

at



Confirmation Handout for Workshop One

Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021, from 11:30am to 2:00pm in Fellowship Hall

Theme: Relationships in Christian Community, Bible Overview, God is Love

- A. Students arrange tables/chairs or go outside (put back at end too) – Rick
- B. Brown Bag Lunch or snacks provided if you don't have a lunch – all
- C. Prayer, attendance, collect bible forms and money - Sarah
- D. Games with themes that show relationships in Christian Community – Sarah

(Name on Rock – part of the body, Sort by Interests – purpose/call, Bean Bag Factory – service in unity)

- E. Light Candle/Prayer Routine/Place Rocks – Denise
- F. Songs of Praise on big screen (use dance ribbons and instruments) – Sarah
- G. You Tube Video – All about the Bible (4 min) - Sarah
 - a. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nFEBwfYZBJY>
- H. Discuss bible video and show them how to look scriptures up – Ken
 - a. (Ken gets 6 bibles from youth room and we can have them work in pairs)
- I. Use bible and bible app to find verses on sheet – Rotation A (Ken, Denise, Rick)
- J. Get to know each other and write prayer requests down in our book – Rotation B (Sarah)

K. God is Love Closing Activity (String Connection) – Sarah

L. Pray over student requests and for church, class, families, friends, world – Sarah

Learn It and Teach It: **Consider sharing what you are learning with a friend or family member. A summary is attached.**

Sarah Floyd, Director of Youth and Video Ministries, ST. JOHN'S IVYLAND, Cell: 219-617-2852, sarah.sjumc@gmail.com
<https://www.stjohnsivyland.com/confirmation>

Relationships in Christian Community is a big deal. It's important for our happiness and spiritual growth. It is not an optional part of the Christian life. The Bible gives us verses like: "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near." (**Hebrews 10:24-25**) "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when people dwell in unity! (**Psalms 133:1**) "But if we walk in the light, as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." (**1 John 1:7**) "so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." (**Romans 12:5**) "And all who believed were together and had all things in common... and day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts." (**Acts 2:44-46**)

When we are in close relationships with other Christian believers, we have people to pray for us, support us, encourage us, exhort us and serve alongside us. We also have people that we can help because we know them well enough to know what is wrong. Just like any relationship, there are difficulties within our Christian community, but it's totally worth it! To find this kind of community it takes more than sitting in the pew. Come early, stay after, and engage in conversations. Jump into youth group and other mid-week activities. Invite people to lunch or start with a simple text even. If you don't immediately develop community when you first try, keep trying. Meaningful relationships can take time to develop, but if you keep working at it, it'll happen.

Bible Overview unpacks how the bible developed and how to use it. Watch the YouTube video listed above. Show your parents how to download the Bible App on their smart phone and let Siri read it to them.

God is Love The bible tells us that God is Love. "Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them." ¹⁷ This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar." (Read the whole passage at **1 John 4:7-21**) There is no

fear and no punishment if we accept the free grace that comes from Christ Jesus, our Savior. Christ literally took our punishment when he died on the cross and rose again. **To become a Christian, we must admit we are not perfect and need a Savior. We accept Christ's loving offer and through him we learn what perfect love is and how to share it.** We share this love by following the greatest commandment (The Golden Rule found in **Luke 10:27**) to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and to Love your neighbor as yourself." **You are not saved by doing good. You are saved by receiving Christ's perfect love. Growing in God's grace, love, and truth often results in being more loving and good to our neighbors and to ourselves as well, but it is not the reason you are saved. Being human means Christians will continue to make mistakes, but we are always forgiven by God when we repent and ask God to correct us by the power of the Holy Spirit.**