Dear Gunnar,

Today you get confirmed into the United Methodist Church! CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!! I know you’ve worked so hard to get to today. I’m very proud of you and so is the rest of your family.

I hope you understand the importance of today. Today, you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. This means that you get to stand in front of the congregation, gathered friends and family and say that 1) you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins, 2) you believe in God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit and 3) that you are sinner who needs saving. Jesus says that, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me” (John 14:6, NLT). This means that if Heaven forbid, you die today, you get to go to Heaven and spend eternity with The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit.

Anyway, I hope that you enjoy your special day today. Here are some verses to help you understand the importance of your confirmation.

Psalm 27:1 (NRSV), “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”

Isaiah 41:10 (NRSV), “Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.”

John 8:12 (NLT), “Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, ‘I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won’t have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.’”

John 15:5 (NLT), “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.”

Colossians 3:17 (NIV), “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Revelations 2:10 (NIV), “Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor’s crown.”

\These are just a few verses to help you start your new journey in life. You will be going down the straight and narrow path. It won’t be easy or simple, but it will be worth it when you reach the gates of Heaven and Jesus says to you, “Well done my good and faithful servant.” Robert Frost wrote about the road less travelled saying,

“Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;  
  
“Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear,  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,  
  
“And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I marked the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way  
I doubted if I should ever come back.  
  
“I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.”

I know this letter is a little sporadic. I’m just trying to relay all of the relevant information to you that I can. I’ll leave you with this…

I hope you enjoy your special day. I hope that you find immense joy in your daily walk with Christ. Read those books that I gave you. I think that they will give you a fun, athletes’ perspective of what a Christian walk really looks like. I really wish I could be there today to celebrate this milestone with you. It has been such a joy getting to write to you this semester. Remember to re-read your journal today so that you can see how far you’ve come.

I love you Gunnar. I’ll see you soon.

Love always,

Your Angel, Rachel