

1st YEAR FAITH TIMELINE

Goal: To outline how God has been working throughout your life from the time that you were brought to the waters of baptism to now, mid-way through your Confirmation instruction.

Process: As you begin to consider how to construct your timeline and what you are going to put on it, take some time to consider significant events in your life such as the death of a loved one, the birth of a brother or sister, a big move to a new city, or even your first time coming to church or confirmation. You want to find moments when your faith was important and either helped or was needed to get through the situation. This project is about connecting real life events to your faith life.

This is something that parents need to help with. Together you can discuss what events should go on the timeline and how it connects spiritually. If you have questions or you are struggling you can always contact Pastor Lee.

DUE DATE: THIS PROJECT IS TO BE DONE AT HOME AND WILL BE DUE IN THE PIER BY **APRIL 10th**.

The Project:

Step 1 – Make a list of significant life events.

Include births, deaths, major changes, struggles and victories. These are events that stand out in your life and have made a difference, good or bad. Be sure to include dates such as month and year.

Step 2 – Work to connect a spiritual importance to each major event.

Example 1:

Description of event - My grandmother died on April 8th 2010. It was the first time I lost someone close to me and I had a real hard time with it. I was very sad and very worried about whether or not she was actually in heaven.

Spiritual importance - I really needed to know and be reassured that she was in heaven. John 10:25-30 really comforted me; I knew that Jesus would not let anything snatch my grandmother away from him.

Example 2:

Description of event - I remember my first day at my new school and how big it was. I was terrified because I didn't know anyone or have any friends. It was a very lonely feeling.

Spiritual importance – It was a time when I really needed to know that God was with me since I was feeling so lonely. I can remember praying a lot during that time and finding some comfort in knowing that God was with me and heard my prayers.

Example 3:

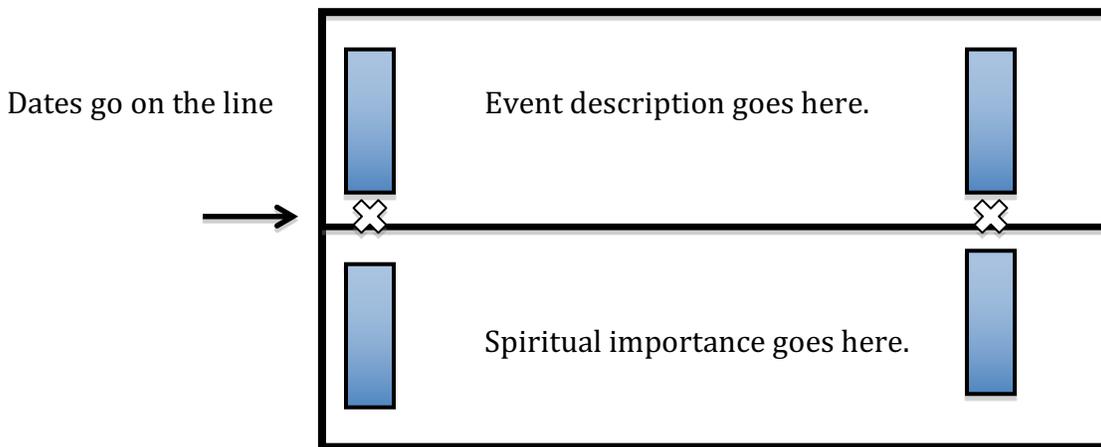
Description of event - I remember watching a TV show about Jesus and Easter and I began to wonder if all of this was really true. I had a lot of doubts about whether or not Jesus was real and if he really rose from the dead.

Spiritual importance - That Easter God prompted me to read through the Gospel of Matthew, His story, and it helped me discover the truth about Jesus and His resurrection. It convinced me that the story of Jesus in the Bible was true and real and that this was a faith that I wanted to follow.

Step 3 – Create your timeline.

Use an 11 X 17 piece of paper. Draw a single horizontal line across the *length* of the paper. On the left side put the date of your first event (most likely, your baptism), then add your significant events to the timeline in chronological order.

For each event *type out* the description of the event and paste it above the timeline. Then *type out* the spiritual importance of the event and paste that below the timeline. Be sure to align the two description to the correct date on your timeline.



Once you have your timeline constructed and pasted together you can feel free to personalize with pictures, stickers, verses, etc., that mean something to YOU. In the past, some students made timelines on poster board. This is fine, but it's not required to be that large. (*Examples of previous timelines are available in the Pier.*)