

## Confirmation - Living Faith 1/18/2015 Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Homework for Chapter 8 - By the Waters of Babylon

*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* page 27. Highlight the last two sentences of the first paragraph ("First the Assyrians destroyed Israel...Later the Babylonians destroyed Judah...") and the first sentence of the last paragraph ("Yahweh's passionate love..."). What would you feel like if you were an exile or a refugee in a strange county?

**Day 2** Read in the Bible Psalm 137. This is a sad and angry song sung by the exiles who had to go to Babylon. Verses 1-6 are especially sad, and verses 7-9 are so angry that they wish God would bless anyone who knocks a Babylonian baby's brains out. This wish may seem too bitter to belong in the Bible. What do you think about it? How does this outburst fit into God's Word?

**Day 3** Read in the Bible Isaiah 40:1-5 and Isaiah 43:1-2. What is one promise God makes here that would be inspiring to Exiles?

What is one promise here that you believe God is making to you personally?

**Day 4** Read *M&M* pages 28-29. One of the prophets who worked for God during the Exile described a "servant of Yahweh-God" who would usher in God's new day. Think about the description inside the frame on page 29. Do you think this servant will be an individual, or a group of people working together? Does it sound like any individual or group you know?

**Day 5** Read *M&M* page 30. Highlight the sentence, "God chose Cyrus..." When they got back to Jerusalem and the countryside around it, what shape did the people find it in, and how did they feel?  
(Over)

**Ask a parent and report their response:** Did you ever have high hopes about something—some person or plan or dream—that ended up as more of a disappointment than you had expected? How did you handle it? How did God help you handle your disappointment?

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