

Name _____

Date _____

Encountering Jesus in the New Testament

Directed Reading Worksheet

Chapter 9 *The Letters of St. Paul: Jesus Universal Lord*

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 *The Life of St. Paul* (pp. 430 – 435)

1. True or False? St. Paul probably personally wrote the following seven letters: Romans, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Philippians, and Philemon.
2. True or False? While Paul probably did not write the other six epistles attributed to him, they were likely written by his followers and do properly represent Paul's thinking in addressing problems that arose in the local churches.
3. Both the _____ and his own letters provide background on Paul. Saul, his _____ name, grew up a Jew living in the city of _____ where he learned the _____ of tent making and received an excellent Greek _____. His upbringing made him familiar with _____ religions, philosophies, and _____ which would later help him _____ the Gospel to the Gentiles.
4. Paul, a strict _____, was trained in the _____, studying under the famous teacher _____ in Jerusalem. Willing to oppress anyone he felt was _____ from true Jewish practice, he willingly _____ the early Christians. Around AD 36 he experienced a dramatic _____ from Christ while traveling to _____. Changed, Paul was _____ a Christian by Ananias.
5. True or False? About three years after his conversion while traveling to Damascus, Paul met Peter and James in Galilee.
6. True or False? Eventually Paul joined Barnabas in ministering to the church in Antioch, the third largest city in the Empire, a city that would become the base of his future missionary activity.
7. List the places Paul visited on each of his missionary journeys.
 - *First missionary journey*
 - *Second missionary journey*
 - *Third missionary journey*
8. Paul was deeply committed to _____, founding countless _____, opening the Gospel to the _____. Along the way, he wrote faith-rousing _____ and inspired local _____ to continue his work. He suffered mightily, receiving _____ minus one and beatings with rods several times, stoning's, and was _____ three times. In his final years he lived under house arrest in _____ where he was martyred under _____.

Section 1 *Overview of St. Paul's Letters* (pp. 436 – 443)

9. True or False? In the seven letters thought to have been personally written by Paul, one idea he is especially concerned about is being prepared for Jesus' immanent return and the end of the world.

10. Briefly note the four main sections of Paul's letters.

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11. Paul went to the Macedonian city of _____ after experiencing a _____. There he baptized _____ who showed him hospitality and was later imprisoned for _____ an unclean spirit from a _____ slave girl whose owners profited from her skills. After an _____ miraculously opened his prison door, Paul and Silas left the city and traveled to _____.

12. True or False? Paul seems to have written his letter to the Philippians while in prison, where he expresses his displeasure with the way others are evangelizing out of selfish motivation.

13. True or False? Paul's reference to bishops and deacons in his letter to the Galatians is the oldest New Testament reference to these church offices.

14. What are the key words used in this letter by Paul?

15. Paul's plea for _____ is the heart of his letter to the _____. Paul highlights Christ the _____, emphasizing his singular humility by quoting an early Christian _____ praising Christ's self-emptying. Paul also attacks _____ who were Jewish Christian missionaries, trying to force Gentile converts to become _____. In doing so, he stresses that _____ comes from faith in the _____ of Christ Jesus and in his Resurrection.

16. True or False? The letter to the Philippians was composed in one of three cities: Ephesus, Caesarea, or Rome.

Section 2 *Letters Written by St. Paul* (pp. 444 – 456)

17. True or False? The oldest of Paul's letters is 1 Thessalonians which was composed around AD 50-51, making it the latest New Testament document, written twenty years after Christ.

18. The _____ tell us that Paul established a church in an important _____ center and capital of the Roman _____ of Macedonia called _____. However, he was forced to leave by _____ nonbelievers and made his way to _____ where he writes to the Christians back in _____.

Thessalonica. It is a response to _____ news that despite persecution, the converts were remaining _____.

19. What two pressing issues does Paul reveal in 1 Thessalonians?

20. What important questions does Paul's letter to the Galatians address?

21. Galatians was a response to the _____ who challenged Paul's _____, teaching that he was being too _____ on non-Jews who wished to follow Christ. In the _____ section of the letter he reminds his readers of the decision of the _____ and defends his call to be an _____. Second, he insists that only _____ in the Jesus Christ brings salvation rather _____ of the Old Law.

22. Explain the practical advice Paul gives in the last two chapters of Galatians.

23. True or False? In the letter to Philemon, Paul writes a personal note to Onesimus asking him to accept back his runaway slave named Philemon and telling him to consider Philemon now as a brother in Jesus Christ and his equal.

24. Summary Paul's four major themes in 1 Corinthians.

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25. The body of _____ deals with Paul's past _____ with the Christian community in that city, his _____ among them, praise for their _____, the solicitation of funds for the _____ church, and a defense against false _____. He tries to make _____ with them in response to the _____ he heard from Titus about the Corinthian church.

26. Paul's letter to the _____ is his longest and his deepest _____. It repeats some of the same themes found in _____. He instructs them that they must not _____ according to the flesh, but according to the _____ who raised Christ. Jesus frees his people and brings them _____ so they must live as God's children in _____ to others.

27. Summary Paul's five key points are developed in the body of Romans.

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Section 3 *Other Letters Attributed to St. Paul* (pp. 458 – 465)

28. True or False? The second letter to the Thessalonians teaches that Jesus will not return until certain signs take place, so remain patient and pray as a way of preparing themselves.

29. True or False? The letter to the Colossians, in addition to three other epistles, are often called the "captivity letters" because it's believed the author lived in exile at the time of its writing.

30. What strange teachings was Colossians written to address?

31. True or False? Ephesians was likely written by a secretary or admirer of Paul, further developing Paul's theology of the Church as the Body of Christ and his bride.

32. True or False? The two letters of Timothy and the letter of Titus are called pastoral letters because they are written by one pastor to other pastors.

33. Briefly note the key teachings found in the letter to 1 Timothy and the letter to Titus.

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34. True or False? In the second letter to Timothy the author gives advice to his older and beloved coworker of the same name.

Section 4 *The Letter to the Hebrews* (pp. 466 – 468)

35. Hebrews is a written _____ that develops the theme of Christ as _____ and model of faith. Jesus is simultaneously the one who offered the _____ as well as the sacrifice itself, offered for _____ people and the forgiveness of _____. It was written for a local Church, possibly in _____, that had suffered for their faith but was now living at a time when their faith was becoming _____.
36. What does the anonymous author of Hebrews compare Jesus' sacrifice to?