

Growing in Christ Confirmation Class
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Model: Pastor-Family Partnership Model — Student and parent work together at home on a lesson using material and video provided by the pastor. All meet with pastor after every four lessons for review.

Time: One lesson per week. Parents and students choose time when they want to complete the lesson at home together. They have one week to complete the assignment.

Platform used: Google Classroom

Apps used: Google Docs (for fillable lesson sheet), Google Forms (for quizzes), QuickTime (for recording video), YouTube (for posting video)

Materials used: WELS 2017 Catechism, Bible, lesson sheets designed by the pastor using Google Docs. I want them using and being familiar with their catechism, so I make some learning activity with almost every question in each section of the catechism. It's a lot of work, but I think it will be worth it in the end.

Course length: A two-year course covering the six chief parts of the catechism. Year one: Luther history, Creed, Baptism, Lord's Supper. Year two: Commandments, Lord's Prayer, Keys & Confession, Brief review of year one material.

- The pastor and every student need a Google Gmail account (which is free).
- There are many YouTube videos available showing how to start a Google Classroom. I advise watching how to set up a Google Classroom. It isn't really difficult.
- Lesson sheets are made as a Google Doc. Each student will receive a lesson sheet to their Google Classroom account that they fill in with their parents and submit.
- A PowerPoint/Keynote presentation is made that ties into the lesson sheet learning activities.
- A video is made with QuickTime walking through each of the items on the lesson sheet. The PowerPoint/Keynote is run in presentation mode and I comment through the presentation. Sometimes extra thoughts, explanation, or comments are included on the video for a particular learning activity, or some point I want to emphasize.
- Only the PowerPoint slides are seen with my voice in the background. So there is no talking head, just what's on the PowerPoint/Keynote slide.
- For sound quality, it's important to use a microphone when taping the video. I use one called The Snowball by Blue Microphones (about \$55 on Amazon).
- After recording, the QuickTime video is uploaded to a YouTube account. The YouTube link is then shared in the assignment on Google Classroom. Here is a sample YouTube video (warning: it is nothing spectacular):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=15&v=2XLmMIMW84
- Parents and students complete the lesson together at home playing the YouTube video and filling in the Google Doc lesson sheet.
- When the lesson sheet is completed, it is submitted to the pastor online (through Google Classroom). He then can make comments, corrections, or encouragements on the lesson sheet and "return" it to the student's Google Classroom account.
- About every four lessons, the parents, students, and pastor meet for a quiz to review key items from the previous four lessons. A discussion sheet is also used for small group discussions and dialog with the entire group. These discussions are centered on application of the four to five lessons recently covered.