



Summary

Focused on preparing students to authentically answer the traditional membership questions, this Confirmation curriculum will equip students with the vital skills of asking and seeking answers using scripture, tradition, and church to tell their own story as Christian believers.

Questions for Confirmation

- Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?
- Who is your Lord and Savior?
- Will you be Christ's faithful disciple obeying his word and showing his love?
- Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Scope and Sequence

Session 1: What is Confirmation?

Bible. Joshua 24:1–3, 13–15, 22–25

The biblical concept of covenant loyalty is introduced in relation to the practice of Confirmation. Because God has been loyal/faithful to us, we are called to be loyal/faithful to God. Confirmation calls us to make specific promises to God, ourselves, and the church.

Session 2: How Do We Know and Trust God?

Bible. Psalm 105:1–45; Hebrews 11:1–38

When God calls us to covenant loyalty, God calls us to trust. When we understand how God has acted in the past and promises to act today and tomorrow, we can trust in God's promises even in the face of uncertainty.

Session 3: What is Sin and How Do We Turn from It?

Bible. Genesis 3:1–24; Genesis 4:1–16; Exodus 32:1–10, 34:1–10; 2 Samuel 11:1–27; Exodus 20:1–17; Matthew 22:34–40

If we have organized our lives around anything other than God, then our hearts are sinful. We do things that break God’s heart, hurt other people, and damage God’s creation. We even hurt ourselves. We are called to work in the world against sin and evil to transform society in gratitude for God’s grace and mercy.

Session 4: Who is Your Lord?

Bible. Philippians 2:1–13; Exodus 3:13–15; 1 Kings 18:20–39

To claim Jesus Christ as Lord is one way we express trust in the gracious mercy of God. God sent Jesus to human beings to show us how to live in loyalty to Jesus (Jesus is Lord). As Presbyterians we affirm the Lordship of Jesus Christ so that nothing else in the world can claim lordship in our lives.

Session 5: Who is Your Savior?

Bible. Ephesians 2:1–10; Exodus 3:1–17; Luke 19:1–10; 2 Kings 5:1–15; Mark 2:1–12; Matthew 18:21–35; Luke 15:11–32

Humans are utterly dependent on the triune God for their salvation. Jesus Christ crucified is the only Savior and Lord, and all people everywhere are called to place their faith, hope, and love in him. To claim Jesus Christ as Savior is one way we express trust in the gracious mercy of God.

Session 6: What Does It Mean to Be a Disciple of Jesus?

Bible. Mark 8:27–38; Mark 12:41–44; Matthew 20:22–28; Acts 7:51–60

Jesus Christ is not asking to be a part of your life. He is asking to be your life. Even today the church and the believer are called to answer the question, “How do we faithfully obey Christ’s word”?

Session 7: What Does It Mean to Show Christ’s Love?

Bible. John 21:15–19

Jesus Christ taught his followers that to serve the least in the world was to serve him. We continue to make significant connections between affirming Jesus’ love for us and our call to show Jesus’ love to our neighbors, near and far.

Session 8: Will You Devote Yourself to the Church’s Teaching?

Bible: 2 Timothy 1:1–14; Hebrews 12:1–2

We devote ourselves to the study of the Scriptures and the teachings of the church (doctrine) as part of the church’s ongoing commitment to “faith seeking understanding.” In so doing, we come to understand more fully the nature of the faith we profess in baptism and at Confirmation. Study of the Apostles’ Creed is a further step toward professing the faith.

Session 9: Will You Devote Yourself to the Church's Fellowship?

Bible: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; John 13:1-17

As Presbyterians, we know that every person has a place and purpose in the body of Christ. Our different gifts find purpose when we work together in service.

Session 10: Will you Devote Yourself to the Breaking of Bread?

Bible: Exodus 12:1-20, 29-36; Luke 22:14-23; Luke 24:13-35; Acts 10:1-48

Jesus shared many meals with his followers, breaking bread to feed the hungry, to welcome the outcast, and to assure the disciples of his abiding presence among them. Table fellowship was at the center of the church's first crisis—how could Jewish and Gentile followers of Jesus sit at a table and eat together?

Session 11: Will You Devote Yourself to the Prayers?

Bible: Luke 18:1; Colossians 4:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Psalm 51:10, 17; Romans 5:5

Prayer focuses our attention on God and away from ourselves. When that happens, we open our hearts to God to become active in our lives, seeking justice for all humanity.

Session 12: Are You Ready to Cross Over?

Bible: Joshua 3:7-4:7; Romans 6:3-4

The Confirmation class culminates with a water crossing—Joshua and the Jordan, and Jesus and the baptism of his death and resurrection. Crossings are lifted up as important transitions in life and in the life of faith, especially for young people at their Confirmation.