



Future-proofing our children

Confirmation 2

Lesson Title Sacraments – Holy Baptism – 6th Article of Faith

A Parent's Guide

Sunday School Home Schooling



Dear Parent

Welcome to the “**Sacraments – Holy Baptism – 6th 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. <i>Example:</i> 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	Sacraments – Holy Baptism – 6 th Article of Faith
Text Catechism & Q&A	Bible texts recorded within the lesson summary below Chapter 8, Q&A 472-493
Lesson Objective	The confirmands realise that receiving the sacraments is the prerequisite to sharing eternal fellowship with the triune God. They believe that through Holy Baptism God makes a covenant with those being baptised. It is also part of the rebirth.

Lesson Summary:

The sacraments:

- God has provided the prerequisites for fellowship with Him, the sacraments.
- We cannot give these to ourselves, they must be dispensed upon us.
- The three sacraments are Holy Baptism, Holy Sealing and Holy Communion (following the absolution).
- Sacraments are important acts whereby God imparts grace. They are performed upon us in order for us to attain salvation, be accepted into the fellowship of life with God, and remain preserved in this fellowship. Receiving the three sacraments is the prerequisite for being united with God at the return of Christ.

External act and internal effect of the sacraments:

- A sacrament is comprised of four things:
 - Sign (this refers to the water, bread and wine, or laying on of hands),
 - Content (this refers to the salvation granted a person by way of a particular sacrament),
 - Dispenser (this refers to the mediator of the sacrament, eg. the Apostle, the Minister)
 - Faith (in order for the sacrament to be received for salvation, the person receiving it must believe).
- The validity of the sacraments depend only upon the four above-mentioned variables and not on whether you understand or interpret them properly.

John the Baptist:

- John the Baptist had urged the people to return to the way of God, to repent, that is, to be remorseful and change. He baptised the converted as an indication that they turned from their sins. Jesus too, was baptised by him.
- Through his teaching, John prepared the way for the Messiah, Jesus Christ.
- He referred to His coming and among other things said, “He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit” (Mark 1: 8).



Prerequisites to enter God's kingdom:

- Jesus referred to the prerequisites to enter God's kingdom in His conversation with Nicodemus (John 3: 1-7).
- Nicodemus had come to Jesus to ask Him questions about the kingdom of God.
- Jesus explained to him "...unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."
- He continued and said "...unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." Here, Jesus spoke about Holy Baptism and Holy Sealing.

The baptism in the name of Jesus:

- Jesus Christ gave His Apostles the authority and commission to baptise (Matthew 28: 19).
- The baptism in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit is more than the baptism of John the Baptist, his baptism was of repentance (Acts 19: 3-5).
- By way of baptism in the name of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the baptised person is incorporated into the new covenant.
- In Mark 16: 16 we read: "He who believes and is baptised will be saved."
- In Holy Baptism God opens the way for a person to attain complete redemption, and cleanses him of original sin.

What is original sin?

- On the one hand we understand original sin to be the guilt which came upon all people, as a result of Adam and Eve's sin.
- It is washed away through Holy Baptism.
- On the other hand, we are not capable of leading a sinless life. We need grace and strength to avoid sin.

Requirement to be properly baptized:

- The baptism dispensed in the New Apostolic Church is not the only baptism valid before God. Rather, all baptisms (also other denominations) performed with water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are valid.

Can children be baptised?

- Even very small children should partake in the blessings of God.
- Through Holy Baptism with water, they are accepted into the new covenant, cleansed of original sin, and led into their first close relationship with God.
- Jesus linked the path to this kingdom to the rebirth out of water and the Spirit, John 3: 3-5.
- In Philippi, Apostle Paul baptised the keeper of the prison and all the members of his family, which also included his children (Acts 16: 31-33).

Who is entitled to administer Holy Baptism?

- In the New Apostolic Church, Holy Baptism with water is dispensed by a priestly minister ordained by an Apostle.



- If a child or adult is to be baptised shortly before death and no priestly minister can be reached, any believing Christian can perform the baptism - Emergency Baptism.
- **How is Holy Baptism dispensed?** The **water for the baptism is consecrated** with the words: “I consecrate this water in the name of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and dedicate it for the holy act of baptism. Amen.” The minister performing the baptism moistens the forehead of the person being baptized three times, making the sign of the cross each time, while saying: “I baptise you in the name of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

What does this lesson mean for us today?

- Through Holy Baptism we enter into a covenant with God.
- Through this act God gives us grace and we follow the Lord.
- We believe the sixth article of faith. “I believe that the Holy Baptism with water is the first step to a renewal of a human being in the Holy Spirit, and that the person baptised is adopted into the fellowship of those who believe in Jesus Christ and profess Him as their Lord.”
- We should apply this article of faith in our lives in a way that we can all say: “I also want to never break the covenant of baptism!

Learn the 6th Article of Faith by heart.

Some questions that we can ask:

1. What are sacraments?

Answer: Sacraments are important acts whereby God imparts grace. They are performed upon us in order for us to attain salvation, be accepted into the fellowship of life with God, and remain preserved in this fellowship. Receiving the three sacraments is the prerequisite for being united with God at the return of Christ.

2. Name the three sacraments?

Answer: Holy Baptism, Holy Communion and Holy Sealing

3. What is a sacrament comprised of?

Answer: 1. Sign - this refers to the water, bread and wine, or laying on of hands, 2. Content - this refers to the salvation granted a person by way of a particular sacrament 3. Dispenser - this refers to the mediator of the sacrament, eg. the Apostle, the Minister 4. Faith - in order for the sacrament to be received for salvation, the person receiving it must believe.

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*