

NAME: _____

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH CONFIRMATION
OFFICE OF THE KEYS, PART II

Lesson 6: (L6)
Year 3 (8th Grade)

After completing this lesson, the student will:

- *Memorize Matthew 18:18.
- *Know the Godly response to repentant and unrepentant sinners.
- *Can defend that 'excommunication' is ministry of The Gospel.
- *Know how 'excommunication' fits into "The Office of The Keys."
- *Explain how the pastor serves the congregation in 'discipline and excommunication,' in serving in "The Office of The Keys."

1. Introduction:

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

2. Take out the Key, Write Bible verse #917, on p. 229, Matthew 18:18, on your key.
3. Write out that Bible verse 5 times below.

Answer 4 out of 5, (4.....5.....6.....7.....8) Circle the question you chose.

CHURCH DISCIPLINE and EXCOMMUNICATION

4. Go to p. 228 and to question #279, Answer, "What great care must be taken in dealing with an openly unrepentant sinner?" List two ways.

A. Read the answer on the top of p. 229 based on Matthew 18:15-17.

*What are we to do when someone sins against us?

*List the three steps taken.

*Read Bible verse #915, Ephesians 4:2-3, Describe 3 attitudes to be taken when confronting someone who hurts us.

*Role play; By following Ephesians 4:2-3 and Matthew 18:15-17.

-Someone gossips about you.

-Someone calls you a name in public.

-Someone steals from you.

5. Read question #280, on p. 229, "What must the congregation finally do with openly unrepentant sinners?" Write that answer on that key.

A. Agree or Disagree. _____ To ignore sinful and evil behavior that harms others is damaging to everyone and encourages more sinful behavior. Why did you select Agree or Disagree?

B. Answer question #281 on pp 229, "By what authority does the congregation excommunicate openly unrepentant sinners?" Write that on your key.

C. How does that fit in with the ministry and description of the "The Office of the Keys?"

6. Read question #282, on p. 230, "What is the duty of a called minister of Christ when the congregation has excommunicated a sinner?"

A. What is the rights and privileges of a Christian? Write YES for things an excommunicated person can do and receive OR write NO for things an excommunication person cannot do and cannot receive.

_____ Can attend public worship.

_____ Can receive communion.

_____ Can vote at congregational assemblies.

_____ Can attend congregational assemblies.

_____ Can hear the specific word directed to them, "You are forgiven."

_____ Can attend church and youth group events.

_____ Can be given Christian burial by the pastor and the church.

_____ Can be visited when in the hospital by the pastor.

_____ Can be friends and cared for by the pastor and other Christian members.

_____ Can teach Sunday School and serve on the youth board.

7. Read question #283 on p. 230, "What is the purpose of excommunication?"
- A. Share two things below and write that on your key.
- B. Agree or Disagree _____ The point of excommunication is for the well-being of that person's soul, because if they don't repent, they are not forgiven and may forfeit heaven and lose faith. It isn't punishment, but love to lead them to repent and keep and have 'saving faith.'
- C. Read Bible verse #921, 1 Cor. 5:6. Write that verse on your key.
1. Write that verse out below.
 2. What does leaven represent?
 3. What is the whole lump according to this verse?

8. Read question #284 on p. 230, "What is the duty of a congregation toward an excommunicated sinner who repents?"
- A. Share two duties.
- B. Write YES for appropriate duties and NO for inappropriate duties of a congregation toward an excommunicated sinner who repents.

- _____ Can receive communion.
- _____ Can NOT receive communion.
- _____ Can attend worship and hear the Absolution in good conscience and faith.
- _____ Is to remember the sin to keep 'one up' on that person.
- _____ Is to forget that sin as God has totally forgotten it.
- _____ Is to treat that person a little less as important as they are a great sinner.
- _____ Is to love them as Christ loves all as we are all repentant forgiven sinners.
- _____ Can serve in any ministry area as God leads them.
- _____ Is to be welcomed back with open arms as God loved the Prodigal Son.
- _____ Is to receive a cold shoulder to remind them that they have hurt the church.

- C. Pick two symbols from pp. 275-283 that symbolize the duties of a Christian Congregation toward an excommunicated sinner who repents.
- D. Draw them below. Why did you select those two?