

## Map Exercise

Locate the following places on a map of the Holy Land. Then, read the references given below. In the space provided, mention how the particular locale figured in Jesus' ministry.

Cana (John 2:1–12) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Capernaum (Matthew 4:12–17) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Jordan River (John 1:19–34) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Emmaus (Luke 24:13–35) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Bethany (Matthew 26:6–13) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Using a good Bible atlas (for example, *The Macmillan Bible Atlas*), find a map of Jerusalem in Jesus' day. Use it to outline the Temple and indicate the various places of interest during the last week of Jesus' life.

## How Many of These Can You Do in 30 Minutes?

1. The name "Jesus" means \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Two points learned from the virginal conception: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Jesus' hometown is \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Jesus was probably born in \_\_\_\_\_ (place).
5. Luke traces Jesus' genealogy to \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Nazareth is located in the province of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ is a Jewish rite where a thirteen year old becomes a "son of the Law."
8. Jesus probably studied the \_\_\_\_\_ like other five-year-old boys.
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ was a place of Jewish assembly and worship.
10. Two words of Aramaic that Jesus spoke: \_\_\_\_\_.
11. In Matthew, God's protection of his Son is symbolized by the flight to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
12. Both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ recognized Jesus as the Messiah during Jesus' presentation in the Temple.
13. The term meaning "God becoming man in Jesus" is \_\_\_\_\_.
14. The angel \_\_\_\_\_ visits Mary in Luke's gospel.
15. The word "bar" means \_\_\_\_\_ in the phrase "Jesus bar Mary".
16. The English equivalent of the Greek word meaning "Messiah" or "Anointed One" is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
17. The title \_\_\_\_\_, from Isaiah, means "God is with us."
18. *Jesus* is a late form of the Hebrew name \_\_\_\_\_.
19. The Jews believed that the Messiah would come from \_\_\_\_\_'s descendants.
20. Bethlehem is in the province of \_\_\_\_\_.
21. The gifts of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ are symbols used in Matthew's infancy narrative.
22. The ruthless king of Judea, \_\_\_\_\_, was a volatile mixture of policy and passion.
23. Psalm \_\_\_\_\_ refers to three kings honoring the Messiah.
24. The Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth was \_\_\_\_\_.

25. Matthew was primarily writing to a \_\_\_\_\_-Christian audience.
26. Luke was primarily writing to a \_\_\_\_\_-Christian audience.
27. The gospel infancy narratives are more \_\_\_\_\_ than historical.
28. Jesus' genealogy reveals two important truths: Jesus is both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Be a Good Samaritan (Please read Luke 10:29-37)

Jesus requires all of us to be Good Samaritans, to love even our enemies. This most popular of all parables has often been turned into an allegory through Christian history. Here is a popular interpretation of the parable.

<b>Parable Elements</b>	<b>Allegorical Meaning</b>	<b>Your Interpretation</b>
traveler	Adam (representing all humanity)	
Jerusalem	the heavenly city	
Jericho	the fallen world	
robbers	demons who strip Adam of immortality	
priest	Law	
Levite	prophets	
Samaritan	Jesus Christ (who heals humanity with oil and wine comfort and admonition)	
inn	the Church	
innkeeper	apostles: Peter and Paul	
Samaritan's return	second coming of Christ	

As a class, come up with your own allegory. Who are the victims of violence in your world? Who fails to take notice? What kind of aid can you and your classmates give? What would correspond to the inn?

Look at this parable in a creative way, interpret it in a modern-day setting, and then devise a service project where you and your classmates would actually give aid to a person who is hurting. Here are some examples of people to help: people at an old folks' home or a hunger center; students in need of tutoring; etc.

*Be a Good Samaritan!*

## Gospel Search

Place an X to indicate if a particular gospel takes up the theme or event listed.

	MT	MK	LK	JN	All	None
Birth of Jesus						
Slaughter of the Innocent						
Stable and Manger						
The Annunciation						
Baptism of Jesus by John						
Temptation in the Desert						
Wedding Feast at Cana						
Beatitudes						
Parable of the Prodigal Son						
Peter's Commission						
Parable of the Good Samaritan						
Lord's Prayer						
Transfiguration						
Raising of Lazarus						
Jesus enters Jerusalem						
The Last Supper						
The Passion						
Veronica Wipes Jesus' Face						
Jesus Falls Three Times						
Two Criminals Crucified						
Resurrection of Jesus						
Disciples on the Road to Emmaus						
Great Commission						
The Ascension						

## Jerusalem Gazette

Imagine that you and your classmates are staff members of the *Jerusalem Gazette*. You are to produce a Saturday morning edition reporting the crucifixion of Jesus and the events leading up to it.

### Sample Story Ideas:

1. *Obituary* for Jesus of Nazareth
2. *News stories* summarizing the events of Holy Week
3. *In-depth interviews*:
  - *with Jewish and Roman officials*: members of the Sanhedrin, Pontius Pilate, Pilate's wife, Herod, the Roman centurion at the site of the crucifixion, etc.
  - *with Jesus' friends*: Mary, Peter, John, Joseph of Arimathea, Lazarus, and the like.
  - *with Judas* (you might also report his death)
  - *with Jesus' mother*
4. *Background features*: the Roman law of occupation and capital punishment, the workings of the Sanhedrin, the method of crucifixion, burial practices in Palestine
3. *Weather report*
4. *Editorials*: one supporting Jesus' condemnation and one opposing it
5. *Letters to the Editor*: from the mother of the "good" thief, Barabbas, Simon of Cyrene, and others
6. *An account of the Last Supper* given by an apostle, perhaps Thomas

Let your imagination suggest other story ideas. Perhaps some students could do line drawings of the arrest, trial and crucifixion. Others could devise ads and be responsible for the layout and design of the paper.

## Attitude Toward Death

Christian belief in a personal resurrection through Jesus Christ should affect your attitude toward death. React to the following statements.

5 — strongly agree

4 — agree

3 — don't know

2 — disagree

1 — strongly disagree

\_\_\_ 1. I'd like at least twenty-four hours to prepare for my death.

\_\_\_ 2. I'd like to know how I'm going to die.

\_\_\_ 3. It is foolish to worry about death.

\_\_\_ 4. It is wrong to fear death.

\_\_\_ 5. I feel uneasy around dying people.

\_\_\_ 6. Death leads to resurrection.

\_\_\_ 7. How I live will make a difference when I die and meet my judgment.

\_\_\_ 8. Those who believe in Jesus will be raised on the last day.

Share and discuss your responses.

*Heaven.* Complete these open-ended sentences.

1. When I see the Lord in the afterlife, I will thank him for. . .

2. When I see the Lord in the afterlife, I will ask him. . .

3. A famous person I would like to see in heaven is. . .

4. The person I want to spend eternity with is. . .

5. Heaven will be like. . .

6. Belief in my personal resurrection. . .

*Optional:* Share your responses and discuss the attitudes that they reveal.

*Research:* Choose one of the following religions or cults and research its beliefs about the afterlife:

- Aztec or Incan religion
- Hinduism or Buddhism
- Islam
- Judaism
- Christianity
- a modern cult
- ancient Roman or Greek religion

Report your findings to the class.



## Heaven and Hell

Answer these questions in complete paragraphs. Do you agree or disagree with the following positions? Why or why not?

Heaven is an eternal state, but we don't know what it is physically like.

There is a hell and people are in it.

Life will continue forever after death for those who live like Jesus commanded.

Hell is annihilation—the total discontinuation of life and existence.

Heaven is a possibility for everyone.

Heaven and Hell begin here and continue in the afterlife.

Not everyone will receive eternal life because God determined all before you were born.

## The True Jesus

*False Images.* In a classic work titled *Your God Is Too Small*, the author writes of some false images people have of Jesus.

Sometimes these false images make them reject Jesus. Listed below are several of these wrong-headed, non-biblical images of Jesus.

Comb through the New Testament and find a biblical quote that shows a more accurate image of Jesus.

**Jesus, Meek and Mild:** Jesus is depicted as excessively obedient, pious, and effeminate. He looks like he walked off a holy card.

(Find an example from the gospels where Jesus is strong and outspoken.)

**Jesus, Superman:** In this image of Jesus, his divinity is so emphasized that he comes out looking like Superman of the comics and movies. His divinity makes him seem unreal and totally separate from us.

(Find some examples of Jesus' humanity, his being "like us in everything but sin.")

**Jesus, the Warm Fuzzy:** Jesus is the heavenly security blanket. He's up on his heavenly shelf for you to pull down to help you cope with the tough times, to escape from the responsibilities of life. He's an escape hatch who'll make you feel good all over.

(Find some instances where Jesus challenges us to grow up, to become mature disciples.)

*Your Title for Jesus:* Imagine that Jesus came today in the flesh to preach his message again. He selects you to be one of his apostles and assigns you the job of being his advertising agent. Using images from the world of music, advertising, politics, and the movies, list three titles that you would give to him. Explain what each of these reveals about him.

**Title #1:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title #2:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title #3:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Saints Test

See if you can identify the following patron saints.

The patron saint of . . .

### **EASY**

1. carpenters
2. doctors
3. Ireland
4. the United States
5. fishermen
6. throat infections
7. hopeless (desperate) causes

### **HARD** (These will need some research.)

8. accountants
9. housewives
10. protection against abortion
11. motorways
12. France
13. television
14. music
15. theologians
16. teenagers (esp. girls)
17. missions
18. young workers
19. young students
20. scripture scholars