

Faith Conversation/Reflection

Faith conversations are an opportunity to dig into our heritage, our faith tradition, and view how the history of the Bible and our faith affects us and those we know to this day. By looking at how others live faith in their daily lives, we can learn much about how to implement faith in our own lives and continue on this tradition.

You will do **5 faith conversations** over the course of each year. It is not necessary, but if you want, the conversations can be recorded, videotaped (with the interviewees permission of course), or recorded with handwritten notes. When you conclude your conversation, please write up a short reflection on what you learned (one paragraph minimum). **We do not want to see a list of questions and answers.** Instead, think about what you just heard and summarize it. Was there anything that surprised you? What did you learn was important about this person's faith? Was there anything that was very different from how you practice your own faith today? Was there something they said that you have questions about? (And if so, why don't you ask them!) These are just some of the things you may include in your summary.

The faith conversation reflection should be turned in to the confirmation mailbox in the Bethel office or in the classrooms. Please be sure to include your name, name of interviewee, and your relationship to the interviewee. The faith conversations should be of people age 17 or older. They can be of someone in your family or someone else whose faith you admire, however, it cannot be one of the pastors here at Bethel (but it can be a pastor from another church). If this is your second year in confirmation, you may not have this conversation with any of the people you interviewed last year. The conversation should consist of at least ten questions, however, don't feel like you simply have to check off a list of ten questions. Let the conversation go wherever it leads. Here are some questions from previous years to get you started, but don't feel like your conversation has to be limited to these questions. You may come up with others.

- ◆ Tell me about your faith.
- ◆ How did/does your faith "work" with your family? Friends?
- ◆ Were you brought up in a church? Which one?
- ◆ How would you describe your relationship with God?
- ◆ Who taught you about your faith?
- ◆ Do you feel the Holy Spirit in your daily life? If so, how?
- ◆ How do you incorporate God into your daily life?
- ◆ What's one thing you would say about your faith?
- ◆ What do you remember about life in the church when you were younger?
- ◆ How has your faith changed from when you were younger? What made it change?
- ◆ How involved were you at church as a child/youth? Now?
- ◆ Did you go through Confirmation (or something like it)? If so, what was it like? If not, why didn't you go through Confirmation?
- ◆ Are there other denominations or religions in your family? What made you choose what you did?
- ◆ What's your favorite Bible verse or Bible story, and why?

Suggestions of people you can ask for an interview: mom, dad, step-parents, Godparents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, teachers, family friends, any adult here at Bethel, Confirmation teachers, small group leaders, church council members (there are 12