

**Encounter Six:**  
**Writing About Your Faith – Putting Matters of the Heart on Paper**

*The purpose of this Encounter is to help the student develop and “flesh out” some of the ideas they will want to include in their Faith Story.*

1. Begin by briefly sharing any “highs” or “lows” since your last meeting together.
2. Read and consider **Luke 1:1 through 2:7** together. Luke is writing an orderly account of Jesus’ life so that Theophilus might be instructed. As part of the instruction for our confirmation students, they are asked to write an account of their faith.
3. Preparing for and organizing your Faith Story can be a real blessing for your life. Thinking about what your faith means to you and expressing that on paper can be a great opportunity for growth and fruitful reflection.

Each student has been instructed to write a 2-3 page Faith Story. REFER to the **“Faith Story”** section of the sheet of Preparations for Affirmation Day that was handed out at the orientation. REFER also to the Notes taken during previous Encounters.

Think carefully and prayerfully about your Story. This is a different kind of assignment than you have had at school. This isn’t a test about what you know and have researched. It’s more important than that – but not as stressful!! Your Story is a matter of heart, mind, and soul. The experiences and thoughts you write about in this Story have impact on your daily living and your future in ways that other English or History papers won’t.

Outline your thoughts and make connections to events in your life, or to Bible verses, or to dreams you have for the future with regard to your deepening faith. Please remember that you are in the prayers of many who care about you and about your faith.

4. Please be certain that the student is confident with the memorization of the Ten Commandments, Lord’s Prayer, Apostles’ Creed, and the three Bible verses he or she has selected.
5. Make plans to greet each other in worship!

Close your Encounter with prayer. Decide who will begin the prayer and who will conclude. You have met for several times. Pray with a grateful heart for the time and sharing you have had. Pray for each other and for the concerns and hopes that you have shared. Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the writing of the Story, for the conversations with the deacons about the Story, and for a growing, deepening life-long faith which will be affirmed on the day of Affirmation.