

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH CONFIRMATION  
CONFESSION  
Lesson 4: (L4)  
Year 2 (8th Grade)

After completing this lesson, the student will:

- \*Know the two parts of confession.
- \*Know how to examine themselves according to their station.
- \*Be comfortable knowing they can confess their sins to their pastor.
- \*Be familiar with the concept of Absolution.
- \*Memorize 1 John 1:8-9 and write it 10 times.
- \*Understand the blessing and use of private confession.

1. Introduction:

Watch video: (Parents are to meet with students during instruction with this commandment).

2. Go to pp. 217-218 and write out “What is confession? What sins should we confess? & which are these twice. (Use a separate sheet of paper!)
3. Go to the top of p. 2117, Complete this sentence by Dr. Luther, “When I urge you to go to confession, I am \_\_\_\_\_ nothing else than \_\_\_\_\_ you to be a \_\_\_\_\_.”

Do 6 out of the next 8.

4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....10.....11

4. Read question #261 on p. 218,
  - A. “What is the first part of confession?
  - B. Circle the sins that you are most likely to be tempted by and commit;  
Lust.....Greed.....Gossip.....Disrespect.....Idolatry.....Not listening to sermons.....Cussing.....Blaspheming God’s Word.....Other, you share.
  - C. King David wrote Bible verse #875, on p. 218, after his adulterous sin against God. Read those verses carefully. This is really a prayer.
    1. Write four things he prayed for.

2. In his prayer, he hit the key of confession, who and who only did he sin against? What does that mean for you when you confess, who do you sin against?

5. Read question #262 on pp. 218-219,  
A. "What sins should we confess before God?" (There are two answers).
- B. In which prayer do we confess all our sins, aware or not aware?
- C. Memorize and write out 1 John 1:8-9, Bible verse #878 below. Can a person be a Christian if they don't believe they sinned or need to confess? Explain.

6. Read question #263, on p. 219,  
A. "What sins should we confess before our neighbor?"

B. Do many people do that? Do you do that?

C. BIBLE VERSES: Complete:

James 5:16, "Confess your \_\_\_\_\_ one to \_\_\_\_\_."

Matthew 5:23-24, "If you are \_\_\_\_\_ your gift at the \_\_\_\_\_ and there \_\_\_\_\_ that your \_\_\_\_\_ has something against \_\_\_\_\_, leave your gift there before the altar and go. \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_ to your brother and \_\_\_\_\_ come and \_\_\_\_\_ your gift."

D. Martin Luther says that when we confess our sin or meet with someone who we offended or they offended us it is to be "Unter vier Augen." That is German, "Under four eyes." Explain that according to Bible verse #880, Matthew 5:23-24?.

7. Read question #264 on p. 219.  
A. "What sins are we encouraged to confess before our pastor or confessor? List 3 things.

B. "Note," What can't be forced? Why not?

8. Read question #265 on p. 220.
  - A. “What is the second part of confession?”
  - B. What is absolution?
  - C. Read question #266, on p. 220. “How should we regard the absolution (forgiveness spoken by the pastor?”
  - D. How are we to prize the absolution as being what?  
See (Augsburg Confession XXV 3).
  
9. Read question #267 on p. 220.
  - A. “What assurance do I have that my private confession to the pastor will remain confidential?” Why?
  - B. Write out Bible verse #889 on p. 221, What does that tell you about the character of the pastor.
  - C. Write Agree or Disagree.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ The pastor is a healer of souls and a servant of God and does not serve the state.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ The pastor will tell no one if I confess my sins to him unless it is murder.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ The pastor is responsible to the state if someone threatens to hurt or harm anyone as he is a ‘mandatory’ reporter according to the authorities.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ The pastor is obliged to tell authorities if he suspects that I am being abused.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ The pastor will tell only his spouse of my sins after confession, as she is his soul mate.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ The pastor may go to jail for failure to disclose as he will tell no one of the nature of a confession that he has heard.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ When the pastor gives absolution it is just as valid as if God gave that to me.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ The pastor will tell no one of a confessed sin, because God has removed that sin.
  
10. Read question #268, on p. 221.
  - A. What is the benefit of private confession and absolution?
  - B. Why would a person want to receive private confession and absolution?
  - C. Pick out Bible verses #890-892, write out your favorite verse and what that means to you.

11. Read “A Short form of Confession)

A. Answer true or false, by writing True or False.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Penitent means to be sorry or repentant of my sins.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ This is a private form for any Christian to use.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ The purpose of confessing sins is a good work for God to love me more.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ We are to confess sins according to our station and vocation in life.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ We should make up sins that we have not committed to make our confession seem sincere and impress God more.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ General confession means to confess all sins in general, including sins that I am and am not made aware like in The Lord’s Prayer.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ When any Christian announces forgiveness it is not the same as God’s forgiveness, but a lesser and cheaper form of it.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ When one says “God be merciful to you,” it’s the same as God forgives you.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ There are only a few Bible passages in this Confession section that shares the blessings and promises of sins forgiveness and absolution.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ The penitent are comforted as Bible verses about God’s grace and forgiveness are great sources of strength and hope and are to be used by frequently.

B. Look on pages pp. 275-283, “**Symbols and Their meanings,**” and find 4 symbols that deal with confession in one way or another. Draw them below and in one sentence share how that symbol helps you understand confession and/or absolution.

*Closing prayer: “Dear Jesus, ‘Lord to you I make confession, I have sinned and gone astray, I have multiplied transgression, Chosen for myself my way. Led by You to see my errors, Lord I tremble at my errors. Lord on you I cast my burden, Sink it in the deepest sea! Let me know Your gracious pardon, Cleanse me from iniquity. Let Your Spirit leave me never; Make my only Yours forever.’ In Jesus name we pray. Amen.”*