

## Profession of Faith Interview Questions

### Essential Questions:

1. Why do you want to make public profession of faith? What has brought you to this decision?

2. Who do you say Jesus is?

Nothing stinks more of spiritual death than the empty compliments Jesus gets from those who refuse to believe in him. Pious, high-sounding phrases such as “great teacher”, “first creature, real revolutionary”, etc. make Jesus vomit: “I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm ... I am about to spit you out of my mouth.” (Revelation 3:15-16) Jesus refuses to let us cop out. Either we fully accept his claims or we take him for a liar, a nut, or a blasphemer spouting God insulting baloney. With tough love he warns us to get off the fence. He daily seeks our answer in word and deed: “Who do you say I am?”

3. Why do you trust the Bible?

You can't believe everything you read especially in religious tracts. While they usually pitch for you deepest commitment, they often stand on the shakiest ground, making more ridiculous and outrageous claims than late night T.V. commercials. Because the Bible asks you to entrust your heart and soul to its message, you have to be really sure it's not fake. How do you know?

4. How will you keep your faith growing?

If we don't use our faith, we lose it. When your parents gave you a pet, they expected you to care for it. So God expects us to responsibly nurture this living, breathing, vital gift of faith. Do we know how to do that and where to look? More importantly, perhaps, do we actually use the means he provides?

### Other Possible Questions:

1. What does your baptism mean to you?

When we make public profession of faith we accept the promises God makes to us in our baptism. To do that intelligently we need to know what they are.

2. What does participation in the Lord's Supper mean to you?

Participation in communion means nothing in and of itself. Unless we know what the Lord's Supper symbolises, it will not help us grow in faith. It will just gobble up precious worship time. Only if we understand what we're doing will God's Spirit use this sacrament's riches of taking, touching, and tasting to nourish our souls on Christ.

### 3. What responsibilities do you take on as a confessing member?

When we make public profession of faith, we promise to do our fair share in the church. Christ asks us to serve the body as the body serves us. Some duties are unique to a few members. Others are shared by all. What are some tasks which you share with your fellow believers?

### 4. Can you name and briefly summarise the three Reformed Doctrinal statements?

Along with the Apostle's Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed, most Reformed churches shares three statements of faith that arose during the time of the Reformation. These we call doctrinal standards, because we use them to distinguish Reformed teaching from non-Reformed teaching. Your church may call you, as a confessing member, to office and ask you to sign your agreement with these doctrinal standards. What are they?

### 5. As Reformed people we emphasise the lordship of Christ over all of life. What does that mean to you?

Every Christian operates with a worldview – a way of understanding what life is all about. Many people divide the world up into two parts: the spiritual and the physical. They consider the spiritual all-important. That's the area of life concerning our relationship to God, our souls, and the afterlife. Our everyday existence has little lasting value. In contrast, the Reformed faith teaches that life is of one piece. God created all of it. He cares about all of it. Jesus saves all of it. And he rules not only our souls but also our bodies. What might this Reformed view mean for the way you look at the world?

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