

Introduction

Confirmation... WHAT?!

GOAL/PURPOSE: To talk about Confirmation. What is it? What are we in for these next 3 months? Topics include, “Confirmation... WHAT?!”, “The Basics” of Confirmation, and “To Be Confirmed or Not to be Confirmed... THAT IS THE QUESTION.” The purpose of this class is to explain confirmation and get a feel for what students are feeling going into the experience. Are they excited about Confirmation, or are they dreading it? Who in your class is a regular church attender, and who is new and/or not involved? This lesson will be a time to get to know your students, talk about what things they will “make firm” in Confirmation, go over the basics of the season, and discuss the decision to be confirmed. Encourage your students to have fun these next few months and also take the experience seriously.

****WELCOME YOUR STUDENTS TO THEIR FIRST CLASS!***

Begin your time together with prayer.

(Teacher pray to avoid students feeling uncomfortable on the first day.)

**Encourage your class to have an open mind and heart as they go through Confirmation. Assure them God loves them and has a plan for their lives and their weeks in Confirmation. Let them know you’re excited about a great season and having them in your class!*

For Class #1, begin your time together with introductions. (Play the two games listed below.) Then, try to get them excited about the lesson material and encourage them to do their reading each week. Spend the bulk of your class time getting into the curriculum.

Get to know your class!!

Game #1: Tell the students that they are not allowed to speak during the first game. They must put themselves in order (in a line) from youngest to oldest, using their birth day and year. Not only can they not speak; they also cannot write or use a smart phone. Once they think they are in the right order, have them go around the room and say their birthdays to see if they ordered themselves correctly.

Game #2: “The Name Game!” Give the students one minute to think of an adjective that describes them and starts with the same letter as their name. (Ex: “Running Ran” or “Nice Nikki” or “Lovable Lorraine”) Have the oldest student introduce himself or herself. The next oldest must then say the previous person’s name and then his or her name. (Ex: “This is Cool Chrissy. I am Fun Frank.”) The third oldest must then do the same by saying the first two players names and then his or her name, and so on....

****Hand out a Blow Pop to each youth, saying it represents God’s free gift of love and grace to them. Then go over the questions below.***

DISCUSSION:

- How are all of you feeling about Confirmation? Excited? Bummed? Indifferent?

- On page 4 of your manual, there are three different people. Which one most closely resembles you going into this experience?
- What does Confirmation mean?
- What things do we “make firm” in Confirmation? *Take some time to talk about each of these. Are any of these concepts – Christianity, grace, baptism, a relationship with Christ – confusing? If so, which ones?
- Take a look over all of the “Basics” of Confirmation? What are you most excited about? Which ones might be a challenge?
- As the teacher, do a quick review of the decision to be confirmed. Let students know that at the end of the season, they are completely free to choose *not* to be confirmed. Also encourage them, though, to have an open mind and heart as they go through Confirmation. Assure them God loves them and has a plan for their lives and their weeks in Confirmation.

MATERIALS NEEDED: One bag of Blow Pops or suckers.

**Finish with anything else they'd like to discuss and then close the class in prayer, thanking God for each student in your class and asking God to be with them as they go through Confirmation.*