Confirmation Final Assignment: Statement of Faith

The Assignment:

A statement of faith is a summary of what you believe, hope, and trust. The finished project will be your own statement of faith in God, your Savior Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life. Your faith statement should answer the question, "What is my relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit?"

You will share your statement of faith with me in the presence of the members and guests of our congregation gathered to hear your statement on the evening of Friday, May 17.

There's no one right way to write a statement of faith because your faith is your own. Have fun thinking about how you can best express your sense of God's work in your life. Also consider how you can ground your statement in the truths you have learned from the Bible and Luther's Small Catechism throughout your confirmation journey.

Some Direction

The following are some suggestions or ideas to consider as you work on your faith statement:

Don't begin by thinking, "How long does it have to be?" The answer is however long it takes to tell your story.

Be honest; don't worry about saying the right or wrong thing. Your faith statement isn't graded or corrected; it is an opportunity to express yourself without fear.

Don't be afraid to get creative. It's okay to write your statement in plain words, but it would also be okay to write a poem, song, or even a children's book. Your statement of faith could even be an art piece that you interpret for us.

If you are having trouble figuring out where to begin, consider how your statement might answer some (but certainly not all, or we'll be here all night!) of the following questions:

- What impact has Jesus had on your life?
- What does confirmation mean to you?
- Why is faith important to you?
- How has your faith transformed you?
- How do people know you are a Christian?
- How would you like to change the world because of your faith?
- How do the relationships you have reflect your faith?
- How does the way you spend your time show your faith?

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- Why do you want to make a difference in our world?
- Is there a story from your life that helps illustrate what your faith is all about or how your faith in God has been shaped?
- Is there an example from your life of when your faith helped you through a difficult time?
- How has your view of God, Jesus, and being part of the church changed since you started confirmation class? What has led to these changes in your faith?
- Who has helped you grow in faith? What have your parents or other loved ones done for you?
- Is there a Bible story or verse that is special to you? Why?
- How do you see yourself living out your faith in the future?
- What do you have to offer to others to help them grow in their faith and relationship with Jesus Christ?
- What feelings or emotions do you have when you think about your faith?

Conclusion

Remember that faith is a lifelong journey. This faith statement isn't meant to be a final document, but a kind of journal entry along your lifelong journey of faith as you prepare for the Rite of Confirmation.

As mentioned, the witnessing service in which you will share your statements will be **Friday**, **May 17, 2024**, **at 7:00 p.m.** Please arrive at least <u>30 minutes early</u> to take pictures. Following the service will be a brief time of instruction for all of you regarding what will take place on confirmation Sunday (May 19), including a review of the doctrine of Holy Communion.

Finally, I want you to know that I am proud of you. You have endeavored long and hard to be here at this point, and your perseverance is deserving of all commendation and congratulations. That said, remember that confirmation is not a graduation from church, but rather an initiation into it. This is not the end, but the beginning! I look forward to worshipping and sharing the Lord's Supper with you for many years to come, my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Blessings in Jesus,			

Pastor Daniel Larsen