

CONFIRMATION RETREAT #A-1

"I BELIEVE IN GOD...THE FATHER"

PRE-RETREAT HOME ACTIVITIES

Student _____

Parent(s) _____

I. Answer the following questions in your own words.

What is faith?

If someone asked you to tell them what you think God is like, how would you describe God?

What are some of the questions you have about God?

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

When and how did you first learn about God?

How did you picture God when you were little, and how has your image of God grown over the years?

Why is faith important?

Tell me about a time when your faith made a difference in your life.

II. *Understanding the Commandments and the Creed*

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

1st Commandment: **You shall have no other gods.**

2nd Commandment: **You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.**

3rd Commandment: **Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.**

Now do the same thing with the first part of the Apostles Creed (the "First Article")

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Unfamiliar Words : _____

IV. Memory Work: The Apostles Creed, First Article & Meaning

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.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God has created me and all creatures. God has given me and still preserves my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my limbs, my reason and all mental faculties. In addition, God daily and abundantly provides shoes and clothing, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, fields, livestock, and all property -- along with all the necessities and nourishment for this body and life. God protects me against all danger and shields and preserves me from all evil. God does all this out of pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness on my part. For all of this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

(Parent's signature) _____

#1 You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean?

We are to fear, love, and trust God above all things.

(signature) _____

#2 You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

What does this mean?

We are to fear and love God, so that we do not curse, swear, use witchcraft, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

(signature) _____

#3 Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy.

What does this mean?

We are to fear and love God, so that we may not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

(signature) _____

