

## Junior Confirmation: FAQ



*“I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

- Jesus, Matthew 28:18-20

### **FAQ: WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?**

Confirmation is intended to be a time in every person’s life when he or she learns more about God and the life He made them for. After a period of instruction designed to help them learn more about the teaching of the Scriptures (the Bible), as well as identify with the life and mission of the Christian community that they are a part of, each person has the opportunity to “confirm” what they believe about God.

### **FAQ: WHY JUNIOR CONFIRMATION?**

In many congregations students begin Confirmation in 7th grade and then “endure” the required years. Well, not at Cross of Christ. We believe that every student develops at his or her own rate. Therefore youth can begin confirmation when they are ready, some as early as 5th or 6th grade while others will start when they are older. It’s important to note that while many students will mature spiritually during their time of confirmation, some may need more time. And that’s okay. Keep in mind, confirmation is not a “graduation.” Nor is it a rite of passage. Instead, confirmation is meant to be a significant part of every person’s walk of faith that allows him or her to grow spiritually as God determines best.

### **FAQ: HOW LONG IS CONFIRMATION?**

Junior Confirmation is a 2 year commitment. During the course of those 2 years, students will focus on different aspects of the Christian faith. Examples of the lessons that will be covered are the Ten Commandments, Lord’s Prayer, Communion, Baptism, a basic survey of the Old and New Testaments, the Creeds, and the Church. At the end of the 2 years, a student is eligible to be publicly confirmed in their faith. This will occur in late September of that year. It’s important to note that there are several expectations required before completion of confirmation. They are divided into four categories that follow Cross of Christ’s discipleship process. Our hope is that even after confirmation, every student will continue in their journey of living to worship, living to learn, living to serve, and living to go.

**Please turn to the back for more FAQ’s**

## **FAQ: DOES THIS MEAN I GET TO TAKE COMMUNION?**

During the course of your first year of Confirmation you will have the opportunity to participate in a class that will prepare you for receiving communion. After completion of the class, and once you and your parents believe you are ready, you can start participating in communion with the church.

## **FAQ: WHAT WILL BE ASKED OF ME?**

While Confirmation is meant to be a time of spiritual growth, it is also meant to be fun. Confirmation shouldn't be something you feel like you "have to do," but instead something you look forward to participating in. Students and parents will be asked to participate twice a month for the teaching component. Because not every student learns in the same way, these instructional times will include large group teaching, small group discussion, personal reflection, as well as interactive experiences. It should be stated that confirmation isn't just for kids. God makes it clear in His Word that parents are the primary "faith shapers" in the lives of their kids (see Deuteronomy 6). For this reason parents will be equipped to teach their children through what we call Family Times. In addition, parents and children will have a chance each month to live out their faith in real, tangible ways. And over the course of the 2 years, there will be components that add to the overall experience. These include a retreat, conference, and other activities that allow students practical ways to apply their faith to real life.

## **FAQ: WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT FOR ME?**

You may not realize it yet, but your confirmation has been in the making since your baptism. This is a time for you to learn more about Jesus and the life He saved you for. It's a time for you to answer the question: What does my faith mean to me?

## **FAQ: SO NOW WHAT?**

If you are interested in beginning your confirmation experience (set to begin October 2011), or if you still want to learn more before making your decision to begin, **plan on meeting at Pastor Dustin and Trudi's house (5784 S. Yakima Way, Aurora, CO 80015), Sunday, October 2 from 4:00-7:00 PM.** This time together is intended to allow students and parents to get to know each other better, as well as ask questions, and learn more about the specifics of confirmation. In addition to hanging out we will also grill out. So come and enjoy a fun, relaxing evening as you prepare for this exciting journey of faith!

To learn more you can reach Pastor Dustin by email at [pastordplappe@yahoo.com](mailto:pastordplappe@yahoo.com) or by phone at 303-335-8996.