

Confirmation Mentor Discussion Guides

Confirmation Mentorship is about sharing your lives and faith exploration with one another. Everyone wants to be known and understood. These guides are a two-way street intended for both parties to share, listen and discuss.

Guide 1: Confirmation Introduction

Mentors and Youth Share:

Some Basics...

Where were you born?

Six words that describe me are...

I enjoy playing...

Favorites...

Icecream flavor

Pizza topping

Sport...

One of my favorite people to spend time with is _____ because...

Confirmation

I'm choosing to be a part of a confirmation program because...

My experience with Christianity so far has been...

My experience with church so far has been...

I think I'll get the most out of this confirmation experience if I'm willing to...

My hope for confirmation is...

Guide 2: Jesus and the Holy Spirit

BASICS

If I could travel anywhere I would like to go to_____.

Agree or disagree

Options: (I disagree, I'm not sure, I think so, totally agree)

Jesus is the Son of God.

Jesus is one human who reveals who God is.

After dying on the cross, Jesus rose from the dead in a resurrected body. He lived among his disciples on earth 40 days and continues to be present and alive with us today.

Jesus is the Lord and teacher of my life!

Jesus invites me to be one of his disciples (his students) and to follow and obey him (Luke 9:23).

Following Jesus means I'm willing to...

Three words that describe qualities about Jesus I admire:

Jesus described the Holy Spirit as a wind that blows wherever it wishes (John 3:8). How is the Holy Spirit like the wind?

Jesus described the Holy Spirit as a comforter (John 14:16). A time when I needed comfort was...

Comfort came to me in this way...

Jesus described the Holy Spirit as a guide and companion (John 14:26). A decision I need to make in the future is...

The Holy Spirit can help me make good decisions by...

This is how I would describe the Holy Spirit:

Guide 3: My Beliefs

Some basics:

What is your favorite movie...

Favorite book...

Favorite tv show...

What is the first idea that comes to you to complete each of the following sentences:

I believe that the world came into being by...

My responsibility to the earth that God created is to...

I believe that Jesus teaches us to...

I believe the Holy Spirit is...

I believe that sin is...

I believe that forgiving someone means that I...

I believe that God forgives me when...

I believe that worship is important because...

I believe that the Bible is...

I believe that when a person dies...

Being active in the church is a priority in my life...

To be active in the church means...

One doubt I have about the Christian faith is

Guide 4: Relationships

Icebreakers: What is something that you are planning or participating in that you are looking forward to?

Family Relationships

Some things my family enjoys together are...

Agree, not sure or disagree?

I'd say that I have (or had) a really good relationship with my parents/guardians...

Explain...

A person in my family who encourages and helps me is _____. An example of a time the person encouraged or helped me is...

A tough time our family faced together was when...

If I have a problem or important decision to make I can talk to? _____ because...

I could love and serve my family more if I'd be willing to...

Friendships

One of my best friends is _____. We're best friends because...

Three things that can improve a friendship are...

Three things that can hurt a friendship are...

I could be a better friend to _____ if I would...

Some things that could improve my friendships at church include...

My commitment to follow Jesus Christ helps me be a better friend with others. Agree or disagree? Explain.

Discuss Romans 12:9-13. What are some of the ideas in these verses that can help us strengthen our relationships? Talk about ways to apply these relationship principles to your 1) family 2) friends and 3) church.

Guide 5: Following Jesus

Icebreaker: Name one way someone helped you this week?

Good Leaders

I'd call _____ a good leader because...

Qualities I look for in a good leader include...

I'm more likely to follow a leader if he/she...

Three things that made Jesus a good leader include...

Agree or disagree?

I believe that Jesus can be trusted and followed because he is the Son of God.

I'm confident that Jesus wants me to be one of his followers.

I've decided that I want Jesus to be my guide and leader? (not yet, probably, maybe, definitely?)

Try to name 3 of twelve of the disciples of Jesus.

Two thousand years ago, when Jesus invited his disciples to follow him he was asking them to...

When Jesus invites people today to be his disciples (followers), he's asking them to...

Jesus loved all people and commanded his disciples to love too. Following Jesus is a promise to love all people, which means that I need to be willing to...

Jesus served others. If I decide to be his disciple, I will serve others too. For me to serve others means that I am willing to...

Jesus did the right and good thing and calls us to do what is right and good. A behavior or attitude that Jesus should inspire me to improve on or change is...

Discus Mark 8:34-35

What are some characteristics of current day followers of Jesus? What, if anything, is easy about being a disciple of Jesus? What is difficult or challenging? What are some of the benefits of following Jesus? What doubts or questions do you have?

Guide 6: Spiritual Growth

Icebreaker:

If you could meet anyone alive today who would it be? Why?

If you could meet anyone in all of history who would it be? Why?

Who is a person you spent time with recently? What did you do?

Friends help us grow

A good friend knows you, likes you and is willing to help you when you need help. Someone I would consider a good friend is _____, because...

Some of the ways that good friends at church can help us grow spiritually are...

One thing about this mentor-youth relationship that I have enjoyed is...

Our times together have helped me...

Prayer helps us grow

Prayer is a way that we spend time with God and express praise and thanks to God. (seldom, sometimes, every day, all the time)

When I pray, I think about...

I focus on prayer by...

It's difficult for me to pray when...

A question I have about prayer is...

The Bible helps us grow

The Bible is inspired by the Holy Spirit that means that...

When I read or listen to the Bible being read, I find that Bible to be (check all that apply)
__confusing __boring __challenging __interesting __helpful __overwhelming __comforting

One question I have about the Bible is...

I think I would be willing to read and study the Bible more often if...

Worship helps us grow

The parts of worship that are most meaningful or enjoyable to me include...

The parts of worship that are less meaningful or most difficult for me to enjoy include...

I feel close to God during worship when...

Worshipping with others helps me grow spiritually. (i doubt it, maybe, yes, definitely yes)

Reading the Bible and Praying each day helps me grow spiritually. The best time to read the Bible and pray is...

One of my goals for spiritual growth is...

Discuss John 8:31-32 "You are my disciples if you remain..." "What does it mean to remain faithful to Jesus? What is the truth that will "make you free"? What does it mean to be free? Free from what? Free to do what?

Guide 7: Being United Methodist

Icebreaker: Name 3 things you are thankful for today.

I became a part of my church and began attending (how long ago)?

Three things I like and enjoy about my church are...

John Wesley (1703-1791) gave three general rules for living as a Christian. First, he said to "Do no harm and to avoid evil of every kind". Three examples of "evil of every kind" in the world today are...

I know that it's important for me to avoid "evil of every kind" because...

My definition of evil is...

Wesley taught that even though we sometimes fail to avoid evil and we disappoint God with our sin, God still loves us, forgives us and accepts us. God's response to our sin is grace, and the word grace describes God's persistent love for us. Ephesians 2:8 says, "You are saved by God's grace because of your faith. The salvation is God's gift. It's not something you possessed". I know I need God's grace and forgiveness.

Never Sometimes Often All the time

Why?

Second, John Wesley said "Do good every sort, and, and as far as it is possible to all." Three examples of doing something that is good include...

One thing that motivates me to want to "do good" for others is...

I find it hard to “do good” to people who...

Third, John Wesley said that we should “(attend) upon all the ordinances of God.” For each of the spiritual disciplines or “ordinances of God” listed below, describe why it’s an important part of the Christian life:

Baptism

Holy Communion

Weekly Worship

Reading the Bible

Family and private prayer

Discuss Ephesians 2:8-10. What does salvation mean to you? How does one experience salvation? The last verse suggests that God created us to do good. That’s our purpose. Discuss some of the good works that God might want you to do.

Guide 8: Life After Confirmation

Icebreaker: Share about a time when you felt loved and appreciated by another person.

During Confirmation. I’ve especially liked...

Looking Back

Something I’ve learned is...

Some of the things I’ve learned about myself are...

One of the things I’ve learned about my faith in God are...

One thing I appreciate about you is...

A spiritual commitment I am ready to make is...

At church, I want to continue to be involved with...

I believe that God wants me to...

Called to Serve

Jesus told his disciples, "whoever wants to be first must be least of all and the servant of all"
(Mark 9:35)

A person I know who serves others unselfishly is _____ because...

The last time I served or helped someone was when I...

Serving and being helpful to others makes me feel ...

I sometimes choose not to serve others because...

Some of the benefits of serving others are...

Ways that I have served or would like to serve God include...

A dream or goal I have for serving others is...

Discuss Mark 10:43-45 "Whoever wants to be great among you will be your servant... "
Why did Jesus come? What did he do that was so important? What does he expect us to do?
How does he want us to live? According to Jesus, what is the sign of a truly great person?