

## Confirmation - Living Faith

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Homework for Chapter 9 (Home Again) - Jan. 25, 2015

*If you spread your homework throughout the week, doing it can remind you to pray to God often. If you do all the homework at one time, you're invited to pray to God often anyhow!*

- Day 1** Read *M&M* pages 31-32. Back at home after Exile, the partner people led by Ezra (a priest-leader) went too far in trying to keep themselves separate from other nations. Choose either the Book of Ruth (discussed on page 31) or the Book of Jonah (p. 32) and tell how it reminded the partner people to remain open-minded?
- Day 2** Read *M&M* pages 32 (bottom) through 34. This is a world history lesson! After the Persians, the Macedonians (or Greeks) ruled the holy land. What is the name of the family of brothers that led the Jews to freedom for a time? \_\_\_\_\_ . How long did they remain free? \_\_\_\_\_ . Then which empire took over and conquered them? \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Day 3** Read *M&M* pages 34-36. Under Roman rule many common families fell into terrible debt (page 34, bottom). Things were so bad that they hoped for a deliverer from God. What did they call the one they were waiting for? \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Day 4** Read *M&M* pages 36-37. Highlight the paragraph at the bottom of p. 36, "Besides pushing...." This says that the people were concerned to be "pure." Spend some time understanding how society was organized according to "purity" as described in the boxes on page 37. I don't think we expect people to be "pure" any more; it's not a term we use. What does it take to be "nearest to God" now?
- Day 5** Read *M&M* page 38. Note especially the box that says "Also:" Popular wisdom 2000 years ago said women were inferior; illness was a punishment for sin, and poverty was a punishment from God. Does American popular culture (our popular wisdom) still act with discrimination toward women? contempt toward sick or disabled people? lack of respect for the poor? Explain your answer with an example.

(Over)

**Ask a parent and report their response:** In the Gospels, Jesus is often portrayed over against the "Pharisees." What is your understanding of who the Pharisees were and why they and Jesus stood in opposition? (Hint: If you want to follow up on this question, check your student's workbook, pages 36-38!)

**Parent initial:** *I have reviewed my confirmand's homework and talked through the discussion question. This assignment is completed to my satisfaction. \_\_\_\_\_*