

Goal: To realign our confirmation ministry to a practice that is in keeping with God's command for parents in Deuteronomy 6:1-9:

These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, ² so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. ³ Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you.

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Furthermore, our confirmation ministry will reflect Luther's words as he wrote them in the Small Catechism, *as the head of the family should teach it in a simply way to his household.*

Finally, our confirmation ministry will affirm and uphold the examples provided in Scripture where the family is the primary agent of faith formation and the instruction of God's Word:

- Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4
- "It is the living who give thanks to You, as I do today; A father tells his sons about Your faithfulness. Isaiah 38:19
- Tell your sons about it, and let your sons tell their sons, And their sons the next generation. Joel 1:3
- and that you may tell in the hearing of your son, and of your grandson, how I made a mockery of the Egyptians and how I performed My signs among them, that you may know that I am the LORD." Exodus 10:2
- We will not conceal them from their children but tell to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wondrous works that He has done. Psalm 78:4