

CONFIRMATION – MEDITATION

You are standing at the entrance of your church. It is empty. Feel the stillness. It is peaceful. The church is decorated with all kinds of flowers, candles and banners. It seems that it is prepared for a celebration. Take time to look around and notice all of the decorations and the things perhaps you have never noticed before. Allow the silence of the church to bring you to peace.

[PAUSE]

Now choose a place in the Church where you feel comfortable to sit. Let the quiet presence of the Lord surround you.

[PAUSE]

Think about your life: what have you been doing . . . whom have you been spending time with . . . when was the last time you did an act of service . . . what problems you may have . . . what things keep you happy?

[PAUSE]

Think about your faith: what have you been doing to nurture your faith? Ask yourself if your life and your faith comfortably fit together . . . and if you're truly living out your faith. Are there ways you can practice your faith better? Does the way you live your life need changing? What areas might you change?

You hear someone walking softly down the aisle. You look to see who it might be. It is Jesus. His face is gentle and kind. He takes a seat beside you and is glad to see you. You share your thoughts about your life and faith with him, take this time to present these thoughts to Jesus.

Jesus reminds you that he once promised his Apostles that he would send his helper, the Spirit, who would guide them. The Spirit would teach them everything and help them to remember all that he told them. Jesus seems really happy telling you how strongly committed the Apostles became after receiving the Spirit in their lives. Jesus tells you that the Spirit was with the Apostles wherever they went and that the same Spirit is always with you. He tells you of the gifts that the Spirit brings. Think about what gifts you need most in your life right now.

Is it wisdom? To know what God's will is for you?

Is it understanding? The power to know what God has revealed?

Or is it knowledge you need? The ability to look at things in such a way that helps you to judge good and evil.

Do you need more piety? The worship of God with a reverence and holiness in your life.
Do you need a deepening wonder of wonder and awe in regard to the Lord? An awareness of Gods magnificence and a desire to be never separated from him.

[PAUSE]

Jesus asks what gifts of the spirit you feel that you are in need of. Tell him what you need. Jesus bows his head and prays for you and puts his hand on your head. You sense that this is a special moment. Jesus tells you he is going to anoint you with holy oil and ask for a deeper commitment from you. Think about how you feel . . .

Suddenly you hear footsteps and whispering in the Church, it is the people who love you, Jesus has invited them to come and support you. Jesus invites you to pick somebody to come and support you. He then invites both of you to come forward to him. With his right thumb he anoints you on your forehead. Hear him as he tells you to be sealed with the gifts of the Spirit and wishes you peace.

In some way express to Jesus how you are feeling. In return Jesus smiles and says that he is proud of you. It is time for Jesus to go now, you say your goodbyes. You turn around back to your family and friends. You look at their faces, you begin to realise now that you will be able to give more of yourself. You think of the changes you can now make in your life. Ways that you can live out your faith, now you know that the helper is always with you.

[PAUSE]

(BRING BACK INTO THE ROOM IN THE INDIVIDUALS OWN TIME, LET THEM BECOME AWARE OF THEIR OWN SURROUNDINGS)