

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Encountering Jesus in the New Testament

Directed Reading Worksheet

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter 7 *The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles*

**Directions:** Read through the chapter and fill in the missing information. All the questions run sequential to the chapter. If a true/false statement is false, correct it.

### Introduction *Sharing a Journey of Faith* (pp. 326 – 332)

1. In the parable of the prodigal son, in what respects might the younger son and the father seem “prodigal?” What is the parable’s message?

2. \_\_\_\_\_ wrote both the Gospel bearing his name as well as the \_\_\_\_\_. His Gospel presents Jesus as one who intimately knows the \_\_\_\_\_ of his Father, a compassionate God who longs to \_\_\_\_\_ all his children. The Acts describes how the \_\_\_\_\_ continued to preach Jesus and his basic message of God’s \_\_\_\_\_ for all people in the period after the \_\_\_\_\_.

3. True or False? Luke consciously and masterfully organized his writings, linking both salvation history and Jewish history.

4. Explain the ways Luke organizes his Gospel around the symbol of Jerusalem.

5. True or False? Jesus tells his disciples that he must die in Jerusalem.

6. True or False? The Gospel of Matthew ends with Jesus telling the Apostles to wait in Jerusalem for the descent of the Holy Spirit before they begin to preach the forgiveness of sins to all nations.

7. The Acts of the Apostles continues to stress the importance of \_\_\_\_\_, opening with the descent of the Holy Spirit on \_\_\_\_\_ in the Holy City. From there the Gospel \_\_\_\_\_ to the farthest reaches of the \_\_\_\_\_ Empire. For Luke, Jerusalem is a \_\_\_\_\_ of how the Christian life is a \_\_\_\_\_, even for Christians today who will experience rejection, \_\_\_\_\_, and death in the sharing the Gospel.

### Section 1 *Background on Luke’s Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles* (pp. 334 – 339)

8. \_\_\_\_\_ tells us St. Luke was a \_\_\_\_\_ Christian who may have been attracted to \_\_\_\_\_. Both the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles are addressed to \_\_\_\_\_, an important clue that Luke is the author of both. Further evidence is the similarity of their \_\_\_\_\_, language, organization, and \_\_\_\_\_ elements. Together, these two works comprise more than a \_\_\_\_\_ of the New Testament.

9. True or False? It appears that St. Luke was a physician by trade and a steadfast friend and coworker to St. Peter.
10. Evidence suggests that Luke was writing for Gentile Christian churches. Explain.
11. True or False? Luke used several sources to compose his Gospel, Q, L (sources unique to Luke), and about 60 percent of Matthew's Gospel.
12. True or False? Luke, while acknowledging the existence of other Gospels, claims that he wrote his own in a careful and systematic way.
13. What three periods of salvation history does Luke have in mind when writing the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles?
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**Section 2 *Jesus, Compassionate Messiah and Universal Savior* (pp. 340 – 349)**

14. True or False? Luke wishes to express God's great compassion, love and humility, revealed in both the stories of Jesus' birth and in the ways Jesus expresses the Beatitudes.
15. Who are "the poor" in the Gospel of Luke? What is the problem with wealth?
16. Explain what Jesus is teaching in the story of the rich man and Lazarus.

17. Jesus showed \_\_\_\_\_ for outcasts. Luke reports how Jesus stayed in the house of a \_\_\_\_\_, and a notorious sinner, named \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus also reached out to \_\_\_\_\_ who were forced to live \_\_\_\_\_ from others because they were unclean. On one occasion Jesus cured \_\_\_\_\_ lepers, only one of which, a hated \_\_\_\_\_, returned to express his gratitude.
18. True or False? The parable of the Good Samaritan is told in response to a question by a scholar of the law who is testing Jesus: "Is my neighbor only my fellow Jews?"
19. True or False? For Jesus, one's neighbor is everyone.
20. In the three \_\_\_\_\_ in Luke 15 – the lost \_\_\_\_\_, the lost \_\_\_\_\_, and the prodigal son – Jesus is expressing how astonishing and \_\_\_\_\_ is the love of God. Through them he \_\_\_\_\_ his attitude and actions against scribes and \_\_\_\_\_ who are criticizing Jesus for welcoming and \_\_\_\_\_ with sinners. In effect, he's simply saying that he is \_\_\_\_\_ the love of his Father.
21. Jesus spent his time with \_\_\_\_\_ and poor people, telling of God's \_\_\_\_\_ for sinners. His mission to offer \_\_\_\_\_ to all people, including both Jews and \_\_\_\_\_, is represented by his title "\_\_\_\_\_." Both his parables and his miracles forcefully \_\_\_\_\_ God's compassion. Indeed, at the \_\_\_\_\_ he explains that he is one who serves and hopes his disciples will \_\_\_\_\_ his example.
22. In what ways does Jesus continue to minister to others, even during his Passion and Crucifixion?

23. The Gospel of Luke concludes with his \_\_\_\_\_ theme: the \_\_\_\_\_ account, a story that summarizes the \_\_\_\_\_ Gospel. In this Resurrection \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus converses with his \_\_\_\_\_, though they do not recognize him. Jesus proceeds to show them how the Scriptures \_\_\_\_\_ that the Messiah had to \_\_\_\_\_ before he entered into his glory. When he later breaks \_\_\_\_\_ with them, he \_\_\_\_\_ and they finally recognized him.

### Section 3 Overview of the Acts of the Apostles (pp. 350 – 358)

24. The Apostles \_\_\_\_\_ and Paul are featured in the Acts of the Apostles. The main \_\_\_\_\_ of Acts is to chronicle the events in the early days of the \_\_\_\_\_. It tells us that after his \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus appeared to his disciples for \_\_\_\_\_ days, telling them about the coming of the \_\_\_\_\_, before ascending to the Father. Meanwhile, \_\_\_\_\_ and the Apostles awaited the descent of the Spirit and chose a successor for \_\_\_\_\_.
25. Why were deacons appointed according to the Acts?
26. The second part of Acts begins with \_\_\_\_\_, one of the seven deacons, preaching to the \_\_\_\_\_. Chapter 9 recalls the conversion of \_\_\_\_\_ on the road to Damascus, an event recounted \_\_\_\_\_ times in \_\_\_\_\_.

Acts. Next, the narrative turns to \_\_\_\_\_ preaching in \_\_\_\_\_ and Lydda where he experienced a \_\_\_\_\_ which convinced him the Lord wanted to open up the Gospel to \_\_\_\_\_.

27. True or False? Because Jerusalem was under assault by King Herod Agrippa, missionary efforts turned to Antioch in Syria, where both Jewish and Gentile disciples lived together and where his followers were first called "church."

28. Explain the controversy caused by Paul and Barnabas and how it was resolved.

29. What was the long-term consequence of the decision at the Council of Jerusalem?

30. The last half of Acts describes two additional \_\_\_\_\_ journeys of Paul which included many of the \_\_\_\_\_ where he later wrote his famous \_\_\_\_\_: Thessalonica, \_\_\_\_\_, and Corinth. On these journeys, \_\_\_\_\_ often found himself in conflict with \_\_\_\_\_ who attacked, stoned, and \_\_\_\_\_ him. Later, Paul was arrested in \_\_\_\_\_ due to mob violence directed at him, and eventually was sent to \_\_\_\_\_ to stand trial in one of Caesar's \_\_\_\_\_.

31. What point is Luke trying to make in comparing Jesus and Paul?

32. True or False? Acts ends with Paul journeying to Caesarea and living under house arrest there.

#### **Section 4 Common Themes in Luke and Acts** (pp. 360 – 374)

33. What themes are common to both Luke and Acts?

34. What are the main purposes of Jesus' ministry?

35. True or False? Jesus strengthens his claim to be a prophet by noting that his lineage can be traced to all the prophets of the Old Testament.

36. Summarize why these verses from chapter 4 of Luke's Gospel are important in regards to both Jesus and his Church.

37. There are several links between \_\_\_\_\_ and the Gospel of Luke. Both are dedicated to \_\_\_\_\_ and both tell of the Risen Lord's appearances and the \_\_\_\_\_. Acts 1:14 stresses the importance of \_\_\_\_\_, the presence of women \_\_\_\_\_, and the central role of \_\_\_\_\_. And the next verses reveal the importance of maintaining \_\_\_\_\_ Apostles who are a symbol for a \_\_\_\_\_ Israel.

38. What are the ideal characteristics of the Church according to Luke?

39. True or False? The work of the Holy Spirit, both in his Gospel and in Acts, are stressed by Luke.

40. Luke viewed history in three dramatic \_\_\_\_\_. In the first stage the \_\_\_\_\_ has singled Jesus out to accomplish the Father's \_\_\_\_\_. In the second stage Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ a message of salvation for all and accomplishes his \_\_\_\_\_ of love. In the third stage the Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ the early Christians to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus' work until the Lord comes in glory, moving out from \_\_\_\_\_ to the "ends of the earth."

41. List four examples of how the Holy Spirit leads and directs Jesus in his ministry in the Gospel of Luke.

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42. List four examples of how the Holy Spirit leads the Church in Acts.

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43. True or False? There are numerous examples of Jesus praying in Luke’s Gospel and likewise many examples of the Apostles at prayer in the Acts of the Apostles.

44. Themes of joy are evident in both Luke and Acts. In the Gospel, \_\_\_\_\_ leaps in his mother’s womb and Jesus’ birth brings joy to the \_\_\_\_\_ and in heaven with the \_\_\_\_\_ glorifying God. In Acts a \_\_\_\_\_ man leaps for joy when Peter cures him, the miracles \_\_\_\_\_ works in Christ’s name brings joy to \_\_\_\_\_, and Paul brings joy wherever he travels.

45. Luke features strong, \_\_\_\_\_ women in his infancy narrative. Mary, unlike \_\_\_\_\_, has faith in the angel’s revelation. Further, he relates the \_\_\_\_\_ of Elizabeth and the \_\_\_\_\_ of Anna. Elsewhere, he shows Jesus treating women favorably: the \_\_\_\_\_ woman in Simon’s house, the \_\_\_\_\_ of Nain, Mary Magdalene, Susanna, \_\_\_\_\_, as well as his friends \_\_\_\_\_ and Mary.

46. Identify which of the beliefs about Mary are described below.

- Jesus gave his mother, Mary, to the Church
- Jesus is the Second Person of the Trinity and Mary is his mother
- Mary was favored by God and given immunity from Original Sin
- At the end of her life, Mary was taken up to heaven, body and soul
- God took the initiative in the Incarnation, a fact highlighted in this belief

47. True or False? The reason the women who discovered the empty tomb were not believed is likely due to the fact that they were Christian.

48. True or False? Women play an important role in the early Church, according to Acts.

49. Mary is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christian faith because her “\_\_\_\_\_” to God enables the Son of God to become \_\_\_\_\_. Consequently, Luke gives her special \_\_\_\_\_. Mary continues to prayerfully meditate on the \_\_\_\_\_ of her Son, remaining \_\_\_\_\_ to the end. As one who heard the Word of God and put it into action, she perfectly fulfills Jesus’ criteria for true \_\_\_\_\_.