



Future-proofing our children

Confirmation 2

Lesson Title The Apostle Ministry – 4th Article of Faith

A Parent's Guide

Sunday School Home Schooling



Dear Parent

Welcome to “The Apostle Ministry – 4th Article of Faith” Confirmation 2 lesson.

This document provides you with a minimum guide on how to present the lesson.

How to prepare and present the lesson

Below are some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
1	<p>Access the New Apostolic Church Website by keying-in or clicking on the following link from WhatsApp:</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3NACSSHS</p>
2	<p>Gather the following tools to ensure that you are ready for the lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible • The lesson in PDF format that is already prepared • Child’s workbook and pencils, crayons, etc. • The Video Clip which is an additional/ optional resource tool • Catechism and Questions and Answers (especially for Confirmation) <p>Note:</p> <p>2.1: An ideal time preferably to present the lesson is after the Sunday morning service in line with the normal Sunday School time to maintain the routine.</p> <p>2.2: Please keep the lesson as concise (brief) as possible, bearing in mind the attention span (to focus on the lesson) of our children - you know your child best! <i>Sunday School normally does not exceed 45 minutes.</i></p> <p>2.3: The lesson is class specific (Confirmation 2).</p> <p>2.4: Please contact your Confirmation Teacher if you need any assistance or if you need any of the above resources.</p>
3	<p>Pray (see the prayer at the end of this document) and ask God to use you as a tool to present the lesson the way He would want us to present it.</p>



Present a Confirmation Lesson at Home

How to prepare and present the lesson

We continue to share some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
4	Create a pleasant, disturbance free learning environment where you and the child/ren are at the same level. Example: Sit on a mat or around a table.
5	Read through the lesson. Re-read the lesson so that you understand it. Watch the video-clip of the lesson to get a better understanding of the lesson.
6	Make notes for yourself on important points that you would like to remember.
7	Understand the objective of the lesson that your child must remember.
8	Present the lesson to your child.
9	Show your child the video and recap on the meaning.
10	Refer your child to the activity in the child's workbook (I Also Want To...)
11	Pray, or ask your child to pray and close the lesson.

Available tools in terms of Home Schooling

Herewith some tools to enhance the quality of the lesson:

1. WhatsApp chat the lesson with another Confirmation 2 family.
2. Discuss the lesson with other parents to obtain clarity regarding the lesson before it is presented.
3. Feel free to conduct (do) your own research for additional (extra) information.
4. Contact your congregation Sunday School Coordinator and/or Confirmation teacher for additional information.



The Lesson

Lesson Title	The Apostle Ministry – 4 th Article of Faith
Text Catechism & Q&A	Bible texts recorded within the lesson summary below Chapter 2 & 7, Q&A 44; 423-425; 450-451; 453-457
Lesson Objective	The confirmands recognize the necessity of the Apostle ministry and believe in the sending of the Apostle.

Lesson Summary:

What does the word “Apostle” mean?

- The word 'Apostle' is derived from the Greek word apostolos, which means 'ambassador'.
- The Apostles do not act in their own name or according to their own will, but exclusively in the name and commission of Jesus Christ.
- Jesus selected twelve Apostles from His disciples Luke (6: 13) and said to them “As my Father sent Me, so I send you” (John 20: 21). Read Jesus’ prayer to God in John 17: 18.
- The Apostle Ministry, as commissioned by Jesus, is mandated to prepare believers for the return of Jesus Christ.

When and how did the Apostles’ activity start?

- After Jesus Christ’s ascension the disciples remained together in Jerusalem and waited to receive the power of the Holy Spirit as the Lord Jesus had promised them.
- After the Holy Spirit had filled the Apostles on Pentecost, they began to preach in various languages and were understood by all who were present.
- The sermon of the Apostle Peter with the other eleven Apostles moved many people.
- Apostle Peter advised the people to repent and be baptised to then be able to receive the Holy Spirit. Many who accepted his word were added to the congregation (Acts 2: 37-41).
- After the death of the first Apostles, a time came where there was no activity of the Apostles. The Apostle ministry was no longer occupied.

The reoccupation of the Apostle ministry:

- In the nineteenth century (1800's) faithful people who were seeking the truth prayed for the fulfilment of the divine promises for the last days.
- God listened to their pleas and reoccupied the Apostle ministry.
- In 1832 the first Apostle of the time in which God’s work is to be completed, John Bate Cardale, was called into the Apostle ministry through prophesy.
- Today, Apostles are at work throughout the world to fulfil the mission given by Jesus Christ.



Why do we need the Apostle ministry?

- We need Apostles because they have the commission and authority given to them by Jesus Christ:
 - to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in pure fashion;
 - to dispense the three sacraments, namely Holy Baptism with water, Holy Sealing, and Holy Communion (Acts 19: 5-6 and Luke 22: 19-20);
 - to proclaim forgiveness of sins in the name of the Lord Jesus (John 20: 23);
 - to ordain ministers (Acts 6: 6 and Acts 14: 23);
 - to be "servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God" (1 Corinthians 4: 1);
 - to establish and maintain the order in the congregations (Acts 20: 28); and
 - to prepare the bridal congregation for the return of Christ.

The great commission:

- The great commission, which Jesus Christ gave the Apostles after His resurrection, reads as follows: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28: 18–20).
- With this Jesus promised His Apostles that He would always be with them and they have the commission to prepare mankind for the return of Christ. The Apostle ministry remains indispensable, even today.

The Chief Apostle ministry:

- The Chief Apostle has specific tasks that include:
 - feeding the lambs and sheep of Christ;
 - establishing and maintaining the oneness among the Apostles as Christ prayed for it, desired it, and commanded it;
 - proclaiming the teaching of Jesus Christ;
 - imparting new insights, keeping the doctrine pure, and further developing the doctrine;
 - exercising the authority of the keys (that is, laying down the Church's teachings and governing the life of the church of Christ in accordance with the divine will);
 - ordaining Apostles and
 - ensuring the spread of the doctrine of Jesus and the Apostles in a uniform manner.
- As the head of the Apostles, Peter received his special commission from Jesus Christ Himself as stated in Matthew 16: 18-19. Also read John 21: 15 and 17 and Luke 22: 32.
- Jesus Christ conferred upon Apostle Peter a leading position among the Apostles.
- The Chief Apostle has likewise received such a position from Jesus Christ.



What does this lesson mean for us today?

- Today the Apostle ministry remains essential in God's plan of salvation.
- The commission they received from Jesus Christ remains valid today.
- We therefore continue to believe the 4th Article of Faith. "I believe that the Lord Jesus rules His Church and thereto sent His Apostles, and until His return, still sends them with the commission to teach, to forgive sins in His name and to baptise with water and Holy Spirit."
- We also want to follow Jesus Christ's Apostles!

Learn the 4th Article of Faith by heart.

Some questions that we can ask:

1. What does the word "Apostle" mean?

Answer: The word 'Apostle' is derived from the Greek word "apostolos", which means 'ambassador'.

2. When and how did the activity of the Apostles start?

Answer: After Jesus Christ's ascension the disciples remained together in Jerusalem and waited to receive the power of the Holy Spirit as the Lord Jesus had promised them. After the Holy Spirit had filled the Apostles on Pentecost, their activity began.

3. Briefly describe the "great commission" the Apostles received?

Answer: The great commission, which Jesus Christ gave the Apostles after His resurrection, reads as follows: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28: 18–20). NOTE: The confirmands can describe this in their own words. With this Jesus promised His Apostles that He would always be with them.

A Prayer for Daddy and Mommy to pray before the lesson:

Dear God, thank you for this day, Bless all parents and children

May we feel your presence

Bless the lesson we will have

Please teach us how to serve you, And help us to do your will

So that we grow closer to you

Send Jesus to fetch us

And may we be ready to meet Him – Amen