

Name

Learning More About Peter

Peter was the apostle who acknowledged Jesus to be the Messiah and the Son of God. But Peter was not always the steadfast and dependable friend of Jesus. At times, he was weak and all-too-human. Learn more about Peter by checking these passages and answering the questions that follow.

Matthew 4:18-22

What was Peter's profession? _____

Who was his brother? _____

Who else were among Jesus' first apostles? _____

Matthew 8:5; 14

Where was Peter's home? _____

Luke 9:28-36

Which other apostles were at Jesus' Transfiguration? _____

Who did the apostles see with Jesus? _____

What did Peter propose to do? _____

Mark 14:27-31; 66-72

What did Peter say he would do rather than deny Christ? _____

Why did the woman think Peter was Jesus' companion? _____

What did Peter do when he realized he had betrayed Christ? _____

John 21:1-19

What did Peter do once he saw Jesus? _____

How many times did Jesus ask Peter to profess his love? _____

How will Peter die? _____

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New Testament Names

Use a dictionary or book of names to match the meaning of these New Testament names with the description that fits from the right column.

- | | | |
|-------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ | 1. Joseph | a. "let God protect" |
| _____ | 2. Mary | b. "virile one, manly" |
| _____ | 3. John | c. "bitter" or "grieved" |
| _____ | 4. Elizabeth | d. "lily" |
| _____ | 5. James | e. "God is fullness" |
| _____ | 6. Matthew | f. "may God add" |
| _____ | 7. Martha | g. "friend of horses" |
| _____ | 8. Andrew | h. "lady or mistress of the house" |
| _____ | 9. Susanna | i. "God has shown favor" |
| _____ | 10. Philip | j. "gift of God" |

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Rate Your Relationship

Rate your relationship with Jesus. Write your initials on the point on the dotted line which best represents your relationship with him right now.

active *passive*

exciting *dull*

close *distant*

friendly *estranged*

personal *shallow*

- ▶ If Jesus were to appear physically to you, name one question you would like to ask him.
- ▶ List several of the questions you and your classmates would like to ask Jesus. Write answers for how you think he might answer them.

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Form Criticism

Read the following passages. Match the name of one of the literary forms discussed in this section with the passage. Be able to defend your choice in a discussion.

1. *Mk 8:1-9* _____ 6. *Lk 12:49* _____

2. *Mt 17:19-20* _____ 7. *Lk 10:29-37* _____

3. *Lk 1:46-55* _____ 8. *Mt 10:1-12* _____

4. *Jn 6:51* _____ 9. *Mk 7:24-30* _____

5. *Mk 1:23-26* _____

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Map of the Holy Land

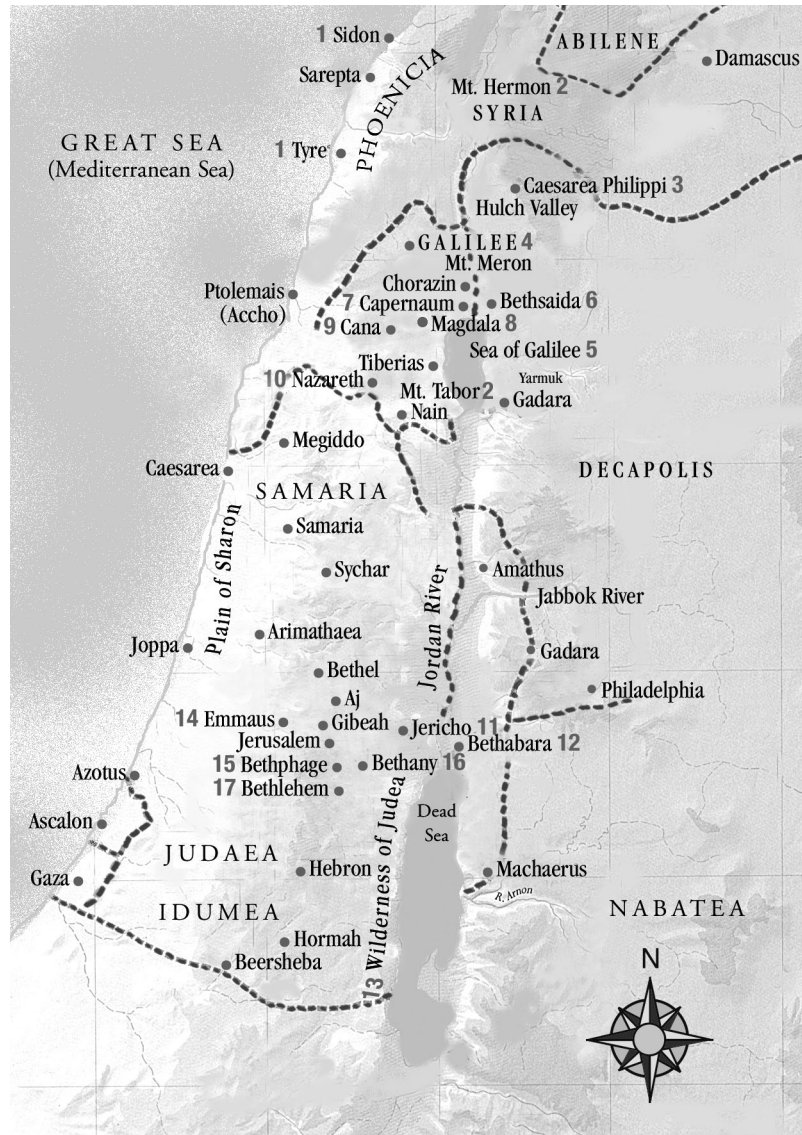
Check the following New Testament references. Then write the number of the correct location of where each event took place.

- Where did the resurrected Jesus eat a meal with two disciples? (Lk 24:13)

- To which city was the traveler in the parable of the Good Samaritan going? (Lk 10:30)

- To what did Jesus compare Chorazin and Bethsaida?
_____ (Mt 11:20-22)
- Where was the birthplace of Peter, Andrew, and Phillip?
_____ (Jn 1:44)
- Where did the resurrected Jesus appear to the apostles in John's gospel? (Jn 21)

- Where did Jesus give sight to a blind man (Lk 18:35-43) and dine with Zaccheus (Lk 19:1-10)?



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Jesus the Messiah

Read the following references to a messiah from the Old Testament prophets. Describe what type of messiah is prophesied.

Isaiah 9:5-7

Isaiah 40:10-11

Isaiah 52:13

Isaiah 53:6-7

Micah 5:1-4

Malachi 3:1-5

Read the following passage from Mark's gospel. How does this description of Jesus compare with the Old Testament expectations of a messiah?

For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many (10:45).

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Old Testament Search—The Kingdom of God

Look up and summarize what each of the following passages has to do with the kingdom of God.

▶ **Micah 2:13**

▶ **Zephaniah 3:15**

▶ **Obadiah 1:21**

▶ **Zechariah 14:9**

▶ **Isaiah 24:23**

▶ **Jeremiah 31:31**

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Scripture Search

What is happening in the following passages in Mark's Gospel?

1. 8:27 9:30 10:32 _____

2. 8:31 9:31 10:33-34 _____

3. 8:32-33 9:32-34 10:35-41 _____

4. 8:34-9:1 9:35-37 10:42-45 _____

5. What do 5:43, 7:36, 8:30, and 9:9 have in common?

6. List three parables found in Mark 4.

7. Write out the first saying of Jesus in Mark's Gospel (1:14).

8. What term does Jesus use for God in 14:36?

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Characters and Events of Matthew

The Kingdom of God Proclaimed (Mt 3-7)

▶ **major characters:**

▶ **key events:**

Christian Discipleship Proclaimed in Galilee (Mt 8-10)

▶ **major characters:**

▶ **key events:**

Opposition to Jesus Grows (Mt 11-13)

▶ **major characters:**

▶ **key events:**

Jesus the Christ and His Church (Mt 14-18)

▶ **major characters:**

▶ **key events:**

Journey to and Ministry in Jerusalem (Mt 19-25)

▶ **major characters:**

▶ **key events:**

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Jesus' Teachings

Examine your own progress on living Jesus' law of love. Check the appropriate column: **1**-means making excellent progress; **5** means having a very long way to go.

	1	2	3	4	5
Anger: I easily and properly deal with anger by not letting it fester within.					
Sexuality: I respect my own sexuality and that of others. I exercise self-discipline in thought and action.					
Oaths: I am a truthful person.					
Forgiveness: I forgive others. I don't seek revenge.					
Enemies: I am courteous to all people. I try to love people I may not particularly like.					

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The Church

Rate your own parish or school community to see if it lives up to the description of the Church given. Mark according to this scale: **+** if the description fits; **-** if it does not fit; **?** if you are not sure.

_____ 1. A community that reaches out to other people. (Mt 28:19-20)

_____ 2. A community of believers. (Rom 12:4-8)

_____ 3. A forgiving community. (Lk 19:10)

_____ 4. A community founded by Christ on Peter and the apostles. (Mt 16:15-19)

_____ 5. A loving community. (Mt 25:31-46)

_____ 6. A Eucharistic community. (1 Cor 10:15-17)

_____ 7. A community willing to suffer. (Mt 5:10-12)

_____ 8. A community of faith as taught by the apostles. (Acts 4:1-4, 33)

► What standards should the Church have for membership? How would Jesus answer this question?

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Parable Themes and Reflections

Below you will find a summary of the key themes of Jesus' parables with a sample parable that illustrates that theme. Examine how you are taking to heart the message of the parables by rating yourself on the follow-up reflections. Use the following scale: **A**=I wholeheartedly believe this, and it makes a difference in my life; **B**=I am lukewarm on this; **C**=I have a long way to go to make this a reality in my life.

- | | A | B | C |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. God's kingdom is here. Salvation is taking place. [Mustard seed: Mk 4:30-32] | | | |
| I accept that God has done and is doing marvelous things for me and for everyone. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. God's kingdom is a free gift. He calls everyone to enter. [Vineyard workers: Mt 20:1-16] | | | |
| I accept God's love and salvation. I thank him for all that he has given to me: my life, my talents, his friendship and love. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. God loves sinners. We should be like God by forgiving those who have harmed us. [Unforgiving servant: Mt 18:23-25] | | | |
| I regularly forgive those who have hurt me. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. The good news demands an urgent response. We should always be ready to act on it. [Hidden treasure: Mt 13:44-46] | | | |
| Every day I try to make my life an act of love by doing good for others. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. God's kingdom requires repentance. We should ask for God's forgiveness when we sin. We should pray and make God our #1 priority in life by being faithful to him and by loving everyone we meet. [Wedding feast: Mt 22:1-14] | | | |
| I admit I am a sinner and ask for God's forgiveness. I have a close relationship with the Lord. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. God's kingdom comes with a price. It may bring suffering, but we will gain our reward. [Last judgment: Mt 25:31-46] | | | |
| I am willing to suffer for my Christian beliefs. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

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Lucan Parables

Luke's Gospel contains some of the most important of Jesus' parables. Read the following six parables. Then briefly summarize the main point of each. Finally, match its theme with one of the statements given on pages 174-175 of the Student Text.

Parable	Summary Statement	Theme Number
Lost coin and lost sheep (Lk 15:3-10)		
Places at table (Lk 14:7-14)		
Yeast (Lk 13:20-21)		
Faithful Servants (Lk 12:35-48)		
Wedding Banquet (Lk 14:16-24)		
Pharisee and tax collector (Lk 18:8-14)		

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Friendship With Jesus

John's gospel expresses the great news that we, as believers, can be called friends of Jesus:

I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another. (Jn 15:15-16)

Jesus loves each of us so much that he values our friendship. A good question, though, is what kind of friend are we to him? In a survey given to students for many years, the following qualities of friendship consistently rank as the most important ones. Judge how well this quality is in evidence in your relationship with a close friend and with your friend, Jesus.

▶ Grade according to this scale:

A=doing great; **B**=very good; **C**=so-so; **D**=needs lots of work; **E**=not present at all

Initials of your friend: _____

Quality	Friend	Jesus
1. Trust: can always be counted on.		
2. Honesty: truthful in relationship; holds nothing back.		
3. Loyalty: devoted and faithful.		
4. Common interests: likes the same things.		
5. Availability: makes time for the other.		
6. Caring/considerate: loving at all times.		
7. Acceptance: can be oneself without proving anything.		

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Jesus' Use of Allegory

Read John 15:1-11 to see how Jesus used allegory in his teaching. Recall that an allegory has a number of points of comparison. Answer the following questions.

▶ Who is the vine?

▶ Who is the vinegrower?

▶ What does the pruning process represent?

▶ Who are the branches?

▶ What happens if the branches remain attached to the vine?

▶ What does the fruit represent?

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Christian Leadership

Jesus upset many conventional ideas about leadership when he taught that its primary quality is service. Here are some traits of leadership modeled by Jesus. In column 1, rank these from the ones you think are **most important (1)** to **least important (10)**. In column 2, check those that you believe you possess.

Leadership quality	1	2
Service: ability to serve others		
Dynamic: powerful personality		
Warm: friendly, open, and compassionate		
Intelligent: brains to do the job		
Flexible: can change when necessary		
Authentic: practices what he or she preaches		
Courageous: will take calculated risks		
Task-oriented: focuses on outcomes		
Motivator: can get others to join in		
Confident: inspires trust in others		
Other: [add your own]		

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Passage Commentary Paper—Paul's Letters

Directions: Write a 750-word commentary paper on a selected passage in one of Paul's letters. Suggested passages include:

1 Thessalonians

Mission of Timothy (3:1-8)
Chastity and Charity (4:1-12)

1 Corinthians

Body of Christ (12:12-31)
Love (13)

Philemon

Dignity of All (entire letter)

Galatians

Called by Christ (1:10-24)
Justification Through Faith
(3:1-14)

2 Corinthians

False Apostles (11:1-15)

Romans

Faith, Hope, and Love (5:1-15)
Love and Law (13:8-10)

Use the following outline to help you organize your paper:

I. Text of the Passage

What does the passage say?

II. Content of the Passage

What do biblical commentaries and scholars say about the passage?

Analyze based on historical criticism, source criticism, form criticism, and redaction criticism.

III. Interpret the Passage

What does the passage mean for our world?

What does this passage mean for me?

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Your Knowledge About Jesus

This chapter will summarize some of the Church's major dogmatic statements about Jesus that developed in the early Church. (A dogma is a central doctrine or teaching of the Church taught with the highest authority and solemnity by the Pope and bishops.) Test what you know about Jesus by answering these questions **true (+)** or **false (0)**.

- _____ 1. There was a time when Jesus was not God.
- _____ 2. As light is identical to the light from which it comes, Jesus Christ is true God.
- _____ 3. The Father made the Son.
- _____ 4. The Son of God shared in the creation of the world.
- _____ 5. There are two "persons" in Christ.
- _____ 6. It is wrong to call Mary "the Mother of God."
- _____ 7. Christ has two natures.
- _____ 8. Jesus' divine nature swallows up his human nature.
- _____ 9. Jesus shows us God in a human way.
- _____ 10. Because he was God, Jesus did not have a human intellect.

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The Nicene Creed

Review the statements of the Nicene Creed. Then rate your own beliefs on major points of Christian teaching which stem from this creed according to this scale:

1—firm belief **2**—good belief **3**—a little shaky **4**—not sure

_____ I believe in God the Father, Creator of all that is seen and unseen.

_____ I believe that Jesus Christ is God and human.

_____ I believe that Jesus died and rose again.

_____ I believe Jesus is my friend.

_____ I believe in the power of the Holy Spirit.

_____ I believe in the Ten Commandments.

_____ I believe that each person is God's child and my brother or sister.

_____ I believe that I must love everyone, especially "the least of these" in our midst.

_____ I believe in the power of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and reconciliation.

_____ I believe that the pope is the successor to Peter, the vicar of Christ.

_____ I believe in the Trinity, three persons in one God.

_____ I believe in the power of prayer.

_____ I believe that the Lord will judge me at the end of time.

_____ I believe that I must love God above everything and my neighbor as myself.

_____ I believe in the Catholic Church.

_____ I believe that I am destined for an eternal life of glory with the Lord.

► Choose two statements. Write one paragraph for each that explains your response.

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Recognizing Christ

As a review, name some of the people from the New Testament who met and recognized Jesus. Check the references to see how many you got right.

- _____ 1. This person said, "Come see a man who told me everything I have done. Could he possibly be the Messiah?" (Jn 4:29)
- _____ 2. This man said, "Who are you, sir?" After Jesus revealed himself to the man, he found out that he was blinded. (Acts 9:5-9)
- _____ 3. They traveled with Jesus for seven miles without knowing who he was, but came to realize who he was when they had dinner with him. (Lk 24:13-31)
- _____ 4. He said, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." (Mt 16:16)
- _____ 5. This man thought Jesus was the Son of God because Jesus told him, "I saw you under the fig tree." (Jn 1:48-50)
- _____ 6. They recognized Jesus as a king when they gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Mt 2:1-11)
- _____ 7. Some thought this man was the Messiah but he said, "One mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals." (Lk 3:16)
- _____ 8. This person said, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus answered him, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." (Jn 20:28-29)
- _____ 9. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him; in a loud voice he shouted, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me!" (Lk 8:28-30)
- _____ 10. Jesus refused to perform miracles for this person. In talking with him, Jesus quoted some passages from the Old Testament including, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test'" (Mt 4:1-11)

You (What would you say to Jesus?):
