

8th Grade Adopt-a-Grandparent Project

As mentioned in the Confirmation Covenant, 8th graders are assigned the Adopt-a-Grandparent project to be completed prior to the start of their 9th grade year of Confirmation. As you consider someone to interview for your project, keep in mind the following –

- The grandparent that you interview should not be your own, however you and a friend could swap/share grandparents – your friend interviews your grandparent, you interview your friend's.
- The person you're interviewing should be a grandparent and should be at least 55 or older, however a minimum age isn't a requirement. The older the person that you choose, the more you'll learn.
- Remember to choose someone that your parents are comfortable with. If you have difficulty finding someone to interview, ask Marcia or Pastor Karen, and we'll connect you with someone from OSLC.
- You may work on this project with a partner, however each student will be required to turn in your own response at the end.

You'll arrange 3 sessions, each lasting about 30 minutes in length, then meet and talk over the interview sheet. The interview sheet is for your notes, and can be completed as necessary for your use and reference

Using the information that you've gathered in your time together, choose one of the three questions below to answer to conclude your project. Highlight specific examples from your conversations to support your answers. Your written response should be no more than 2 – 3 paragraphs in length, and should be attached with the lower portion of this sheet. It is your option whether you choose to turn in your interview sheets.

Questions about this project should be directed to Marcia Pedersen.

I look forward to reading your completed projects!

Blessings,

Marcia Pedersen, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

Student Name _____ **Grade/Conf Group #** _____

Name of Grandparent Interviewed _____

Dates/Times of each meeting _____

On a separate piece of paper, write a brief 2-3 paragraph response about your experience with the person that you interviewed, answering one of these questions. Use specific examples from your conversations with them.

- 1) Describe a feeling, attitude or moment where your experience and that of your adopted grandparent was similar and one that was completely different.
- 2) When talking about how faith and life intersect, did you find more similarities or differences when you think about your own experiences? Choose one similarity or difference and describe it.
- 3) Was it easier or harder to live during the time of your grandparent? Why?
- 4) Comparing how you spend your free time and how your grandparent did, would you want to trade places with them? Why or why not?

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____

Grandparent Interview – Part 1 – Faith and Growing Up

Explain to the person you're interviewing that this is a project that you're working on for Confirmation, and be sure to include the details of the project like how many times to meet, place etc. Be sure to introduce yourself to them, including your grade, interests etc. then you can begin. Feel free to use as many or as few questions below as time allows.

Name of the Grandparent you're interviewing _____

Where were you born? Did you grow up there? If not, where? Did you live in a city or rural area? What did your parents do for employment?

How many members were in your family? Where is your place in that mix? Oldest or Youngest? Tell me about your siblings...did you get along? Was there a specific time that you remember with your siblings that sticks out in your memory?

What were your parents like? Were they strict? Tell about a rule or expectation in your family that you thought was unfair.

How did you see your parents in relation to their faith when you were a child? Did they have Sunday School then? If so, what was that like for you?

When you were younger, what were some things that you liked to do? Who did you spend most of your time with? What was your favorite food when you were a child? What about now?

What was school like? How big were your classes? Your graduating class? Did you think about college after school? Talk about similar interests or activities that you participated in such as sports, clubs or groups etc.

Communication and Transportation – what was your mode of transportation? What was your first line of communication? How is that different or similar to what we do today?

Were you ever really sick or hospitalized when you were young? If so, with what? What about other members of your family or friends?

(Schedule your next meeting time _____)

Grandparent Interview – Part 2 – Faith and life, then and now

When you were younger, did you go to church? Where did you go? What were worship services like then as opposed to now?

Did you ever have the chance to go to camps? Church camps? Talk about that, and if they had the chance to, compare camp then to camp now.

Did you have Confirmation? Did you participate in it and if so, what kinds of things did you have to do? Talk about the similarities and differences.

Who was someone that you most admired? Tell about that person...

Do you remember a favorite story that was read to you? What about a favorite Bible Story? As you got older, did you have other special Bible verses or stories that were meaningful to you?

Was your family able to travel when you were a child? What about when you had a family of your own? How was that different, and did you have a favorite destination or memorable trip?

When you were a teenager, what did you think about people that were your parents age? Your grandparent's age? As a grandparent, what do you think about kids in general? Much is different, but what do you see as being the same as when you were younger?

Did you ever play a musical instrument or sing? If so, what was it? Do you still? What types of music or musical artists did you love most? Do you have a concert or musical experience that was memorable?

What's one piece of advice that you received that was important to you? Who gave you that advice and why was it important?

(Set up your final meeting, and ask if there was a game that they might like to teach or share with you next time)

Grandparent Interview – Part 3 - Faith and Leisure Time

(If you decided on a game to play together, feel free to play and ask questions as you're able while playing.)

Do you like movies? What was your favorite movie of all time? Have you seen any recently? How have they changed through the years?

Do you like to play or watch sports? Tell about a team you played on when you were younger. What is your favorite sport? Do you like to listen to sports on the radio? Do you have a favorite sports memory or a favorite athlete?

Do you like to read? If so, what? News papers, magazines or books? When you pick up a paper, what's the first thing you read? Do you have a comic strip that you like?

What about TV? A favorite show? Did you always have a color TV? If not, tell about your early TV experiences.

In our world of technology changes, how do you think that this has changed us as a society?

What makes you feel good about yourself? What is something that's not so good? How have either of these changed during your lifetime?

How do you deal with pain and suffering? What things do you find yourself praying about the most? How have either of these changed as you've gotten older?

Do you have a favorite Bible Verse? What is it and how did it become meaningful to you?

Has your belief in God changed since you were little? Was there a time when you really felt God's presence? Or perhaps a time when you wondered if God was even there?

(As you wrap things up, ask if your interview-ee has any questions for you. Be sure to thank them for their time)