

CONFIRMATION PROMISES

Class Objective for Confirmation Promises

To understand the five confirmation promises and to explore the struggles and joys of living them out as a disciple.

INTRO:

On the day you were baptized, your parents and sponsors promised to raise you in the Christian faith. As you prepare for your day of affirming your baptism publicly, you will now promise to live your life under the guide of these five promises.

The Confirmation Promises are a guideline for daily discipleship. On the Confirmation Experience trip these five promises will serve as the basis for our daily Bible studies.

The five promises are:

- 1) To live among God's faithful people
- 2) To hear His Word and share in His supper
- 3) To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- 4) To serve all people, following the example of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
- 5) To strive for justice and peace in all the earth

Session 1: To live among God's FAITHFUL people

Write/draw initial images of living out promises/ initial reaction to teacher reading off five promises:

LIVE AMONG GOD'S FAITHFUL PEOPLE:

HEAR GOD'S WORD AND SHARE IN HIS SUPPER:

PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS IN WORD AND DEED:

SERVE ALL PEOPLE:

STRIVE FOR PEACE AND
JUSTICE:

TEXT: EPHESIANS 2: 3-5: We are made alive together with Christ, by grace we have been saved.

In what ways are YOU one of God's faithful people?

TEXT: ACTS 2: 44-47: The early church devoted time to living in communion, sharing what they had, worshipping, celebrating the Lord's supper and giving thanks. We always have the opportunity to find that kind of community here at the church and in worship.

What is your most significant "community" that you belong to? How much time/energy do you devote to that? Why is that community significant to you?

In what ways can you/have you put your trust in your faith community at church, home and school?

How do you see yourself living out the promise to live among God's faithful people in the future?

What will be the barriers and struggles for you?

PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Have a parent share the following with you: One of the greatest benefits of living out this promise throughout my life has been-

COMPLETED: _____

Session 2: To HEAR His Word and SHARE in His Supper

Why do you worship? What is especially meaningful in worship for you?

**List some of the elements of worship that came up during the game:
Which has the most meaning/impact for you?**

Why can't you just "worship" when you're out skiing or hiking and closer to God in creation anyway?

My most memorable communion experience:

The item I selected to symbolize a meaningful worship element or experience was:

How I intend to live out this promise:

Barriers or struggles I'm concerned about:

Someone I know will provide good support for me:

PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION:

- 1) Have a parent share the following with you: One of the greatest benefits of living out this promise throughout my life has been-**
- 2) Help your child to contact the person they named above-via phone/letter etc to share what an influence they've been and how they intend to look to them for support as they prepare to carry out this promise for themselves.**

COMPLETED: _____

Session 3: *To PROCLAIM the Good News of Christ in word and deed.*

What ways have you been a witness....in word.... in deed?

**Think of someone who has been a witness to you. What did they say?
What did they do? What was effective about how they shared Christ with you?**

My group's scenario was:

A key difference between how I would likely respond and how I should respond if I am fulfilling this promise is:

Why does the church and the world need you to fulfill this promise?

Is it easier for you to proclaim through word or deed? Why?

What are the difficult things for you about being a witness (what might cause you to struggle in sharing Christ with others)?

PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION:

1) Have a parent share the following with you: One of the greatest benefits of living out this promise throughout my life has been-

2) A place where I have really struggled/ found myself being a contradiction within my witness is:

COMPLETED: _____

Session 4: *To SERVE all people following the example of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*

Look up the following verses. What does each say about Christ's example of how to serve all people? Why is each a necessary form of service within the kingdom of God?

John 13: 1-15

John 17: 20-26

John 6: 1-14

Luke 10: 25-28

What kind of heart (refer to last week) needs to accompany our actions if we are following Christ's example?

What type of service would most likely nurture that kind of heart in you? (work projects, contact with people, clear result/clear finish, planting "seeds")

ACTIVITY

What was significant for you in the servant opportunity you experienced?

What is the greatest God-given gift you possess? How can you use it to serve God and His people?

What is the greatest challenge for you in fulfilling this promise? What makes you apprehensive or fearful? What challenges your “heart’s attitude” when it comes to serving?

PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Have a parent share the following with you:

- 1. One of the greatest benefits of living out this promise throughout my life has been:**
- 2. My favorite servant experience has been:**
- 3. A place where I have really struggled with my role as a servant is:**
- 4. True or false: I am aware of the gifts God has placed in me and I use them in an active and consistent way in my life as a disciple.**

COMPLETED: _____

Session 5: To STRIVE for justice and peace in all the earth

How do you define “Peace?”

How do you define “Justice?”

What do these two qualities look like in your life?

Who do you interact with regularly that you would call a peacemaker? What about them qualifies them for that title?

How are you a peacemaker?

ACTIVITY: Is God’s definition of peace different?

Luke 1:79

- a. Who is talking?**
- b. What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- c. What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. The image:**

Matthew 10:34

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- c. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

Luke 2:14

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- d. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

Luke 10:5

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- e. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

John 20:21

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- f. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

Acts 24:2

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- g. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

1 Corinthians 7:15

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- h. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- d. **The image:**

Galatians 5:22

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- i. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

Ephesians 4:3

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- j. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

Philipians 4:7

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- k. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

Colossians 3:15

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- l. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

2 Thessalonians 3:16

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- m. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

1 Peter 3:11

- a. **Who is talking?**
- b. **What images of peace does the passage bring to your mind?**
- n. **What does this passage say about God's peace in your life?**
What is it calling you to be, do, say, act?
- d. **Thinking about your passage, what is one thing you could do to live out this promise?**
- e. **The image:**

PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Share with the definitions and images of “peace” and “peacemaking”

Have a parent share the following with you:

- 1. True or false: I feel I work to be a peacemaker in the world. Why or why not?**
- 2. An image I would choose as a metaphor for God’s peace in my life-**
- 3. A time when I have experienced that “inner peace “ of God-**

COMPLETED: _____

