

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ***God Saves, Chapter 6: Our Spiritual Journey to God***

### ***Study Guide***

**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. Enter the missing word or words for the fill-in-the-blank questions.

#### **Introduction: *Sharing in the Mystery***

1. What did St. Thomas the Apostle demand before he would agree that Jesus had indeed risen from the dead? What was Jesus's reply?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. True or False? We must believe the resurrection of Jesus in faith to share in the Paschal Mystery.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. According to the CCC, Christians are asked to connect with the great mystery of faith in four ways. Note these below.
  - 
  
  - 
  
  - 
  
  -
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. True or False? The most important way we participate in the Paschal Mystery is to develop a personal relationship with God through acts of charity.

5. Note the ways each of these saints describe prayer.

- St. Thérèse of Lisieux
  
- St. Teresa of Avila
  
- St. Augustine
  
- St. Clement of Alexandria

6. When we \_\_\_\_\_, we might use words, but \_\_\_\_\_ often does not. He may respond to our prayers in \_\_\_\_\_ or through the words and \_\_\_\_\_ of others. Consequently, we may not \_\_\_\_\_ God in these ways if we are too \_\_\_\_\_ or not quieting ourselves to listen. In our \_\_\_\_\_ with God, we can too often miss \_\_\_\_\_ clues to the way God is responding to us.

7. Prayer is a powerful way to grow in \_\_\_\_\_ and communion with Jesus. It is a \_\_\_\_\_ means to salvation because it strengthens our relationship with the \_\_\_\_\_. Prayer protects us from \_\_\_\_\_ and lessens the hold that \_\_\_\_\_ has on us. Jesus told his \_\_\_\_\_, "Pray always without becoming \_\_\_\_\_," and in his letter to the Thessalonians, St. Paul declared, "Pray without \_\_\_\_\_."

### ***Section 1: Learning the Language of God***

8. Explain how we interact with the Blessed Trinity when we pray.

9. God has spoken to people through \_\_\_\_\_, revelations, and \_\_\_\_\_. Because God is \_\_\_\_\_, God must adapt himself to \_\_\_\_\_ nature to communicate through other things we can \_\_\_\_\_ and hear. More commonly, God speaks to our \_\_\_\_\_, inspiring us with holy thoughts and \_\_\_\_\_ that he creates in us.

**10.** True or False? The beatific vision is the blissful union with God marked by happiness, peace, and mutual communion.

**11.** Note the specific ways God spoke directly to the minds of individuals in the following situations:

- St. Peter declared that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God —
  
- In Philippi when Lydia listened to St. Paul's preaching —
  
- St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians of knowing and preaching "God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden" —

**12.** True or False? God answers each of our prayers but the answer does not often come at the moment we are at prayer.

**13.** True or False? Another way to hear God speak to us is in the words and actions that emanate from others after we pray.

**14.** The most important \_\_\_\_\_ of prayer is growing in union with the \_\_\_\_\_ God; the way to remain connected with God and to stay on the \_\_\_\_\_ toward him. Pope Francis \_\_\_\_\_ that without prayer a Christian can be \_\_\_\_\_ into preferring his own way of thinking rather than to the mind of \_\_\_\_\_. Prayer is a \_\_\_\_\_ against the struggles of evil as well as a guard against following our own \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Section 2: *How Jesus Learned, Modeled, and Taught Prayer***

- 15.** Read the paragraphs about *Old Testament examples of people who modeled prayer in their intimate communication with God*, and circle True or False appropriately based on your understanding of this section.
- 15a**   True   False   Jacob wrestled with an angel before receiving a blessing from him and trusted God to the point of being willing to give up his only son when God asked him to.
- 15b**   True   False   The Old Testament prophets were strengthened by their prayer.
- 15c**   True   False   Abraham responded to God's voice, trusting God and obeying him.
- 15d**   True   False   Jesus learned to pray from his parents and from the Jewish scriptures and traditions.
- 15e**   True   False   Ruth prayed to remain close to the Chosen People after her family was killed by the Philistines.
- 15f**   True   False   Moses spoke to God face to face and served as a mediator between God and the People.
- 15g**   True   False   David composed the proverbs, which capture many human emotions, including joy, confidence, trust, sorrows, praise, and thanksgiving.
- 16.** Jesus's legal father \_\_\_\_\_ is a model of contemplative prayer and his mother \_\_\_\_\_ was his most perfect model of prayer. She is someone who is \_\_\_\_\_ at prayer. The first half of the \_\_\_\_\_ comes from Luke's Gospel: the greeting of the Angel \_\_\_\_\_ and the words of \_\_\_\_\_ at the Visitation. The Church prayers in \_\_\_\_\_ with Mary just as Jesus once did.
- 17.** There are numerous instances of \_\_\_\_\_ at prayer in the Gospels. Jesus prayed after his \_\_\_\_\_ when he went into the \_\_\_\_\_ for forty days. He also prayed before selecting his \_\_\_\_\_, after performing his first miracles of \_\_\_\_\_, and after the miracle of the loaves and \_\_\_\_\_. At the Transfiguration Jesus is in \_\_\_\_\_ with his Father, Moses, and Elijah.
- 18.** True or False? In the "high priestly prayer," recorded in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus speaks directly to the Father.
- 19.** True or False? The format of the high priestly prayer, which Jesus offers in the Garden of Gethsemane, is similar to the Our Father.

**20.** True or False? Even though Jesus feared death, and prayed to his Father to be spared suffering and death, his prayer of petition led to a prayer of submission to his Father's will.

**21.** What four things did Jesus instruct his followers about how to pray? Note these below.

- 
- 
- 
- 

**22.** In \_\_\_\_\_ Gospel, Jesus uses the Our Father to teach his disciples how to \_\_\_\_\_. Then he tells them two \_\_\_\_\_ to teach them about the \_\_\_\_\_ a person should have when praying. The first parable stresses the need to be \_\_\_\_\_ when praying. In the second Jesus assures them \_\_\_\_\_ will give his children what is \_\_\_\_\_ for them.

**23.** In \_\_\_\_\_ Gospel, the Our Father is part of the Sermon on the \_\_\_\_\_. The CCC says the Sermon on the Mount is \_\_\_\_\_ for life. It has seven \_\_\_\_\_: the first three are petitions of \_\_\_\_\_ to God, and the last four petitions express \_\_\_\_\_ for the present world. Each begins with these requests: "\_\_\_\_\_ us," "forgive us," "lead us," and "\_\_\_\_\_ us."

### **Section 3: Using Scripture to Pray**

**24.** The Church always used \_\_\_\_\_ in worship and the \_\_\_\_\_. It forms the essential texts used at Mass. Scripture is read during the Liturgy of the \_\_\_\_\_ and is the basis of for many parts of the prayers and \_\_\_\_\_ including the introductory and concluding \_\_\_\_\_. Further, Scripture is the basis of the \_\_\_\_\_ that take place during the Liturgy of the \_\_\_\_\_.

**25.** True or False? The Liturgy of the Hours and Lectio divina both involve the prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture.

**26.** Look ahead in this section and note the three main ways that Scripture is incorporated into the Church's prayer below.

- 
- 
- 

**27.** The Mass is the Church's greatest \_\_\_\_\_. It is the true sacrifice of the New \_\_\_\_\_ and the Paschal Meal which suggests Jesus's \_\_\_\_\_ from this world to the Father. Consequently, the Mass should never be treated \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ makes us present to him and him alive in us and \_\_\_\_\_ our own passage into God's Kingdom.

**28.** True or False? Catholics are obligated to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.

**29.** Explain the ways we "pray the Mass."

**30.** True or False? While the Eucharist was instituted at the Last Supper in the course of an ordinary Jewish Seder meal, it was also influenced by many other sacred meals celebrated by the Jews, including the first Passover.

**31.** The Liturgy of the \_\_\_\_\_ is made up of readings from both the Old \_\_\_\_\_ and the New Testament, including the \_\_\_\_\_. A psalm \_\_\_\_\_ is included after the first reading. These came from the \_\_\_\_\_ life of God's people, including King \_\_\_\_\_ and others who entered into a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship with God. Over time, the psalms were gathered into five books called the \_\_\_\_\_.

**32.** What is the significance of the placement of the Lord's Prayer during the Communion Rite?

**33.** True or False? There are direct references from Sacred Scripture throughout the Mass, from the introductory rites through the concluding rites.

**34.** Read the paragraphs entitled *Traveling the Way of the Cross through History* and circle True or False appropriately based on your understanding of this section.

- |            |      |       |  |
|------------|------|-------|--|
| <b>34a</b> | True | False | The devotional practice of the Way of the Cross decreased after Constantine legalized Christianity in 313 A.D.   |
| <b>34b</b> | True | False | Reproductions of the various scenes from Christ's Passion and Death increased in Europe during the fifth century due to the difficulties of travel to the Holy Land.   |
| <b>34c</b> | True | False | The fourteen stations of the Cross we know today have been standard since the time of Constantine in the fourth century.   |
| <b>34d</b> | True | False | Some of the fourteen Stations of the Cross are not biblical.   |
| <b>34e</b> | True | False | In the fifteenth century, Muslims blocked Christians from accessing the stations in the Holy Land which led to a decreased interest in the devotion throughout Europe. |
| <b>34f</b> | True | False | Tradition tells us that the practice of visiting scenes associated with the passion of Christ began with Mary.   |

**35.** The practice of praying the Liturgy of the Hours is based on two truths. Write these below.

•

•

**36.** The \_\_\_\_\_ make up the heart of the Liturgy of the Hours. It includes prayers for each \_\_\_\_\_ of the year in each of the three \_\_\_\_\_ cycles. The Liturgy of the Hours follows a \_\_\_\_\_ of prayer linked closely to the liturgical \_\_\_\_\_ and the feasts of \_\_\_\_\_. Although it is traditionally recited by \_\_\_\_\_ and members of religious orders, \_\_\_\_\_ are encouraged to pray it as well.

**37.** Note the times of prayer in the Liturgy of the Hours in the chart below and their meanings. The first one is done for you.

Name	Time of day which it is prayed	Meaning
<b>Matins</b>	<i>Traditionally prayed before sunrise but now can be prayed at any hour</i>	Matins is a Latin term that refers to sunrise
<b>Lauds</b>		
<b>Terce</b>		
<b>Sext</b>		
<b>None</b>		
<b>Vespers</b>		
<b>Compline</b>		

38. A \_\_\_\_\_ version of the Liturgy of the Hours is called the \_\_\_\_\_, and its name comes from the Latin word for “\_\_\_\_\_.” It is prayed \_\_\_\_\_ times a day: in the morning before \_\_\_\_\_, at the midday lunch break, and as \_\_\_\_\_ work ends. It references the biblical passage when the angel \_\_\_\_\_ God’s message to \_\_\_\_\_.
39. True or False? Lectio divina is a slow, prayerful reading of a short Scripture passage, letting one’s imagination, emotions, memory, desires, and thoughts engage with the text.
40. Summarize the objective of each part of the five-step method of using Lectio divina.
- Reading –
  - Thinking –
  - Prayer –
  - Contemplation –
  - Resolution –



### Section 4: *More Ways You Can Pray*

**41.** Briefly note and explain each of the three ways to remain focused and committed to prayer.

- 
- 
- 

**42.** Sometimes we may experience difficulties when we \_\_\_\_\_. We may experience feelings of \_\_\_\_\_ that God hears our prayers because we expect \_\_\_\_\_ results. However, he will \_\_\_\_\_ you in his time and his way. Or sometimes we may experience \_\_\_\_\_ or darkness in prayer. This can be a \_\_\_\_\_ occasion God gives us to share in the \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus.

**43.** Read the section on *expressions of prayer* and write the form of the prayer being described in the second column.

	Type of Prayer	Description
<b>43a</b>	<b>Contemplation</b>	
<b>43b</b>	<b>Meditation</b>	
<b>43c</b>	<b>Mental prayer</b>	
<b>43d</b>	<b>Petition</b>	
<b>43e</b>	<b>Blessing</b>	
<b>43f</b>	<b>Praise</b>	
<b>43g</b>	<b>Vocal prayer</b>	
<b>43h</b>	<b>Intercession</b>	
<b>43i</b>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	
<b>43j</b>	<b>Adoration</b>	