

Respond to the call to serve – semester overview

R1 - Respond to the call to serve: *What are spiritual gifts?*

I wonder... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What are spiritual gifts? ➤ Are spiritual gifts the same as natural talents, Fruit of the Spirit, or spiritual disciplines? 	I believe... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Spiritual gifts are gifts from God that are revealed when we engage the Holy Spirit. ➤ I believe and understand that while my spiritual gifts are different than my natural talents, the Fruit of the Spirit, and spiritual disciplines, all four are important for my life as a follower of Christ.
References: <i>Spiritual Gifts Definitions</i> handout, Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12, Galatians 5:22-23, Ephesians 4:11-16	

R2 - Respond to the call to serve: *Accepting God's call*

I wonder... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Does God have a specific purpose for my life? ➤ What if I don't feel I am able to carry out what God has called me to do? ➤ Does my calling from God affect all parts of my life? 	I believe... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ God designed and created me with a purpose in mind. ➤ God has given me spiritual gifts to help me in my calling. ➤ The gifts that I have through the Holy Spirit are active in every part of my life. I can live out what I am called to do in my church, school, family, and community.
References: Exodus 3-4, Isaiah 6:8, Romans 12:4-8, Ephesians 4:1-16	

R3 - Respond to the call to serve: *Put it into action – your family*

Brainstorm ways to serve Christ by serving your family

R4 - Respond to the call to serve: *Edifying the Body of Christ*

I wonder... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What is the Body of Christ? ➤ What responsibility do I have in the Body of Christ? ➤ How can I appreciate the gifts of others in the Body of Christ? 	I believe... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Body of Christ is made up of all those who are baptized, believe in, and profess Christ. (Catechism Q&A question 375) ➤ I am called to use and develop the gifts that God has given me to edify and build up the Body of Christ. ➤ Many different gifts are necessary and I can recognize and affirm them in others.
References: Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-31, Ephesians 1:22-23, Ephesians 2:10, Ephesians 4:11-16; Catechism Q&A questions 374, 375; Catechism 6.2.3.1	

R5 - Respond to the call to serve: *My mission*

I wonder... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Why does our church have a mission statement? ➤ Why should the mission statement be important to me? ➤ How could the mission statement influence my actions? 	I believe... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In any organization, a vision statement tells me where we are going, and a mission statement tells me how to get there. ➤ I believe in the mission of our church, and as a member, I want to invest and contribute to it with my time, possessions, and gifts. ➤ I believe I should live my life in a way that reflects the gospel of Jesus Christ and the love of God to those around me.
References: Matthew 28:18-20, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Ephesians 2:10	

Our Mission is reaching out to all people in order to teach them the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to baptize them with water and the Holy Spirit. Providing soul care and cultivating a warm fellowship in which everyone shall experience the love of God and the joy of serving Him and others.

R6 - Respond to the call to serve: *Put it into action – your congregation*

Brainstorm ways to serve Christ by serving your congregation

R7 - Respond to the call to serve: *A living sacrifice*

I wonder... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What compels me to serve Christ? ➤ How do my reasons for serving Christ affect my life? 	I believe... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ I serve and devote myself to Christ out of thankfulness for what He has done and accomplished for me through His sacrifice. I surrender all that I am, have, and do for the sake of His glory. ➤ I believe that my life should be a profession of Christ, not just in words, but through my actions.
References: Catechism Q&A 732-736; Bible: Romans 12:1-8, Ephesians 2:1-10	

R8 - Respond to the call to serve: *What is enough?*

I wonder... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What does it mean to love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind? ➤ What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself? 	I believe... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fulfilling Jesus' commandments is not easy. God wants my best, deserves my best, and demands my best. I must fully devote my life to Him, and pray for His grace to cover me where I fall short. ➤ Loving my neighbor means looking for opportunities to serve them, and sometimes that might mean buying and accumulating a little less for myself, so I have more to give.
References: Malachi 1:6-14, Matthew 16:24-25, Luke 8:4-15, Romans 12:1, 1 Corinthians 13:2-8	

R9 - Respond to the call to serve: *Characteristics of a trader*

I wonder... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Should I feel a responsibility to serve others? ➤ What does Jesus teach me about serving others? ➤ Who is my neighbor? 	I believe... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ I show my love for Jesus and fulfill His commandments by serving those around me. ➤ Jesus teaches me that being a Christian means a life of service. ➤ My neighbor can be anyone with whom we come into contact. (Catechism Q&A question 287)
References: Bible verses: Luke 10:25-37, Luke 12:22-34, John 15:9-17, 1 John 3:17 Catechism Q&A questions 286-290	

R10 - Respond to the call to serve: *Broken relationships*

I wonder... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What is my relationship to the world around me? ➤ Is my relationship to the world around me functioning the way that God intends? ➤ Why is it important for me to understand broken relationships when I serve others? 	I believe... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ God created me with 4 relationships: my relationship to God, to myself, to others, and to creation. ➤ When Adam and Eve sinned, these 4 relationships were broken. And because we are all broken, the systems (economic, social, political, and religious) we've created are also broken. ➤ I believe that when I serve others, I'm walking alongside them as we both work to reconcile our broken relationships with God and the world around us.
References: Genesis 1:27-29, Genesis 3:7-19, Matthew 22:37-40,	

R11 - Respond to the call to serve: *Recognizing and responding*

I wonder... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What should my perspective be when I'm serving others? ➤ How do I respond to those in need? 	I believe... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ I believe that every person is made in the image of God, that we are all broken, but that we all have something to give. ➤ I believe that as a Christian, I have the responsibility to respond to opportunities that God gives me to serve the people around me in ways that utilize my gifts, my possessions, my time, and my talents. My serving will take into consideration their natural and spiritual needs.
References: Matthew 25:35-40, Luke 12:22-34, Ephesians 2:10	

R12 - Respond to the call to serve: *Put it into action – your community*

Brainstorm ways to serve Christ by serving your community