

**Laestadian Lutheran Church**

**Confirmation School**

**CURRICULUM**

LLC Board Approval: October 28, 2017



# LLC Confirmation School Curriculum

## Day 1 – Welcome

Introductions Camp Goals / Review rules – Students, Directors, Teachers, Staff

Get Acquainted – Counselors Page

Lesson 1: The Most Precious Matter in Our Lives 4

## Day 2 - God, The Triune God

Lesson 1: God, Our Heavenly Father 5

Lesson 2: Faith, A Gift from God 6

Lesson 3: The Bible, God's Written Word 7

Lesson 4: The Sabbath Day, Keep it Holy 8

## Day 3 - Jesus, the Son of God

Lesson 1: Jesus, the Word made Flesh 9

Lesson 2: Jesus, Our Savior 10

Lesson 3: Temptation and Sin 11

Lesson 4: The Gospel, The Message of Victory 12

Lesson 5: Courtship and Marriage 13

## Day 4 - Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God

Lesson 1: The Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier 14

Lesson 2: God's Kingdom, Our Mother 15

Lesson 3: Conscience, God's Voice in Us 16

Lesson 4: Death and Resurrection 17

Lesson 5: Heaven, Our Goal 18

## Day 5 - I Need the Word of Grace Each Day

Lesson 1: Grace, Unmerited Love 19

Lesson 2: Repentance, A Change of Heart 20

Lesson 3: Internet and Social Media 21

Lesson 4: Sexuality Issues 22

Lesson 5: Prayer, Thy Will Be Done 23

## Day 6 – Caring for Faith Within the Congregation

Lesson 1: Baptism, A Covenant of Good Conscience 24

Lesson 2: Confession, A Grace Privilege 25

Lesson 3: Communion, A Meal of Remembrance 26

Lesson 4: Caring For One Another	27
Lesson 5: Music, Sing O People of the Lord	28
<b>Day 7 – Mission Work: Go Ye Therefore and Teach All Nations</b>	
Lesson 1: In the World, Not of the World	29
Lesson 2: Luther and The Reformation	30
Lesson 3: Laestadian Lutheran Church	31
Lesson 4: Mission Work: Spreading the Gospel	32
Lesson 5: Personal Palms to God	33
<b>Day 8 – Wrap-Up</b>	
Lesson 1: Confirmation Week Review	34
<b>Sample Confirmation Day Agenda</b>	35

---

*Day 1: Welcome*

---

**Lesson 1: *The Most Precious Matter in our Lives***

Objective: *To know God and our Savior Jesus Christ is the most precious matter in our life.*

Student Learning Outcome: *Describe the purpose for my Confirmation school*

Confirmation Exercise Questions

*Explain that the exercise questions will be asked on Confirmation day*

*Direct students to the questions and answers in the back of the Student's Booklet*

**#1. What is the most important matter in your life?** To be a believer. Living faith. Getting to heaven. Having my sins forgiven.

Booklet Song: This precious lot was given me / When I began this journey / And made a sacred promise here: / Lord, Thine I would be only. / Thy footsteps I will follow, Lord, / Confess Thy name here in this world / From Thy blest kingdom, Jesus. (SHZ 298 v.1)

Booklet Text: **Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;**  
(Ecclesiastes 12:1)

---

***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (3.1);

Scripture: Matt. 4:4; 6:21, 33; 13:44-46; 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

Description of Confirmation, page 8

- Lessons are based on the Bible and Martin Luther's Small Catechism
- Instruction on the practices in living Christianity
- Guidance on living a Godly life, including life in the congregation

Additional Lesson Points:

- Confirmation school helps a youth to believe in God
- Confirmation is a continuation of the baptismal teachings
- On Confirmation day students will confess the faith in God and partake of Holy Communion
- Christian teaching is based on God's Word
- The Holy Spirit is needed to open God's Word
- The Holy Spirit is found in the congregation
- Student will understand that only in Jesus Christ can man truly know God.

Resources:

*Remember Thy Creator in the Days of Thy Youth*, S. Roiko, LLC Website, Summer Services, 2010  
*Remember Thy Creator in the Days of Thy Youth*, M. Taskila, At the Crossroads of Choosing, p. 172;  
*The Choices of Youth*, The Sheepfold Tender, pages 120-121.

---

*Day 2: God, the Triune God*

---

**Lesson 1: God, our Heavenly Father**

Objectives:     *God is our Creator*  
                  *God hates sin, but loves the sinful person*

Student Learning Outcomes:     *Explain how God created everything.*  
  *Give an example of how God hates sin but loves the sinner.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions:

**#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 conscience.

Booklet Song: We know that God is our Creator / Who made the earth and heaven by His Word, / The light, the darkness, land and water / He spoke and it was done; he is the Lord / Unseen or seen, by Him all things consist. / Praise God, who in eternity exists. (SHZ 208 v.1)

Booklet Text: **The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. Who is like unto the Lord our God who dwelleth on high.** (Psalms 113:4,5)

---

***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lessons 2.2, 3.2, 3.3)

Scripture:     Gen. 1-2; Gen. 1:27,28; 2:18,21-24; John 1:1-3; Ps. 19:1-3; Matt. 6:8,25-34; 7:7-11; Heb. 11:3; Ps. 68:5; Col. 1:16; Isa. 43:1-4; Jer. 17:10; Job 14:5; Ps. 8:3-6; Acts 17:26-28; 2 Tim. 2:19; Ezek. 33:11; Exod. 4:22; Job 12:7-9; Job 34:11

Additional Lesson Points:

- God has created the universe and all that is in it.
- God has created man from the dust of the earth and gave him an undying spirit.
- God has created man, both male and female
- God knows all our needs, both temporal and spiritual, and provides all that is necessary.
- For those who trust in God the future is always open, for God in His wisdom guides world events and creates new things.
- God loves His children like a good father loves his own children.
- Everyone will have to answer for his/her deeds and omissions before God.
- While God is almighty and holy, He is, nonetheless, near us in His love.
- None are here by accident, but by the will of God, and that God takes care of him/her.

Resources: **The Sheepfold Tender:** *What is God Like?* p. 14-15; *A Scriptural Concept of God*, p. 78-79

**LLC Website:** *What is God Like?* J. Lehtola, 1999 LLC Summer Services

**LLC Website:** *The Triune God*, R. Waaraniemi, 2011 LLC Summer Services

## Lesson 2: Faith, a Gift from God

Objectives: *Faith is our connection to God, preserved in a clean and undefiled conscience.*

*By Faith, we already own what we hope for, and believe in things not seen*

Student Learning Outcome: *Define faith and how to preserve it.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: Our Faith is the greatest of gifts we could own. / Through Christ we are given the hope of a crown. / Through grace He doth give us the strength to believe / When blessing in His name and blood is received. (SHZ 403 v.2)

Booklet Text: **But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**

(Hebrews 11:6)

---

**Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum: None

Scripture: Hab.2:4; Matt. 6:30; Rom. 1:7; 5:12; 10:17; Acts 26:18; 1 Cor. 2:5; Gal.5:22; Eph. 2:8, 4:5, 6:16; 1 Tim. 1:19, 3:9, 6:12; 2 Tim. 3:15, 4:7; Heb. 10:22,23. 11:1-3, 11-6; 1 Pet 1:7

Additional Lesson Points:

- To know God and our Savior Jesus Christ by faith is the most important matter in man's life.
- A general revelation is not sufficient for knowing God
- Only in Jesus Christ can man truly know God
- Faith carries us to heaven

Resources: **VZ:** Bible Concepts: *What is Faith?* Y. Talo, January 1993, page 13

**VZ:** *Faith of the Heart*, L. Hakso, February 200, pages 4,5

**LLC Website:** *Obedience of Faith*, E. Alajoki, LLC Winter Services, 1995

**LLC Website:** *Faith and Reason*, J. Lehtola, LLC Summer Services, 1995

**LLC Website:** *Unity of Faith and Understanding*, W. Lampi, LLC Summer Services, 2007

**LLC Website:** *Through Faith We Understand*, K. Nissalä, LLC Winter Services, 2014

### Lesson 3: The Bible, God's Written Word

Objectives: *God reveals His will in the Bible*  
*The Bible is a Holy Book needing the wisdom of the Holy Spirit to open understanding*

Student Learning Outcome: *Give an example of how God reveals His will in the Bible.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions:

**#7. Where did the Scriptures come from?** Holy men of God spoke and wrote as they were inspired by the Holy Spirit.

**#8. What is the main message of the Old Testament?** The promise of the coming Messiah, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**#9. What is the main message of the New Testament?** The fulfillment of the Old Testament promise concerning Christ.

**#14. The living Word of God is compared to a two-edged sword. What are the two edges?** The Law and the Gospel.

Booklet Song: The Lord has given us His Word / That we may learn of Him. / A precious book He gave to say / We may be free from sin. (SHZ 446 v.1)

Booklet Text: **Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.** (2 Peter 1:20,21)

---

#### ***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 1.1)

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; 2 Pet. 1:20,21; John 5:39

Additional Lesson Points:

- While God speaks to us in nature, the fate of our lives, and the phases of nations, He especially speaks to us in Holy Scripture and our Redeemer Jesus Christ.
- Holy Scripture is given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit and is thus God's own word.
- 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.
- The Bible speaks of God. Pictures and narratives attempt to illustrate what God is like.
- The Bible is Christian faith and life's highest guide.
- The Bible is a closed book that is opened by the Holy Spirit. It is to be read with prayer.
- Students will be able to use the Bible and want to study it daily.
- Students will become acquainted with Jesus' teachings by reading together or individually one of the gospels during confirmation school.

Resources: By Faith 2; Christian Doctrine 4, 5, 6, and 7.  
*The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, J. Uljas, p. 19-26;  
*God's Word is the Highest Authority*, J. Frantti - Crossing the Current, Pages 11-14  
**LLC Website:** *From a Child Thou Hast Known the Holy Scriptures*, J. Frantti, LLC Winter Services, 1999, Youth Presentation



#### **Lesson 4: The Sabbath Day, Keep it Holy**

Objectives: *Created for man to Study God's Word, rest and refresh his mind*

*The Sabbath Day is honored*

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain God's purpose for the Sabbath Day and how to honor it.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: The Sabbath day, let it be blest, / That thou and all thy house may rest; / Keep hand and heart from labor free / and hear my preaching willingly. O Lord, have mercy. (SHZ 180 v.4)

Booklet Text: ***Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.*** (Exodus 20:8)

---

***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 6.4)

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

Additional Lesson Points:

- 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.
- The student will be able to explain how the Sabbath day is honored and give examples that demonstrate their understanding.

Resources: Luther's Small Catechism, p. 5 Part I. The Ten Commandments

**VZ:** *Keep the Sabbath Day Holy*, Sept. 2007, page 2;

---

*Day 3: Jesus, the Son of God*

---

**Lesson 1: Jesus, the Word made Flesh**

Objectives: *Jesus was born God and man*

*The fulfilment of God's Promise*

Student Learning Outcome: *Write down a scripture verse to support that Jesus was both God and man.*

(Example, Matthew 1:18-25)

Confirmation Exercise Question: None

Booklet Song: The Son obeyed His Father's will, / Was born of virgin mother, / And God's good pleasure to fulfill, / He came to be my brother. / No garb of pomp or pow'r He wore, / A servant's form, like mine, He bore / To lead the devil captive. (SHZ 272 v. 6)

Booklet Text: ***And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*** (John 1:14)

---

***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lessons 2.4, 2.5)

Scripture: Matt. 1:18-25, 3:13-17, 4:1-11, 16:13-16, 28:18; Luke 2:41-50; 3:21,22; 4:1-13; John 1:14, 3:16; Acts 13:28-39; Eph. 1:19-23; Phil. 2:5-11; Heb. 4:15-16; 1 Tim. 3:16

Additional Lesson Points:

- Some of the major prophecies concerning Jesus that are in the Old Testament.
- The main phases and work of Jesus' life
- God's salvation work climaxes in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
- Jesus' origin was unique: He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
- Jesus, as true man, like us experienced pain, hunger, sorrow, joy, fear and so on, but was nonetheless without sin.
- Jesus spoke of himself as the Messiah and God's Son.
- 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.
- Explanation to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Article of the Creed, Luther's Small Catechism

Resources: By Faith 19b; Christian Doctrine 29 -38;  
**VZ:** *The Birth of Jesus Christ*, Q. Ruonavaara, Dec. 1991, page 275.  
*Unto You a Savior is Born*, J. Stewart, Dec. 2008, page 11

## Lesson 2: Jesus, Our Savior

Objectives: *Jesus suffered and died for the sins of all people*

*Jesus is the foundation of our faith*

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain why Jesus suffered and died on the cross*

Confirmation Exercise Questions

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

Booklet Song: Dearest Jesus, on Golgotha / Show Your wounds of love to us. / Our dear Father's heart of mercy / Shines in glory on the cross. / May I always know and see / You were sacrificed for me. (SHZ 311 v. 1)

Booklet Text: ***God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.*** (2 Cor 5:19)

---

### **Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 2.6)

Scripture: Matt. 26:14-27:66; Mark 14:12-15:47; Luke 22:7-23:56; John 18:1-19:42; 1 Cor. 15:1-4; 2 Cor. 5:18-21; Rev. 1:17,18, 20:14, 1 John 2:1,2; Gen. 3:15,21

Additional Lesson Points:

- Jesus' salvation work was a crucial victory over sin and death.
- Student will know the passion history of Jesus and understand that He died for our sins and corrected the Fall in paradise.
- We receive our sins forgiven on the basis of Jesus' suffering and sacrificial death.

Vocabulary: ***Reconcile – settle or resolve***

Resources: By Faith 20; Christian Doctrine 39;  
*Salvation in Jesus Christ: The Bible's Central Message*, M. Kontkanen, The Sheepfold Tender, pages 42-44.  
SRK/LLC Book: *Jesus Our Savior*, Stories of Jesus 4.

### Lesson 3: Temptation and Sin

Objectives: *Sin is when our heart falls away from God*

*The attraction to sin is called temptation*

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain the difference between sin and temptation and give examples of each.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions

**#4. What separates man from God? Sin.**

**#5. What is sin?** Sin is thoughts, words, and deeds that are contrary to God's will.

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

Booklet Song: In Adam's fall is all depraved: / Man's nature and his wisdom. / When we are born, within our veins / Is flowing deadly venom, / And it is sure there is no cure / But Christ, who brought salvation. / For Satan's lie led Eve to die / All men received damnation. (SHZ 275 v.1)

Booklet text: ***When lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.*** (James 1:15)

---

**Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lessons 3.4, 7.5, 9.1, 9.4)

Scripture: Gen. 3:1-19; Jer. 17:9-10; Ezek. 18:21-32; Luke 21:34-36; Rom. 3:9-18, 7:17-21, 13:9-10, 13:13,14; 1 Cor. 6:9-11, 10:12-13; James 1:12-16, 4:17.

Additional Lesson Points:

- Because of the Fall, sin and death have entered the world.
- As a result of the Fall into sin, sin dwells in our members.
- Sin is the transgression of God's will and the committing of iniquity against our neighbor.
- Leaving good undone is also sin.
- Sin appears in relations between people and in distortions of community life.
- Although God hates sin and condemns it, He loves sinful man and wishes to save him from everlasting condemnation.

Resources: Christian Doctrine 21-28,  
**LLC Website** – *LLC Position Statement*, Adopted by LLC July 2006; *Sin and Its Consequences*, D. Anderson, Winter Services, 2009; *Did God Really Say?* E. Jurmu, Summer Services Youth Presentation, 2012; *Being Made Free from Sin, Ye Became Servants of Righteousness*, J. Frantti, Summer Services Ministers and Board Meeting, 2015; *Behold, I was Shapen in Iniquity*, J. Stewart, Winter Services, 2017.  
**VZ:** Bible Concepts – *Sin*, I. Joensuu, Sep. 1993, page 13; *Temptation*, E. Reinikainen, Mar. 1979, page 35; *The Temptation of Jesus*, W. Lampi, Mar. 1990, page 51;

#### Lesson 4: The Gospel, the Message of Victory

Objectives: *The core of the gospel is the forgiveness of sins*

*The gospel is the power of God to the person who believes it*

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain what the core gospel is and why it is important to me, a believer.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions:

**#16. What is the Gospel?** The Gospel is the joyous message of Jesus Christ.

**#17. What is the core message of the gospel?** The proclamation of the forgiveness of sins.

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

Booklet Song: And therefore Jesus gave command: / "Go forth and preach in ev'ry land / To contrite hearts, forgive their sin; / O'er Satan's strength my work will win." (SHZ 409 v.2)

Booklet Text: ***For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*** (Romans 1:16)

---

#### **Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 3.6)

Scripture: Isa. 55:1; Jer. 31:31-34; Matt. 4:23; Mark 1:14-15, 16:15; John 8:11; Rom. 1:16:15, 10:4, 13-17; Gal. 2:16; 1 Thess. 1:5; Tit. 2:11-14; Heb. 4:15-16.

Additional Lesson Points:

- 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.
- Those who have come into faith through the Gospel cannot be touched by the condemnation of the Law.
- When the Holy Spirit sanctifies man, the grace of God teaches him to forsake sin and live in obedience to God's will.

Resources: Christian Doctrine 55;  
*The Treasure Hidden in the Field*, J. Uljas, pages 49-54  
**LLC Website:** *The Law and the Gospel*, D. Rintamaki, Summer Services, Ministers and Board Meeting, 1994; *Gospel of Christ – Power of God*, J. Stewart, Winter Services Youth Presentation, 1994.  
**VZ:** *Counsels and Rebukings of the Gospel*, W. Havas, Jan/Feb 1974 page 22; *The Gospel Provides Power to Battle Sin*, Phoenix Winter Services, April 1994, pages 6-8;

## Lesson 5: Courtship & Marriage, He Made Them Male and Female

Objectives: *Marriage is a life-long union ordained by God between a man and a woman - a help suitable for each other.*

*Through marriage God fulfils His creation work according to His will*

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain how God established marriage for the benefit of mankind.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: You made us for each other, God, / You gave us one another. / Oh, may our hearts abide in love / That each would serve the other. (SHZ 253 v.1)

Booklet Text: ***Charity suffereth long, and is kind*** (1 Cor. 13:4)

---

### ***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lessons 7.3, 7.4, 9.6)

Scripture: Gen. 1:26-28; 2:23,24; Exod. 20:14; 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; 1 John 2:16;  
Prov. 18:22; 19:14; 31:10-12; Matt. 19:5; 1 Cor. 13; Eph. 5:22-33; 6:1-4; Col.3:18-21; 2  
Tim. 2:22; Eph. 4:32

#### Additional Lesson Points:

- Marriage is instituted and ordained by God; this union only ends with the death of one spouse.
- The purpose of marriage is to receive a help “meet”, and for procreation.
- In God's creation man and woman are equal, although they are different.
- The unmarried and single state are just as worthy roles and forms of life as the married state.
- Understand the purpose of courtship and how a believer conducts him/herself in courtship avoiding temptation (for example, by listening to God's Word, discussing our temptations with other believers, caring for our conscience, choosing a sincerely believing group of friends, etc.)
- Understand what are the most important characteristics in a life's companion.
- Student will feel responsibility in the matters of love and courtship and understand that God forgives sins and failing in this area also.
- Student will recognize the outward and inward prerequisites for establishing a family.

Resources: By Faith 35; Christian Doctrine 93, 94;  
*From Victory to Victory*, p. 75-82;  
Luther's Small Catechism  
*Pastor's Guide to Christian Weddings*  
*Christian Courtship*, 1996 Outlook Summer Services – Youth Discussion D Rintamaki  
*The Sanctity of Marriage*, 1999 Detroit Summer Services, Walt Lampi  
*The Scriptural Foundation of Marriage and Family*, W. Lampi, Crossing the Current, p. 70  
*He Made Them Male and Female*, 2006 LLC Sum. Svc. Youth Discussion K. Waaraniemi;  
*The Treasure Hidden in the Field*, J. Uljas, p. 100-106  
*The Beauty of Courtship*, At the Crossroads of Choosing, p.55  
VZ: – series of articles in February, March, April, and June 2003

---

*Day 4: The Holy Spirit, The Spirit of God*

---

**Lesson 1: The Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier**

Objectives:     *The Holy Spirit calls and gathers the congregation of Christ*  
                    *The Holy Spirit comforts, teaches, and guides*

Student Learning Outcome: *Give examples of how the Holy Spirit sanctifies.*

Confirmation Exercise Question: None

Booklet Song:    You desire true devotion / And a heart of purity; / You hate evil and corruption / You despise hypocrisy. / Therefore, sanctify my mind, / That in me You always find / An abiding dwelling lowly, / Worthy of Your presence holy. (SHZ 127 v.6)

Booklet Text:    ***But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*** (John 14:26)

---

**Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 2.7)

Scripture:       John 20:19-23; John 14:26; Acts 15:28

Matt. 16:15-19; 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

Additional Lesson Points:

- The Holy Spirit is the spirit of God the Father and of Christ.
- God is the almighty Lord, whose sphere of influence is boundless. He has given His Holy Spirit as a guide and comfort to the believer.
- God sent His Holy Spirit into His Congregation. The Holy Spirit speaks in our conscience and in God's congregation.
- 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.

Resources:       By Faith 21;  
                    Luther's Small Catechism Apostle's, Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds  
                    *The Holy Spirit and Its Work*, V. Juntunen, The Sheepfold Tender, pages 102-111.  
                    **LLC Website:** *The Office of the Holy Spirit*, W. Lampi, Summer Services Ministers and Board meeting, 2017; *The Office of the Holy Spirit*, C. Simonson, Summer Services Youth Presentation, 2017.  
                    **VZ:** *The Holy Spirit's Work*, H. Jussila, May, 1994, page 3; Bible Concepts: *The Holy Spirit*, May, 1995, page 12; *The Holy Spirit, The Comforter*, P. Haataja, Feb. 2010, page 4.

## Lesson 2: God's Kingdom, Our Mother

Objectives: *Small, holy group of believing people*  
*The workplace of the Holy Spirit is in the congregation where it continues the work of Christ*

Student Learning Outcome: *Describe what our Mother congregation is and where it can be found.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions:

**#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.

**#20. What is meant by the office of the keys?** The authority that Jesus gave to His own to forgive sins.

**#21. Where and with what words did Jesus authorize His own to forgive sins?**

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

Booklet Song: Jerusalem, God's Zion, came down from heav'n above. / She's our beloved mother, whom we, her children, love. / It's here that God is dwelling, in Spirit here is found; / Of truth it is the pillar and is its very ground. (SHZ 188 v.1)

Booklet Text: **"Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."**

(Luke 12:32)

---

### **Additional Resource Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 2.8)

Scripture: Luke 12:32; 1 Tim 3:15; Eph. 5:31,32; 1 Thess. 1:6

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

Additional Lesson Points:

- God has a congregation here on earth; it is made up of believers who are joined by the bonds of the Holy Spirit.
- The work of the Holy Spirit is explained in the Bible, the third article of the Creed, and Luther's explanation of the third article of the Creed.

Resources: By Faith 21; Christian Doctrine 44-49;  
*The Holy Spirit and Its Work*, V. Juntunen, The Sheepfold Tender, pages 102-111.



### Lesson 3: Conscience, God's Voice in Us

Objectives: *The conscience guides us to do what is right, warns of sin, and instructs to repent when we have fallen*

*The conscience works properly when it is bound to God's Word and the voice of the congregation*

Student Learning Outcome: *Describe what the conscience is and how it functions*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: Listen, precious young believer, / To your heart your Friend is speaking: / "Friend, I know that you are tempted. / It is you that I am seeking." (SHZ 486 v.1)

Booklet Text: **"How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"** (Genesis 39:9)

---

#### **Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 3.5)

Scripture: Gen. 39:7-12; Dan. 1:8; Ps. 103:8-13

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

Additional Lesson Points:

- It is significant that God wishes to forgive and cleanse the conscience.
- Student will know how to care for his/her conscience.

Resources: Christian Doctrine 16;  
*Keep Faith and a Good Conscience*, J. Bloomquist, Phoenix Winter Services, Feb 1998;  
**VZ: Faith and Good Conscience Discussed**, H. Huhdanpää, Feb 1999, page 7;  
*Decision-Making Tied to God's Word and Good Conscience*, J. Stewart, Mar. 2015, page 2

## Lesson 4: Death and Resurrection

Objectives: *Temporal, spiritual, and eternal death are the consequences of sin*

*There will be a resurrection of all people unto eternal life or eternal death*

Student Learning Outcome: *Compare, and contrast temporal, spiritual and eternal death and give examples of each.*

Confirmation Exercise Question: None

Booklet Song: When I heard Him, I was joyful, / And no more of death afraid, / Since I knew my debts were paid. / He forgave ten thousand talents, / He remitted all my sin, / Gave me endless life with Him. (SHZ 315 v.2)

Booklet Text: **“The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”** (Romans 6:23)

---

***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lessons 3.7, 9.16)

Scripture: 1 Thess. 4:13-17; 1 Cor. 15:12-20; Rom. 6:23

Additional Lesson Points:

- Everlasting life is fellowship with God, that it begins in faith already in temporal life and that everlasting condemnation is final separation from God.
- 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.
- On the Last Day all will be gathered before God's judgement seat

Resources: By Faith 29, 30; Christian Doctrine 107-110;  
**Crossing the Current:** *God is Lord Over Life and Death*, J. Frantti, Pages 34-37;  
*Euthanasia and Its Acceptance* (Pages 112-113); *Suffering and Doctor Assisted Death*, W. Lampi, Pages 114-116  
**LLC Website:** *God is Lord over Life and Death*, J. Bloomquist, Summer Services Ministers and Board Meeting, 2010.

## Lesson 5: Heaven, Our Goal

Objectives: *Heaven is the believer's destination*

*We already own Heaven by faith*

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain the purpose of believing and how to reach our goal.*

Confirmation Exercise Question: None

Booklet Song: I walk to heaven all the way; / Dear friend, await the morrow. / We soon shall find  
release for aye / From all our sin and sorrow. / We soon shall see the Son! / To heaven  
now press on. / Soon God shall wipe away our tears away. / We walk to heaven all the  
way. (SHZ 585 v.6)

Booklet Text: **"I go to prepare a place for you."** (John 14:2)

---

### ***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 9.16)

Scripture: Luke 16:22-26; Rev. 22:3-5; Isa. 64:4; John 14: 1-4

Resources: *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, J. Uljas, pages 123-126;

*Heaven*, J. Moll, LLC Summer Services Youth Presentation, 2010

**VZ:** *A Vision of Heaven*, A. Loukusa, Oct. 1975, page 148; *To the Shore of the Sea of Heaven*, Poem by N. Rauhala, Nov. 1983, page 245; *The Kingdom of Heaven*, J. Frantti, Oct. 1985, page 217; *The Teaching of the Kingdom of Heaven*, S. Kautto, Aug, 1993, p 12;

---

*Day 5: I Need the Word of Grace Each Day*

---

**Lesson 1: Grace, Unmerited Love**

Objectives:     *Grace is the undeserved and unearned love and mercy of God towards sinners*  
                      *Grace is the teacher and source of strength for the child of God*

Student Learning Outcome: *Give an example of how grace is unmerited love and mercy.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: Here grace will teach you, you will find / That Jesus takes Your burdens; / His house is called the House of Bread, / He feeds the hungry pilgrims, / And in this kingdom on the earth, / God's joyful children travel / To heaven's home eternal. (SHZ 287 v.9)

Booklet Text:    **"For by Grace are ye saved through faith."** (Eph. 2:8)

---

***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (no previous lesson on this topic)

Scripture:        Tit. 2:11-13; Eph. 2:8; John 1:14–17; Rom. 3:21-26; Rom. 4:16; 1 Cor. 1:3; 15:10; Eph. 2:5-7; Eph. 3:8; 2 Tim. 1:9; Tit. 2:11, 12; Tit. 3:1-8; Gal. 2:21; Col. 3:16; 4:6; Heb. 4:16; 2 Pet. 3:18;

Additional Lesson Points:

- Grace cannot be earned
- Grace is the love of God
- The grace of God is also the power in the endeavor of faith

Resources:       **VZ:** Bible Concepts: *Grace, The Love of God*, A. Hirvonen, Nov. 1993, p 12;  
                      *Time of Visitation, Time of Grace, Time of Death*, K. Paavo, Aug. 1987, page 4;  
                      *The Effect of God's Grace*, E. Lepisto, Nov. 1981, Page 174;  
                      *By Grace Alone*, A. Paananen, Apr. 2016, page 2;

## Lesson 2: Repentance, a Change of Heart

Objectives: *Repentance is remorse over sin, believing the gospel, and the forsaking of sin*  
*Repentance is entirely the work of God*

Student Learning Outcome: *Describe how an unbeliever's life changes through repentance.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions:

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

**#19. What is true repentance or conversion?** True repentance is remorse and distress over sin, believing in the proclamation of the forgiveness of sins in Jesus Christ. This is followed by a change of heart and battle against sin.

Booklet Song: This world of pain and loneliness / Brought only desolation. / Now I have hope and happiness, / True peace and consolation. / No more I roam, / But with His own, / I travel home, in Zion's battling throng. (SHZ 321 v.6)

Booklet Text: ***For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son.*** (John 3:16)

---

### **Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 3.8)

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

Additional Lesson Points:

- There are three parts of conversion identified in the Augsburg Confession.
- 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.

Resources: By Faith 19a, 24; Christian Doctrine 71; Augsburg Confession Article XII  
*The Treasure Hidden in the Field*, J. Uljas, pages 41-48  
**VZ:** Bible Concepts: *Repentance*, S. Särkiniemi, Feb. 1994, page 12; *Repentance*, J. Uljas, June 1998, page 5.

### **Lesson 3: Internet and Social Media** (Especially internet, cell phones, text messaging)

Objectives: God has provided a useful tool to spread His word throughout the world

Believers need to battle against temptations on the Internet and through social media

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain how Internet and social media support living faith*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: Our tongue is one, it is quite small, / Yet what it does surpasses all: / A little word can be so great / And cause such pain, unrest, and hate. (SHZ 463 v.2)

Booklet Text: ***But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.*** (Colossians 3:8)

---

#### ***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 9.1)

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

Additional Lesson Points:

- It is not sin for a believer to use new technology.
- 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.
- The Internet offers great benefit to the faith life of believers through the websites of believers, especially with webcast sermons and other resource material.
- God can/will help in fighting the temptations presented by the Internet.
- 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.

Resources: **VZ:** *The Internet – Good and Evil*, (4-page spread, several writers), June/July 2017, pages 6-9;  
*Visits and Text Messages*, M. Pudas, At the Crossroads of Choosing, pages 143-146  
*Our Speech in an Electronic Age*, A. Pirness, Crossing the Current, pages 84-86

## Lesson 4: Sexuality Issues

Objectives: God gave sexuality for man and woman in marriage, to continue human life

The enemy of souls tempts to misuse our sexuality

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain how my sexuality is a gift from God*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: Master, the times are corrupt and enticing. / Grant us Your Word of instruction and blessing. / Ne'er let our hearts to this world be conforming, / That from Your kingdom not one would be drowning. (SHZ 479 v.2)

Booklet Text: ***Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.*** (Luke 21:36)

---

***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum: None

Scripture: Genesis 38:10; Lev. 18:22; 2 Sam. 11; Prov. 7; Eccl. 1:9; Luke 5:8, 21:36; 1 Jn. 1:8,10; Rom. 1: 26,27; 3:23, 7:17; 1 Cor. 10:13; Col. 3:5,6; 2 Tim. 2:22; James 1:14,15;

Additional Lesson Points:

- Sexuality is intended for marriage, between a husband and wife
- It is in marriage only that sexual life is realized with a sense of responsibility. (V to V)
- Believers need to be very watchful and battle against temptation
- Masturbation is a sin
- It is sin to live a gay, lesbian lifestyle
- Appeal to creation and genetics does not justify homosexual relations
- If you have personal questions and fears about sexuality, talk to a trusted believer
- The gospel is the power of God

### Discuss

- Dress: How we dress may arouse fleshly desires in others
- Attitudes towards the opposite sex
  - Avoid physical contact that arouses the flesh
  - Man's glorification of the body (sex symbol)
- Casual dating – Sexual contact, casual sex
- Sins of the flesh – Masturbation, pornography, other

Resources: **LLC Website:** *LLC Position Statement – Homosexual Behavior is Sin*  
*Victory to Victory, Sexual Life and Its Irregularities*, E. Pelkonen, pages 69-74;  
*He Created Them Male and Female*, L. Värnyen, Fortifying the Foundation, pages 74-75;  
*Male and Female*, At the Crossroads of Choosing, pages 37-42.

## Lesson 5: Prayer, Thy Will be Done

Objectives: *Prayer is the speech of our heart to God  
God answers according to His will and in His time*

Student Learning Outcome: *Create a personal prayer to God.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions:

**#10. What is prayer?** Prayer is the speech of the heart to God.

**#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.

Booklet Song: Our Father, Thou in heav'n above, / Who biddest us to dwell in love / As brethren of one family, / To cry in ev'ry need to Thee, / Teach us no thoughtless words to say, / But from our inmost heart to pray. (SHZ 168 v.1)

Booklet Text: **And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.**

(Luke 11:1)

---

**Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lessons 4.4, 9.11)

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 5:16-18

Additional Lesson Points:

- Students will know what prayer is and able to pray as God's Word teaches.
- Students will be able to say the Lord's Prayer, Benediction, and to understand their meaning.
- The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ make intercessions on our behalf.
- God hears our prayers but may delay in fulfilling them or give that which is more needful for us.
- We can approach God with any, and all our matters, both temporal and spiritual.
- God has promised to hear our prayers. Believers can approach God as a child does to a father.
- God created man in His own image and fellowship; we can speak to God and hear His speech.

Resources: By Faith 28; Christian Doctrine 78-82; *The Treasure Hidden in the Field*, J. Uljas, p. 72-77; **VZ: Jesus' Teaching of Prayer**, K. Kankkonen, Sep. 1993, page 13; *The Power and Value of Prayer*, Abs. Tauaiainen, Jan 1996, page 12; *The Bible's Teaching on Prayer*, Päivämies editorial, May 2005, page 2.

**LLC Website:** *Prayer*, L. Hakso, Summer Services Ministers and Board meeting, 1998; *Prayer*, M. Kontkanen, Summer Services Ministers and Board meeting, 2009.



---

*Day 6: Caring for Faith Within the Congregation*

---

**Lesson 1: Baptism, a Covenant of a Good Conscience**

Objectives: *Baptism is the covenant of a good conscience with God, which obligates us to battle against sin*

*Jesus commanded to baptize and teach*

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain what baptism is and its benefit for a believer.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions:

**#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.

Booklet Song: Jesus, we have come to Thee, / In our arms an infant bearing: / In the gown of white we see / What the infant's soul is wearing. / Jesus, shield this infant tender, / Be their help and great defender, / Great defender! (SHZ 223 v.1)

Booklet Text: **"And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him"** (Acts 8:37,38)

---

**Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 4.1)

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

Additional Lesson Points:

- Student will know the scriptural foundation for child baptism.
- In Baptism, God speaks to the child and promises His grace every day for strength to believe

Resources: By Faith 25; Christian Doctrine 59, 60; Luther's Small Catechism Part IV; *Treasure Hidden in a Field*, J. Uljas, pages 61-65  
*The Door Opens by Faith, Not Baptism*, Päivämies, The Sheepfold Tender, pages 55-56  
**VZ: Baptism**, J. Uljas, Sep. 1998, page 5  
**LLC Website: The Sacraments**, M. Lohi, Summer Services Ministers/Board mtg., 2017.

## Lesson 2: Confession, a Grace Privilege

Objectives: *In confession, you speak to another believer of those sins that trouble your conscience and you receive the assurance of the forgiveness of all of your sins*

*Confession is a God-given gift so that we can freely believe*

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain the two parts of confession and why it is important in a believer's life.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions:

**#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.

Booklet Song: When doubt and sin are pressing, / A Christian sighs and weeps / And on the way of suffering, / For mercy waits and pleads, / And then, in trust and comfort, / Confesses sin and grief / To a confessor father / And finds forgiveness free. (SHZ 306 v.1)

Booklet Text: **“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us”** (Hebrews 12:1)

---

**Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum: (Lesson 4.2)

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

Additional Lesson Points:

- Who has the power to forgive sins?
- Complete trust is required of a confessor father. Matters spoken of in confession can never be told to anyone else.

Resources: By Faith 27; Christian Doctrine 83; Luther's Small Catechism Part V; *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, J. Uljas, pages 87-92; *Confession*, R. Herrala, LLC Winter Services Youth Presentation, 2016 **VZ: Confession**, A. Paloranta, Oct. 1979, page 154; How it is Taught: *Confession*, J. Uljas, Nov. 1998, Page 5; *Confession, A Healing Slave for the Soul's Wounds*, A. Pelkonen, Sep. 2015, page 5.

### Lesson 3: Communion, a Meal of Remembrance

Objectives: *Communion is a meal of remembrance that strengthens the faith of a child of God*  
*When in faith we receive the bread and the wine, we receive the body and blood of Christ*

Student Learning Outcome: *Explain what communion is and its benefit for a believer.*

#### Confirmation Exercise Questions

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

**#25. What is the benefit of Holy Communion?** Our faith is strengthened and we are reminded of Jesus' redemption work for us.

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

Booklet Song: We gather here before Your altar; / We break and eat the mutual bread. / We, as Your holy body, Master, / Give thanks to You, our gracious Head. / And when the Bread of Life is breaking, / One mind and spirit You are making. (SHZ 228 v.5)

Booklet Text: **“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins”** (Matt. 26:26-28)

---

#### **Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 4.3)

Scripture: 1 Cor. 11:26; Luke 22:19, 20, 22; Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor.10:16; 1 Cor. 11:27-29

#### Additional Lesson Points:

- Holy Communion is also the feast of God's family and as such is a meal of fellowship.
- Student will understand how he/she should conduct him/herself at the Communion table.
- Student will distinguish between Communion and conversion—there is no new birth in Communion.
- In communion, we remember Christ's suffering and death for our sins

Resources: By Faith 26; Christian Doctrine 62; Luther's Small Catechism Part VI; *The Treasure Hidden in a Field*, J. Uljas, pages 66-71.  
**VZ:** *Holy Communion – The Sacrament of the Altar*, J. Sturos, Apr. 1984, page 90; How is it Taught: *Communion*, J. Uljas, Oct. 1998, page 5.  
**LLC Website:** *The Sacraments*, M. Lohi, Summer Services Ministers and Board meeting, 2017.

## Lesson 4: Caring for One Another

Objectives: *First we should love God*

*We should love our neighbor as ourselves*

Student Learning Outcome: *Describe how God's love prompts me to help others*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: When we see our neighbor suff'ring, / When he lacks necessities, / May we share our many blessings, / All the gifts that we receive. / May we comfort him who struggles, / That he never weeps alone. / May we tell him of the Savior / Seated at the mercy throne. (SHZ 412 v.3)

Booklet Text: **"Am I my brother's keeper?"** (Genesis 4:9)

---

### **Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum 7.6

Scripture: Gen. 4:1-15; Gen. 23:2-6; Sam. 12-13; Matt. 7:12; 18:15-20; Luke 7:36-50; Luke 10:25-37; Luke 22:54-62; John 16:13; John 21:17; Rom. 12:10, 14-18; 1 Cor. 2:1-5; 2 Cor. 5:19,20; Gal. 1:6,7; 6:1,2; Eph. 4:1-5, 32; Col. 3:16; Heb. 12:1,2; 1Pet. 2:9.

Additional Lesson Points:

- Joseph's faith engendered love, which gave strength to forgive and care for others
- The Good Samaritan used his time, skills and money for the good of one that needed help
- The love that God gave as a gift teaches us to accept ourselves and our neighbors as unique persons created by God
- Valuing diversity does not mean approving of sin and an indecent life
- Continuous criticism, suppression, and derision of another person and cold indifference are foreign to the neighborly love that is the fruit of true faith.
- Neighborly love is being near, listening, but also caring and desiring to help when needed
- Neighborly love gives us a readiness to meet a diversity of cultures with an open mind.
- A person who has set out on a different road in faith matters may long for contact with believers. Learn to discuss in such a confidential, secure manner so that a person could openly ask questions and even question matters. Search for answers within the congregation of God.
- It is our task to convey the Redeemer's loving invitation. A penitent sinner can believe sins forgiven unconditionally in the gospel proclaimed from the Kingdom of God.

Resources: Christian Doctrine 85 - *Saved to Serve; How to Approach Another Person*, Aimo Helen, SRK Speakers and Elders meeting at Summer Services 2013; *How to Approach Another Person*, Keith Waaraniemi, LLC Summer Services 2014. (Presentation based on Aimo's Introduction);  
**Crossing the Current: Neighborliness – A Neighbor in Need**, J. Bloomquist, pages 98-99;  
**The Sheepfold Tender: Bear One Another's Burdens**, D. Lahti, p. 143-147; *Do You Care About Me?* T. Hanninen p.163-164; *I Will Seek That Which is Lost*, H. Kallunki, p.165-173.  
**VZ: A Brother's Keeper**, Youth Page (several articles), Jul 1999, page 8.

## Lesson 5: Music, “Sing, O People of the Lord”

Objectives: *Music is a gift from God, and a tool of the enemy of souls*

*Wholesome music helps to fight against temptation and sin*

Student Learning Outcome: *Give examples of music that please God and strengthen my faith.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: With the organ and the bells, / Ye in whom the spirit dwells, / All ye living, join to sing: / Hallelujah to our King! (SHZ 334 v.4)

Booklet Text: **“Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God”**

(Ps. 147:7)

---

### **Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lessons 8.1, 8.2)

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; Ps. 147:7; 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

Additional Lesson Points:

- Songs and hymns are important in the lives of God's children.
- Role of music in the worship service.
- Some music is unsuitable and other music suitable for a Christian.
- Student will recognize the power and effect of both the words and the music on the listener.
- Student will understand the benefits and proper use of music

Resources: **VZ: Music Matters\*** – *The Role of Zion’s Music in Our Lives*, B. Strand, Oct. 2001, Page 6  
*The Therapeutic Aspects of Music*, B. Huhta, Nov. 2001, page 2  
*Planning Your Wedding Music*, C. Simonson, June 2006, page 5  
*Several articles about Music*, June 2008, Pages 8, 9  
*Opisto Students Thankful for Music Offerings at Jämsä*, June 2009, page 8,9  
**LLC Website:** *Music: A Gift from God and a Tool of the Enemy*, K. Waaraniemi, Summer Services Youth Presentation, 2009.

\* NOTE: There is a series of “Music Matters” articles in all issues of 2001 VZ’s

---

*Day 7: Mission Work: Go Ye Therefore and Teach All Nations*

---

**Lesson 1: In the World, Not of the World**

Objectives: *A believer is a citizen of the Kingdom of God and this world*

*A believer is a light unto the world and a salt of the earth*

Student Learning Outcome: *Write down a few examples of how a believer lives according to God's word in the midst of this world.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: *When evil's power round the world is growing, / O God, oppose it with a greater might,  
/ That we would hear it: Music overflowing / Your people's hymn from realms of gentle  
light. (SHZ 540 v.4)*

Booklet Text: **I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.**

(John 17:15,16)

---

**Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 6.1)

Scripture: Matt. 6:33; 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

Additional Lesson Points:

- A Christian's conscience is bound to God's Word, he/she cannot always do something because, "Everyone else is doing it."
- 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.
- God also wishes them to fulfill His will in the various situations of social life.
- God wants us to confess faith in word and deed in life's situations and thus confess the Lord.
- Christ has promised to be with His own every day, everywhere.

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

**VZ:** *A Citizen of Heaven in the World*, Bible Class Lesson, Jun. 1979, page 90

*In the World, But Not of the World*, M. Kamula, Jan 1982, page 3

*In the World, But Not of It*, Confirmation students, Sept. 2007, page 9

*In the World, But Not of the World*, D. Wuollet, Sep 2012, page 5

**LLC Website:** *Love Not the World*, T. Stewart, Summer Services Youth Presentation, 2009

*Blessed are They that Hear the Word of God and Keep It*, H. Parks, Winter Services, 2011;

*Be Ye Not Unequally Yoked Together with Unbelievers*, R. Haapala, Winter Services, Youth Presentation, 2015

## Lesson 2: Luther and the Reformation (Video)

Objective: *Understand the main reason for the Reformation*

Student Learning Outcome: *Name two results of the Reformation that are still in practice for believers*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, / With exultation springing, / And with united heart and voice / And holy rapture singing, / Proclaim the wonders God hath done, / How His right arm the vict'ry won; / Right dearly it hath cost Him. (SHZ 272 v.1)

Booklet Text: ***For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*** (Romans 1:17)

---

***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 5.1)

### To the Teacher:

***The plan for this lesson is to play the Introduction to Luther and the Reformation video by Dan Wuollet and have the students listen and write the key points mentioned in the video into their notes. After the video, have a short discussion about what the students learned.***

Scripture: Check the video for scripture references

Additional Lesson Points:

- Most significant contributions are doctrine, the Catechism, and the songbook
- The Word of God is Christian faith and life's highest guide
- The video discusses the following points:
  - Lutheran theology
    - Scripture alone – vs. tradition
    - Man is saved by faith alone – vs. works
    - Grace alone – vs. human merit
  - Priesthood of the believers
  - The Small Catechism was written by Luther
  - Three songs from our SHZ hymnal are mentioned in the video
  - Luther is attributed to over 20 songs in our SHZ hymnal

Resources: *Introduction to Luther and the Reformation* video, Dan Wuollet, 2017

**VZ:** *Reformation 500 Articles*, each issue, Jan. to Dec. 2017;

**Ref 500 Project:** LLC Files – all articles, presentations, music and videos covered in 2017

### **Lesson 3: Laestadian Lutheran Church (LLC)**

Objectives: *The mission and role of the LLC*

*Primary forms of work used by the LLC*

Student Learning Outcome: *Describe my calling as a believer within the Laestadian Lutheran Church.*

Confirmation Exercise Questions: None

Booklet Song: Gracious Lord, You give to us / Duties in Your congregation; / May we take them all as gifts, / Gifts that You in love have given. / May we serve the congregation, / With respect, consideration. (SHZ 414 v.1)

Booklet Text: **And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.** (Genesis 2:15)

---

#### ***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 5.3)

Scripture: Gen. 2:15

Additional Lesson Points:

- All believers “are the Laestadian Lutheran Church (LLC)”.
- The LLC office supports the needs of the believers, as directed through the Annual Meeting each year. Congregation delegates represent their congregation members at this meeting.
- Student will understand why the Laestadian Lutheran Church was established.
- Student will understand the importance of financially supporting the work in God’s Kingdom

Resources: Christian Doctrine 17

***LLC Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws***



## Lesson 4: Mission Work, Spreading the Gospel

Objectives: *God commands that we go into the world to preach the message of Christ to everyone  
God leads and guides the work*

Student Learning Outcome: *Give examples of how God has spread His word throughout the world.*

Confirmation Exercise Question:

**#12. How does the work of Christ continue in the world today?** Through the work of the Holy Spirit in His congregation.

Booklet Song: When Jesus was trav'ling among us / He freely extended His grace. / He still offers hope and forgiveness: / "I want to rekindle your faith." / He sent forth His spirit in us to abide / And gave us the duty to feed and to guide: / "Go, therefore, and teach in each nation and place / My word of salvation and grace. (SHZ 184 v.2)

Bible Text: **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.** (Matthew 28:19,20)

---

**Additional Reference Material** - 2010 Curriculum (Lessons 6.5, 6.6, 9.2)

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; 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; Acts 17:26, 27; Prov. 14:34; Ezek. 18:32; 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9; Ps. 34:14; Matt. 5:9; Acts 1:1-8; Acts 3; Acts 8:26-40

Additional Lesson Points:

- God wishes to fulfill His will in the various situations of societal life.
- Student will learn to ask for and seek God's will in various issues of societal life.
- God wishes that we confess faith in word and deed in different situations of societal life and thus confess their Lord.
- Christ's promises to be with His own every day, everywhere, also in societal life.
- God's creation people are equal, but at the same time different and unique.
- 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.
- Student will learn to find methods for diminishing tension between groups, understanding here also the significance of asking and granting forgiveness.
- 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.
- Mission work today is very much like the events recorded in the book of The Acts.
- Mission work happens in God's, not man's time, and He reveals where and when it happens.

Resources: By Faith 36;  
*I Found God's Kingdom*, SRK/LLC Book, a collection of believer's stories  
**LLC Website:** *Neither Jew or Greek*, B. Johnson, Winter Services, 2008

## Lesson 5: Personal Psalms to God

Objective: *Write a personal letter to God*

Student Learning Outcome: *Write a letter to God expressing my joys, sorrows and worries and ask God for His help.*

Confirmation Exercise Question: none

Booklet Song: Commit whatever grieves thee / To God's almighty hands, / To Him who never leaves thee, / Who heav'n and earth commands, / Who points the clouds their courses, / Whom winds and waves obey; / He will direct my footsteps / And show to thee the way. (SHZ 376 v.1)

Bible Text: ***The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much*** (James 5:16)

---

### ***Additional Reference Material*** - 2010 Curriculum (Lesson 9.11)

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

Additional Lesson Points:

- We can approach God with any, and all matters, both temporal and spiritual
- God has promised to hear our prayers
- Writing our thoughts often helps us to clarify our thoughts – it is difficult to articulate that which is unclear in our thoughts

Resources: Student will express their personal thoughts

---

*Day 8: Wrap-up*

---

**Lesson 1: Confirmation Review**

Student Learning Outcome: *Write a key thought for the theme and lessons each day.*

---

*Sample Confirmation Day Agenda*

---

**10:00 AM, SUNDAY**

Pictures at 9:30

Announcements

Opening hymn # \_\_\_\_\_

Hymn # \_\_\_ (while students enter)

Hymn # \_\_\_

Opening Prayer, Sermon: \_\_\_\_\_

Hymn # \_\_\_ : Collection during hymn

Examination: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation Class Song: # \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer and Exhortations to parents and godparents: \_\_\_\_\_

Words of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Communion

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

Concluding Benediction: \_\_\_\_\_

Hymn # \_\_\_

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Closing Hymn: # \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch