

CONFIRMATION RETREAT #A-3

"CHRISTIAN MORALITY"

PRE-RETREAT HOME ACTIVITIES

Student _____

Parent(s) _____

I. *Answer the following questions in your own words.*

What does the word "*morality*" mean to you?

How do you think a Christian should decide whether an action is right or wrong?

If God forgives your sins, why do you think it matters whether you try to live a Christian life?

What are some questions you have about Christian morality?

II. Ask your parent(s) the following questions, and write down their answers.

What were some of the moral issues young people had to struggle with when you were my age? How is the situation today the same as you were growing up, and how is it different?

What is one lesson you learned growing up that you would like to pass along to me?

What are some of the moral values and character traits you would especially like to see me develop as I grow up?

How does your Christian faith influence the way you make moral decision

III. *Understanding the Commandments*

In the space below, write down what the commandment means to you. Write down any words that are unfamiliar to you; ask your parent(s) what they mean, and write that down, too.

Fourth commandment: **Honor your father and your mother.**

Fifth commandment: **You shall not kill.**

Sixth commandment: **You shall not commit adultery.**

Seventh commandment: **You shall not steal.**

Eighth commandment: **You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**

Ninth commandment: **You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**

Tenth commandment: **You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his cattle, or anything that is your neighbor's.**

IV. *Memory Work: The 4th - 10th Commandments.*

Memorize the following portions of Luther's Small Catechism and say them for your parent(s). Have them sign after you have completed each portion.

#4 Honor your father and your mother. *(What does this mean?)* We are to fear and love God, so that we neither despise nor anger our parents and others in authority, but instead honor, serve, obey, love, and respect them.

(Parent's signature) _____

#5 You shall not kill. *(What does this mean?)* We are to fear and love God, so that we neither endanger nor harm **the** lives of our neighbors, but instead help and support them in all of life's needs.

(Parent's signature) _____

#6 You shall not commit adultery. *(What does this mean?)* We are to fear and love God, so that we lead pure and decent lives in word and deed, and each of us loves and honors his or her spouse.

(Parent's signature) _____

#7 You shall not steal. *(What does this mean?)* We are to fear and love God, so that we neither take our neighbors money or property or cheat them by using shoddy merchandise or crooked deals to obtain it for ourselves, but instead help them to improve and protect their property and income.

(Parent's signature) _____

#8 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. *(What does this mean?)* We are to fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead we are to come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the best possible light.

(Parent's signature) _____

#9 You shall not covet your neighbor's house. *(What does this mean?)* We are to fear and love God, so that we do not try to trick our neighbors out of their inheritance or property or try to get it for ourselves by claiming to have a legal right to it and the like, but instead be of help and serve to them in keeping what is theirs.

(Parent's signature) _____

#10 You shall not covet your neighbors' wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his cattle, or anything that is your neighbor's. *(What does this mean?)* We are to fear and love God, so that we do not entice, force, or steal away from our neighbors their spouses, workers, or livestock, but urge them to stay and remain loyal to our neighbors.

(Parent's signature) _____

