



## Future-proofing our children

### Confirmation 1

Lesson Title	Confirmation vow
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**A Parent's Guide**  
Sunday School Home Schooling



# Dear Parent

Welcome to the “**Confirmation vow**” Confirmation 1 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	Access the New Apostolic Church Website by keying-in or clicking on the following link from WhatsApp: <a href="https://bit.ly/3NACSSHS">https://bit.ly/3NACSSHS</a>
2	Gather the following tools to ensure that you are ready for the lesson: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bible</li> <li>• The lesson in PDF format that is already prepared</li> <li>• Child’s workbook and a pen, etc.</li> <li>• The Video Clip which is an additional/ optional resource tool</li> <li>• Catechism and Questions and Answers (especially for Confirmation)</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b></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 1).</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	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.



# 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 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 1 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.



# The Lesson

<b>Lesson Title</b>	Confirmation vow
<b>Lesson Objective</b>	The confirmands will learn the origin and meaning of the Confirmation vow.

## Lesson Summary:

### Background: What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is an act of blessing, in which young New Apostolic Christians take upon themselves the responsibilities which their parents /guardians undertook on their behalf at their baptism and sealing. Confirmands vow to be faithful to God and profess their New Apostolic faith before the congregation.

### Content:

#### 1. The wording of the Confirmation Vow:

*I renounce Satan and all his works and ways, and surrender myself to You, O triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in belief, obedience, and the earnest resolution to remain faithful to You until my end. Amen.*

#### 2. The origin of the Confirmation Vow:

- In the 3<sup>rd</sup> century, earlier forms of the vow are found in the "Traditio Apostolica" – Apostolic Tradition (this is a book, like a manual about earlier church life).
- In a rite (ritual, sacrament or a ceremony), very similar to baptism a believer was asked:  
  
"Do you renounce the devil and his works?" and "Do you renounce the world and its pleasures?" On both occasions the answer was: "I renounce."
- Then the believer was asked three questions:
  - Ø "Do you believe in God the Almighty Father?",
  - Ø "Do you believe in our Lord Jesus Christ (and His Cross)?" and
  - Ø "Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?"
- To each of these questions the one to be baptised had to answer: "I believe".
- First, the devil was renounced, and then there had to be a pledge to Jesus Christ.
- From these fundamental elements the confirmation vow developed.



### 3. The meaning of the Confirmation Vow:

**“I renounce Satan and all his works and ways” means:**

- To the best of our ability we wish to free ourselves from sin, avoid all evil and ungodly things.
- This does not mean that after we have taken the vow we no longer sin, but it is the expression of a fundamental decision to say "No" to the devil and sin.

**“and surrender myself to You, O triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” means:**

- We recognize that we cannot live a life resisting the temptation of sin on our own strength, we need God’s help, the grace of Christ and the communion of the Holy One Spirit.
- We conscientiously express that we need God’s help and at the same time confess to the triune God, which is recorded in our first three articles of faith.

**“in belief, obedience and the earnest resolution to remain faithful to You until my end.” means:**

- Surrendering to God is not a temporary matter and the seriousness with which the intention to live a life in faith and obedience to God is expressed.
- The confirmation vow is therefore binding for one’s whole life.

**“Amen.” means:**

- “Amen” – means “What I say is the true.” So, saying Amen after the Confirmation vow has been recited, essentially means that what was said is faithful and true.

## What does this lesson mean for us today?

During your final confirmation year, you will learn to recite the vow. This lesson aimed to give you an understanding of the vow. Next year, you will be taught many lessons that will help to grow your knowledge and understanding of your faith which will lead to a wonderful Confirmation blessing. Your goal is to **recite your confirmation vow with a firm conviction (belief and faith).**



## Some questions that we can ask:

### **1. What do I need to know and learn during my confirmation year?**

You need to know and understand the main principles of the New Apostolic faith (Ten Articles of Faith) and be prepared to lead your life according to the gospel.

### **2. What does the confirmation blessing mean? What does it do for me?**

The blessing strengthens you and helps you to keep the promise you made that is set out in the confirmation vow.

### **3. Am I old enough to take on such a big responsibility?**

You are at a stage in your life when you understand the consequences of your actions and you know right from wrong.

You have been brought up in the faith in your parental home and or in divine services and through religious education in the church especially during the year of your confirmation.

## **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.*