

Faith Statement
Instructions for Trainees
Discipleship Training
2018-2019

Purpose

The purpose of writing a faith statement is to help youth interact with the faith they've been learning. This assignment helps kids think about what is at the core of their beliefs.

Overview

Youth involved in Discipleship Training are involved in a discipleship process that shapes them to think more clearly about what they believe. When youth affirm the covenant God made with them in Holy Baptism, they make public profession of their faith, saying, this is what I believe. Then, they commit to living more deeply in the faith.

Faith statements are to be written by the youth. Parents and youth are encouraged to work together so that, together, they can think about what it means to be a believing Christian. These statements should be declarations of what, at the heart of the faith, matters. Because they are written by each trainee, they will be personal and particular to each trainee.

Instructions

The faith statement is to be a written paper, three pages in length, using Times New Roman font, 12 point, double space, with margins set at 1". It is to have a cover page.

The following outline will help each Trainee think about organizing their written statement.

Introduction

- Tell who you are and how old you are.
- Inform the reader when and where you were baptized, and who was present for your baptism.

Part 1: I believe this about God

- Who is God and what does this mean to you?
- Who is Jesus and what does this mean to you?
 - o What does the death and resurrection of Jesus have to do with you?
- Who is the Holy Spirit and what does this mean to you?

Part 2: I believe this about the world

- How does your faith help you understand the world in which you live?
- How does God interact with the world?
- What does God hope for the world?

Part 3: I believe this about me

- How does your faith help you understand who you are?
- What does God hope for you?
- What is the role of Baptism and Holy Communion in your life?
- What is the role of worship of God in your life?

Part 4: My Confirmation Verse

- Write out your Affirmation Verse and cite it properly.
 - Remember, your Affirmation Verse comes from your Guiding Word – the underlined portion of your selected Guiding Word.
- What does this verse teach you?
 - About God, Jesus, and/or the Holy Spirit
 - About you, the world, and others
 - About God’s hopes for the world?

Part 5: How I’ll Continue in the Faith

- Discuss why you are ready to make public affirmation of baptism.
- How will you “continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism?”

This paper will be presented (read) during Worship and Adult Forum on Sunday, April 7, 2019. Parents and the congregation will be invited to celebrate your work and to provide written feedback.

Timeline for the Faith Statement

March 13	Faith Statement drafts due
April 3	Faith Statements final draft due
April 7	Youth Present Faith Statements in Adult forum (Sunday Morning)