional Lesson/Study Period (6)
- 6:15-7:00 Study period / Letters
- 7:05-7:50 Confirmation Preparation – Exam/Exercise/Class Song (3)
- 7:50-8:15 Refreshments
- 8:15-9:30 Candlelight discussion  
Evening devotion
  
- 10:00 In the dorms
- 10:30 Lights out!

**Day 6**

Tuesday, July XX

- 7:30 Wake up
- 8:00-8:25 Breakfast
  
- 8:30 Morning devotion
  
- 9:00-9:45 Core Lesson (28)
- 9:50-10:35 Core Lesson (29)
- 10:40-11:25 Core Lesson (30)
- 11:30-12:00 Lunch
- 12:00-12:45 Core Lesson (31)
- 12:45-1:35 Recreation – student/staff
  
- 1:35-3:25 Refreshments / Sauna / Swimming / Concessions  
Girls 2:00-2:30      Boys 2:30-3:00
  
- 3:25-4:10 Core Lesson (32)
- 4:15-5:00 Core Lesson (33)
- 5:00-5:45 Supper
- 5:45-6:00 Clean the main building and dorms
- 6:00-6:15 Optional Lesson/Study Period (7)
- 6:15-7:00 Optional Lesson/Study Period (8)
- 7:05-7:50 Evening Program
- 7:50-8:15 Refreshments
- 8:15-9:30 Program  
Evening Devotion
  
- 10:00 In the dorms
- 10:30 Lights out!

**Day 7**

Wednesday, July XX

- 7:30 Wake up
- 8:00-8:25 Breakfast
  
- 8:30 Morning devotion
  
- 9:00-9:45 Core Lesson (34)
- 9:50-10:35 Core Lesson (35)
- 10:40-11:25 Optional Lesson/Study Period (10)
- 11:30-12:00 Lunch
- 12:00-12:45 Core Lesson (36)
- 12:45-1:35 Recreation – student/staff
  
- 1:35-3:25 Refreshments / Sauna / Swimming / Concessions  
Girls 2:00-2:30      Boys 2:30-3:00
  
- 3:25-4:10 Core Lesson (37)
- 4:15-5:00 Core Lesson (38)
- 5:00-5:45 Supper
- 5:45-6:00 Clean the main building and dorms
- 6:00-6:15 Optional Lesson/Study Period (11)
- 6:15-7:00 Core Lesson (39)
- 7:05-7:50 Evening Program
- 7:50-8:15 Refreshments
- 8:15-9:30 Candlelight discussion  
Evening Devotion
  
- 10:00 In the dorms
- 10:30 Lights out!

## Day 8

Thursday, July XX

- 7:30 Wake up
- 8:00-8:25 Breakfast
  
- 8:30 Morning devotion
  
- 9:00-9:45 Core Lesson (40)
- 9:50-10:35 Core Lesson (41)
- 10:40-11:25 Optional Lesson/Study Period (12)
- 11:30-12:00 Lunch
- 12:00-12:45 Core Lesson (42)
- 12:45-1:35 Recreation – student/staff
  
- 1:35-3:25 Refreshments / Sauna / Swimming / Concessions  
Girls 2:00-2:30      Boys 2:30-3:00
  
- 3:25-4:10 Core Lesson (43)
- 4:15-5:00 Core Lesson (44)
- 5:00-5:45 Supper
- 5:45-6:00 Clean the main building and dorms
- 6:00-6:15 Optional Lesson/Study Period (13)
- 6:15-7:00 Optional Lesson/Study Period (14)
- 7:05-7:50 Core Lesson (45)
- 7:50-8:15 Refreshments
- 8:15-9:30 Evening program  
Evening devotion
  
- 10:00 In the dorms
- 10:30 Lights out!

**Day 9**

Friday, July XX

- 7:30 Wake up
- 8:00-8:25 Breakfast
  
- 8:30 Morning devotion
  
- 9:00-9:45 Optional Lesson/Study Period (15)
- 9:50-10:35 Optional Lesson/Study Period (16)
- 10:40-11:25 Core Lesson (46)
- 11:30-12:00 Lunch
- 12:00-12:45 Core Lesson (47)
- 12:45-1:35 Recreation – student/staff
  
- 1:35-3:25 Refreshments / Sauna / Swimming / Concessions  
Girls 2:00-2:30      Boys 2:30-3:00
  
- 3:25-4:10 Core Lesson (48)
- 4:15-5:00 Confirmation Preparation – Exam/Exercise/Class Song (4)
- 5:00-5:45 Supper
- 5:45-6:00 Clean the main building and dorms
- 6:00-7:00 Final Exam
- 7:05-7:50 Student and Staff Evening Program
- 7:50-8:15 Refreshments
- 8:15-9:30 Candlelight discussion  
Evening devotion
  
- 10:00 In the dorms
- 10:30 Lights out!

**Day 10**

Saturday, July XX

- 7:30 Wake up
- 8:00-8:25 Breakfast
  
- 8:30 Morning devotion
  
- 9:00-9:45 Core Lesson (49)
- 9:50-10:35 Core Lesson (50)
- 10:40-11:25 Confirmation Preparation – Exam/Exercise/Class Song (5)
- 11:30-12:00 Lunch
- 12:00-12:45 Evening Program Practice
- 12:45-1:35 Recreation – student/staff
- 1:35-3:25 Refreshments / Sauna / Concessions  
Girls 2:00-2:30      Boys 2:30-3:00
- 3:25-4:10 Final Review  
Student reviews of camp by group
- 4:15-5:00 Major Cleaning
- 5:00-5:45 Supper
- 5:45-6:30 Prepare for evening program
- 6:30-7:00 Visiting
- 7:00-9:30 Staff, student, and family evening  
Program 7:00-8:00  
Evening Service 8:00-8:30  
Refreshments 9:00-9:30
- 9:30 Staff/student fellowship, Open visit/discussion
  
- 10:45 In the dorms
- 11:00 Lights out!

## **Day 11**

### **Confirmation Day**

Sunday, July XX

7:30 Wake up

8:00-8:25 Breakfast

8:30 Preparation for confirmation

9:00 Assemble for group / individual pictures

10:00 Confirmation exercise

12:00 Lunch

LLC CONFIRMATION SCHOOL  
CONFIRMATION SERVICE TEMPLATE

10:00 AM, SUNDAY, July XX, XXXX

Pictures at 9:30

Order of Service:

Announcements:

Opening hymn #296

Hymn #242 while students enter

Hymn #164

Opening Prayer, Sermon:

Hymn #142: Collection during hymn

Examination:

Confirmation Class Song: (Insert #)

Prayer and Exhortations to parents and godparents:

Words of Institution:

(Insert [4] brothers' names) serve communion

Hymns by Congregation: No. 603/604, 229b, 230, 231, 236, 94, 88, 190, 192, 286, etc. (During Holy Communion) (options: 228-246, 71-105)

Concluding Benediction:

Hymn #239

Distribution of Certificates, pictures and gifts by staff

Announce serving arrangements for lunch:

During the last song the students and staff will leave the sanctuary and proceed to lunch – family, godparents, visitors will follow

All stand to sing #353

Closing Hymn: #367

Lunch

## Appendix 4: Written Evaluation Handout

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**LLC Confirmation School [LOCATION]**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain in your own words the following terms:

**Kingdom of God**

**Grace**

**Sin**

**Repentance**