

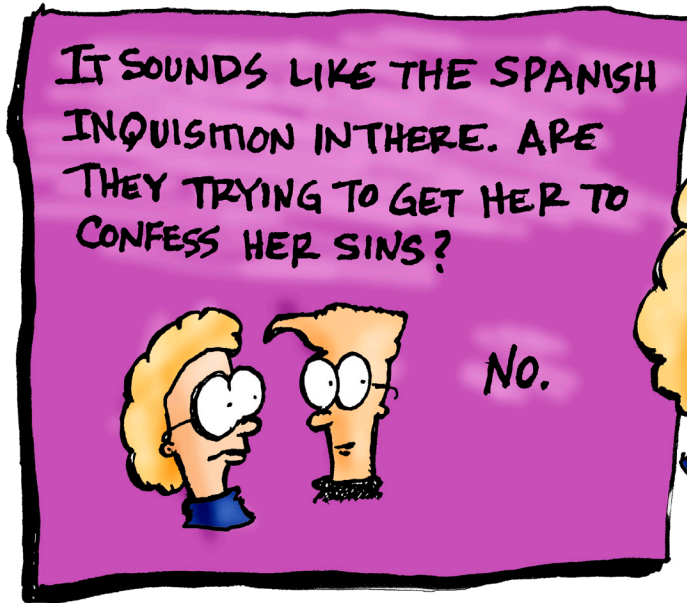
✦ CONFESSING MY FAITH ✦



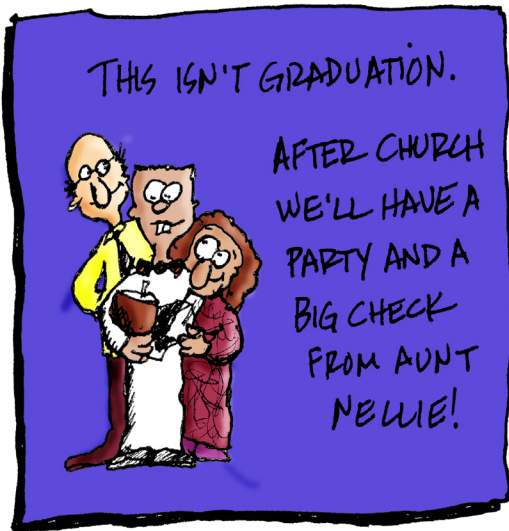
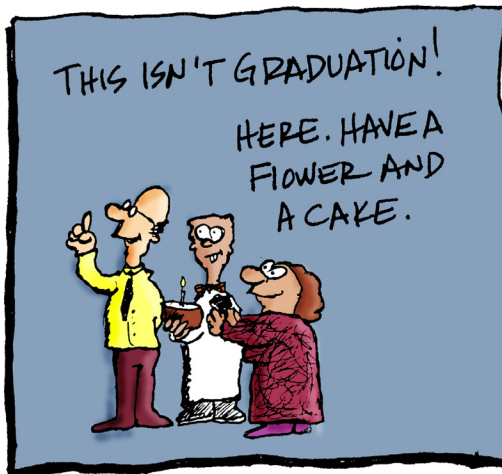
“He is Risen” Copyright © Dr. He Qi www.heqigallery.com

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart... because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. No one who believes in him will be put to shame. For, everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

– ROMANS 10:8A, 9, 11, 13



CONFESSING MY FAITH



CONFIRMING MY CONVICTIONS

THE FAITH 5

SHARE, READ, TALK, PRAY, BLESS



“He is Risen”

by Dr. He Qi
(www.heqigallery.com)

THEME VERSE

THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, ON YOUR LIPS AND IN YOUR HEART... BECAUSE IF YOU CONFESS WITH YOUR LIPS THAT JESUS IS LORD AND BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART THAT GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, YOU WILL BE SAVED. NO ONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL BE PUT TO SHAME. FOR EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED.

— ROMANS 10:8A, 9, 11, 13



FAITH 5™ TIME

Model this five-step process at church today, then bring it on home!

SHARE your highs and lows of the week one-on-one with another person. Listen carefully and record their thoughts in the space below. Then return to small group and share your friend's highs and lows with the group.

MY HIGH THIS WEEK

MY LOW THIS WEEK

MY FRIEND'S HIGH THIS WEEK

MY FRIEND'S LOW THIS WEEK



READ and highlight the theme verse in your Bible.



CATECHISM CONNECTION

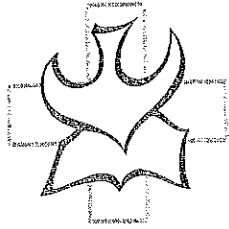
Go over pages 35-39 in the Small Catechism and discuss.

Use your catechism to help answer the following questions. Also glance at the “Rite of Confirmation” Service on the next several pages.

1. What is the general attitude toward government today? How, on the whole, do people view citizenship?
2. Do you think “stuff” just happens? Or is there a plan behind our lives?
3. What excuses do people sometimes give for disobeying rules or law?
4. Describe your idea of a Christ-like work ethic.
5. How do the verses listed in the Small Catechism help us understand the various vocations?
6. What is the difference between being a citizen of God’s kingdom, and the United States?
7. What does “Confirmation” mean to you?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the blessings of government and citizenship in my life. In Christ, You have forgiven my failures to respect and honor Your authorities in the world. Help me to live as Your child and to accept the authorities You have placed in my life. By the power of Your Spirit enable me to be Your instrument of order and peace in the world around me. In Jesus’ name. Amen.



CONFIRMATION

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

P Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord's bidding. Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

Matthew 28:18b-20 NKJV; Matthew 10:32-33 NKJV alt.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

R *Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.*

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.*

- P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
R *Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.*
- P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?
R *I do.*
- P** Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?
R *I do.*
- P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
R *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
R *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?
R *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P** We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.
- C** **Amen.**

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

- P** Name , the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life \dagger everlasting.
- R** *Amen.*

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, one or both of the following collects are prayed.

Stand

- P** Let us pray.
 Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, they may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall

receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (513)

☩ Amen.

P Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ's Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord's Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear their cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (514)

☩ Amen.

P Peace ☩ be with you.

☩ Amen.

The service continues with the PRAYER OF THE CHURCH.



TALK *about how today's verse relates to your highs and lows. Then choose from the options below and have some fun digging deeper into the theme together. Take turns leading this.*

✦ ART ATTACK & MINDZEYE GALLERY

*What do you see in today's theme art or your own drawings?
How do the art and the theme verse relate to each other?
How do they relate to your highs and lows?*

✦ CATECHISM ENCOUNTER

Open up your Small Catechism and dig deeper!

Read Luther's explanation of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed in the Small Catechism. Circle or highlight five words that jump out at you. Share the words you chose with one other person. Why did you choose those words? What do they mean to you?

✦ QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Share your thoughts on the questions below:

1. What activities do you consider a waste of time? Why? What activities do you consider a wonderful use of time? Why?
2. How would your relationship with God change if you knew you only had a short time to live? How would your relationship with others change if you knew you only had a short time to live?
3. What does the verse of the week mean to you? Why is both confessing and believing essential to salvation?

✦ QUOTATIONS

Choose a quotation on the right and share why you chose it.

QUOTATIONS TO CHEW ON

NO ONE WOULD HAVE BEEN INVITED TO DINNER AS OFTEN AS JESUS WAS UNLESS HE WAS INTERESTING AND HAD A SENSE OF HUMOR.

CHARLES SCHULZ

IF YOU AREN'T ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT TEACHING THE FAITH, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT YOU DON'T REALLY CARE. YOU'RE JUST A TRAVEL AGENT SELLING TICKETS TO A PLACE YOU'VE NEVER BEEN.

BRENNAN MANNING

NO ONE HERE GETS OUT ALIVE.

JIM MORRISON OF THE DOORS

JESUS CHRIST WAS EITHER THE BIGGEST LIAR WHO EVER LIVED, A LUNATIC, OR JUST WHO HE SAID HE WAS—THE LORD.

C. S. LEWIS





TALK *about how today's verse relates to your highs and lows. Then choose from the options below and have some fun digging deeper into the theme together.*

✦ ART ATTACK & MINDZEYE GALLERY

*What do you see in today's theme art or your own drawings?
How do the art and the theme verse relate to each other?
How do they relate to your highs and lows?*

✦ CATECHISM ENCOUNTER

Open up your Small Catechism and dig deeper!

Most of the people of the world have a general belief in some kind of God/Creator. What makes Christians stand apart? Read Luther's explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed in the Small Catechism. Circle or highlight five words about Jesus that jump out at you. Why did you choose those words? What do they mean to you?

✦ QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Share your thoughts on the questions below:

1. Look carefully at the promises your parents made for you in Holy Baptism. What did they promise to be and do?
2. Look carefully at the promises you are making on confirmation day. What are you promising to be and do?
3. What will change on confirmation day? What won't change?

✦ QUOTATIONS

Choose a quotation on the right and share why you chose it.

QUOTATIONS TO CHEW ON

A PERSON CONVINCED AGAINST THEIR WILL IS NOT CONVINCED.

LAURENCE J. PETER

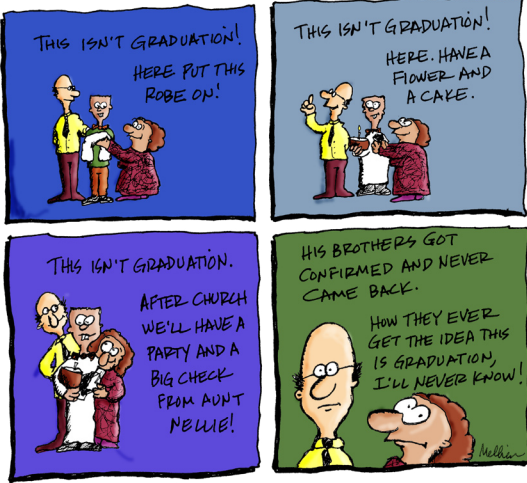
THE HENS THEY ALL CACKLE, THE ROOSTERS ALL BEG, BUT I WILL NOT HATCH, I WILL NOT HATCH. FOR I HEAR ALL THE TALK OF POLLUTION AND WAR AS THE PEOPLE ALL SHOUT AND THE AIRPLANES ROAR, SO I'M STAYING IN HERE WHERE IT'S SAFE AND IT'S WARM, AND I WILL NOT HATCH!

SHEL SILVERSTEIN

THE ONLY SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BAD CONFIRMATION AND BAD CONSTIPATION IS THAT BAD CONSTIPATION IS TEMPORARY.

ERIK YOUNG





† TERMS Write a group definition of these words:

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

CONFIRMATION

CONVICTIONS

COVENANT

VOW



PRAY

for one another. Gather in a circle and lock arms. Praise and thank God for your highs. Ask God to be with you in your lows. Pray for your friend's highs and lows and for your world. Close in Jesus' name.

A PRAISING PRAYER

A THANKING PRAYER

AN ASKING PRAYER



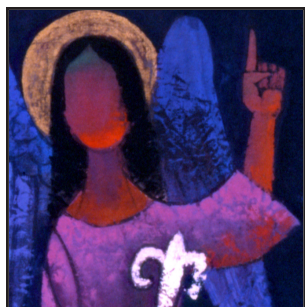
BLESS

one another by name. Trace the sign of the cross on a forehead or palm as you share these words or another favorite blessing:

“(NAME), CHILD OF GOD, MAY THE FATHER IN HEAVEN FOR JESUS’ SAKE STIR UP AND INCREASE IN YOU THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT; MAY GOD CONFIRM YOUR FAITH, GUIDE YOUR LIFE, EMPOWER YOUR SERVING, GIVE YOU PATIENCE IN SUFFERING AND BRING YOU AT LAST TO ETERNAL LIFE.”

**† REMEMBER
1 THING**

Confirmation is you saying “yes” to the God who said “yes” to you in baptism. And saying it in front of the whole world!



CONFESSING MY FAITH

Keep your family communicating every night and grow together in insight, love and your understanding of one another and God. Try this simple five-step process just before bed for maximum impact. New to the process? Focus on step 1 initially, and grow from there. Check out www.faithink.com, FINKlink LL28 for additional games, songs, and devotions on this theme.



SHARE your highs and lows of the day.



READ and highlight these verses—one a day—in your Bible.

WEEK 1

- Day 1 Romans 10: 8a, 9
- Day 2 Romans 10:11
- Day 3 Psalm 27:1
- Day 4 Psalm 18:2
- Day 5 Matthew 10:19-20
- Day 6 Psalm 33:5
- Day 7 Review - Romans 10:8a, 9, 11, 13

WEEK 2

- Day 1 Jeremiah 29:11
- Day 2 Acts 1:8
- Day 3 Acts 2:38
- Day 4 I Corinthians 2:4-5
- Day 5 Ephesians 3:16
- Day 6 Psalm 119:46
- Day 7 Review - Romans 10:8a, 9, 11, 13



TALK about your highs and lows in relation to the verse for the day. Ask “How does this verse relate to our highs and lows?” and “What might God be saying to us today?”



PRAY for one another. Praise and thank God for today’s highs. Ask for help with today’s lows. Include highs and lows of your family, friends and world in this prayer. Close in Jesus’ name.



BLESS one another using the following blessing, marking one another with the sign of the cross:

“MAY CHRIST GIVE YOU ALL THE STRENGTH AND THE PASSION TO LIVE LIKE IT MATTERS IN HIS NAME. AMEN.”

FAMILY COVENANT: *We have shared the FAITH 5™ together as a family this week.*

Parent’s Signature

Teen’s Signature

Date