Instructor's Guide Quick Start

The Sonlight Instructor's Guide (IG) is designed to make your educational experience as easy as possible. We have carefully organized the materials to help you and your children get the most out of the subjects covered. If you need help reading your schedule, see "How to Use the Schedule Page" just before Week 1 begins. This IG includes an entire 36-week schedule, notes, assignments, readings, and other educational activities. For specific organizational tips, topics and skills addressed, the timeline figure schedule, and other suggestions for the parent/teacher see **Section Three.** What helpful features can you expect from the IG?



Easy to use

Everything you need is located right after the schedule each week. If a note appears about a concept in a book, it's easy to find it right after the schedule based on the day the relevant reading is scheduled.

4 Colored Maps

Colorful maps, which double as bookmarks, will help you easily find relevant map locations. You will find the coordinates and the location name in your notes.





4-Day and 5-Day Schedule Options

The same schedule pages include both 4-Day and 5-Day options. If you're following the 4-Day schedule, simply skip Day 5 or take a look for some optional activities that appear on Day 5.

To Discuss After You Read

These sections help you hone in on the basics of a book so you can easily know if your children comprehend the material.

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Vocabulary orphan: a child whose parents are dead. children's home: an ombanage

Vocabulary

These sections include terms related to cultural literacy and general vocabulary words in one easy-to-find place.

Notes

When relevant, you'll find notes about specific books to help you know why we've selected a particular resource and what we hope children will learn from reading it. Keep an eye on these notes to also provide you with insights on more difficult concepts or content (look for "Note to Mom or Dad"). Note: The Yangtje River is the third longest river in the workt. The aither tails about 'the pellow waters of the 'tangter river.' The river cavies an ensembal assume of sile from higher elevation in Western China. It draps the sile on the outral glaim which creates good solf for rise glasming. In 2010, the Chinase government completed the Three Groups Dana across the Yangton, the work's largest dana is

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Day 1

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Bible/Apologetics

Bible/Apologetics—Introduction for Parents

We believe students need to be prepared for the intellectual challenges to their faith they will receive in the years to come. Indeed, we believe they should not only be prepared to face *challenges*; we believe they ought to be so well trained that they can challenge others in their faith (or lack thereof). The Westminster Catechism is only one of many Protestant catechisms that were produced in that period of heavy theological ferment from about 1520 to 1650. It includes some idiosyncrasies that many evangelicals will object to. If you are concerned about your children possibly being "polluted" by these Calvinistic and Presbyterian peculiarities, we encourage you to find a catechism that might more nearly match your own views. At the same time, we feel very comfortable recommending that you use The Westminster Catechism *as a jumping-off point* for more thorough discussions and teaching from your own perspective. \bigcirc

■ Special Note to Mom or Dad ③ Map Point ④ Timeline Suggestion

2 | Week 1 | Section Two | Parent Guide | History of the Christian Church

You will notice we do this in our history study guide; we do it also at many points with the *The Westminster Shorter Catechism*: we challenge, argue with, and critique our main textbooks. You can—and should—do the same.

How should you use a catechism?

We can recommend two methods.

One is to take the catechism questions and answers alone and interact with what they have to say. Have your children look up *additional* "proof texts" to bolster what is being taught by the catechism *or* have them look up "proof texts" that seem to *oppose* what is being taught by the catechism.

The other method makes greater use of the study guide that goes along with the Catechism.

We believe the best answers to the study guide questions should be presented *in writing*. If your children disagree with Williamson's answer or if they rebel at the *question*, please encourage them to write out how and/ or why they disagree or feel offended. In this way, they will be sharpening their own perception and discernment skills.

Besides The Westminster Catechism, we have included a straight Bible study book and three "apologetics" works.

Ray Stedman's Adventuring Through the Bible offers a panoramic overview of the entire Bible as he presents a theme, lesson and summary outline for each of the 66 books of the Bible. This book promotes spiritual growth by offering knowledge and insight into Scripture. The New Testament portion is used in the daily Bible reading schedule.

As for the "apologetic" works, Kennedy's *What if Jesus Had Never Been Born*? is what we call a historical apologetic; it seeks to lay to rest many of the historical claims made against the Church. In fact, it takes the offensive and shows the great cultural achievements of Christians and Christianity through the centuries.

More Than a Carpenter offers a pretty rigorous presentation of basic evidences for Christian faith in a popular style.

The Jesus I Never Knew is a unique study of Jesus and the life he lived, written by the thought-provoking Philip Yancey. Our prayer is that this work enables you to meet Jesus in a new way.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Question 1 (#1–15)

Read question 1, plus answer all the questions (#1–15).

- #1 What is meant by the word "chief" in the Catechism? ➡ man's one thought and desire is to serve God and take delight in Him
- #2 What is meant by the word "end" in the Catechism?

 → goals, aims, purposes
- #3 What is meant by the word "glorify"? → to reflect God's glory

- #4 Why is man's chief end what the Catechism says that it is? ⇒ the Word of God declares it: 1 Corinthians 10:31; Revelation 4:11; Psalm 73:25, 26
- #5 Man, as originally created, was _____ centered. ➡ *GOD*
- #6 Man, as he became by sin, _____ centered. ➡ self
- #7 What do we mean by saying that the true Christian life is God-centered? ⇒ only the person who truly bfelieves in the Lord Jesus Christ can glorify God and enjoy Him forever
- #8 What would some people put in the center of figure1.2 rather than the word "self"? ⇒ the good of man
- #9 Why is this really just as bad? → it is not God-centered; it is man-centered
- #10 What does "glorify God" not mean? ➡ to make God glorious
- #11 What is the difference between the way in which the heavens glorify God, and the way in which man ought to glorify God? ➡ the heavens cannot help but declare the glory of God; man is given the wonderful privilege of doing it because we want to do it
- #12 Do the wicked glorify God? Explain. → yes, he still remains subject to God; God's wrath and justice can be seen and honored
- #13 Is it proper for a Christian to have other "ends" besides the end of glorifying God? ⇒ no, the Christian glorifies God at all times and in all activities to do that which is pleasing in God's sight
- #14 What departments of life ought to serve the glory of God? ➡ the true Christian life cannot be divided up into various departments or compartments separated the one from another. All departments of life ought to serve the glory of God
- #15 Which is more to the glory of God: a person who preaches, or a man who works in a factory? Explain.
 faithful work, and wholesome recreation, are just as much a part of glorifying God as the worship of God on the Sabbath, or witnessing to an unbeliever

More Than a Carpenter | Chapters 1-2

Over the course of this week, read Chapters 1 and 2.

Adventuring Through the Bible | Chapter 47

Memorization | Matthew 1:21

During this year's study you will have the opportunity to memorize and quote various texts of Scripture. The memory verses are taken from the Bible reading list for each week, and more often than not, are key verses in the portion of the New Testament you will read for the week (the assignments for Week 1 and Week 36 have three memory verses, but all the other weekly assignments have only one memory verse). We want to encourage three things with reference to your memory work:

Be diligent in the memory work. Take seriously the value of committing passages of Scripture to memory. You will be surprised at the end of the year how much Scripture you have memorized.

Don't just memorize *words*, but endeavor to understand the *meaning* of the words you memorize. If you come across terms you do not understand, look them up. In order fully to understand what a verse means, it is at least helpful (if not essential) to consider the *context* in which your memory verse resides. Try to read before and after to see the "contextual setting" of the verse(s).

You will be assigned to quote your memory verses aloud at the end of Weeks 12, 24, and 36. Preparation for these quoting assignments will enable you to commit to memory some important biblical passages, and quoting the passage aloud will enable you to practice some public speaking skills.

History and Biographies

History & Biographies—Introduction for Parents

If there is one thing that sets Sonlight Curriculum apart from all other curricula you could purchase, it is our view of and approach to history.

From the very earliest grades you can see that we have a greater interest in the whole world than most curriculum suppliers. We have this international focus because, wonderful as the United States and Western civilization are, we know that God's purposes extend far beyond our borders. As scripture says, "God's plan from the beginning has been to acquire a people for Himself from every tribe, tongue, people and nation" (Gen. 12:2-3; Rev. 5:9; etc.). Therefore, we have chosen materials that help children understand their responsibilities as "citizens of a heavenly kingdom" in the midst of the world.

There is more to our concern for history, however, than a desire to give children an international perspective.

Some Christians bemoan the fact that the spiritual dimension is left out of most history texts; Christians are not accorded their proper place in history books; we do not see the influence of *Christian* ideas on the course of history; we do not have enough Christian biographies in standard history courses. Sonlight Curriculum, Ltd. has tried to address each of these shortcomings.

But beyond these concerns that center on the *Christian* influence in history, we believe we need to ask, "What is *God* doing in history? What is He doing at this (or that) point in history to bring about His overarching historical purposes?"

You may have heard that history is "His story." Sadly, what most Christians seem to mean by that is merely that God is sovereign; He controls what happens in all the events of history. This is "sad" because the simple fact that events are *controlled* by God doesn't mean that when all the events are put together they make a story. And, in fact, we know of few people who seek to reveal God's purpose in history (*all* history) or how He has pursued this special purpose down through the centuries.

Unless we believe there is an end toward which history runs, history has no plot. History may be *His*, but it is not His *story*. God's goal in world history is to reestablish His rightful place as King of kings and Lord of lords *among all nations*.

You can help your children immeasurably:

By asking questions. "What people did you read about today?""What did they do?" "Why are they important?" "When did they live?""Did they make an impact that is still being felt today? If so, how?"

By suggesting or pointing out historical (including Biblical) parallels. "That sounds like what you were saying happened with John Paul Jones." Or, "Didn't the Egyptians have a belief like that?"

By admiring your children and the work they are doing. "I'm impressed!""Where did you learn that?!""I didn't know that!""That's great!"

Specific Recommendations for Teaching History and Biographies

If you're one of those parents who doesn't need to "be there" with your children while they read most books, you'll still want to keep up with what they're reading. (Perhaps you can do the reading at night while your children read during the day.) You have more experience in life and know more than your children about the Bible, history, historical trends, and the way all these things interact. With this base of knowledge and experience, you should be able to point out connections between the various things your children are reading—connections that they would never catch on their own.

One of the best ways to help your children in this area is by asking questions that will help them to find these connections on their own. "Do you see any way that the persecution of Christians in ______ would have actually helped spread the Gospel (see Acts 8:1, 4)?" Again, *interact* with your children. It's important.

The Story of Christianity | pp. 7-11

Rationale: Knowing definitions is critical to understanding. That's why we've included important vocabulary terms in your Instructor's Guide. More common terms that your children may not know are listed first, followed by, where applicable, cultural literacy terms that provide depth to stories but may not be commonly known. Read the vocabulary sections aloud to your children, then have them guess the meanings of the **bold italic** words. See how your children's definitions compare to the definitions we provide. From time to time you and your children may also want to look up words in a dictionary to compare what other sources offer as definitions.

Vocabulary

"... the **Messiah**, the son of the living God." (the anointed one, expected king, and deliverer of the Hebrews)

... most importantly the **Mass**, or the Lord's Supper ... (public celebration of the Eucharist in the Roman Catholic Church and some Protestant churches)

... a need to **codify** the basic tenets of the Christian Church ... (to arrange or systematize)

... from barbarian invasions and the rise of **Islam** ... (a religion characterized by the doctrine of submission to the one God and to Muhammad as the chief and last prophet)

... gaze in awe at Michelangelo's **frescoes** on the ceiling ... (art made by painting on fresh, moist plaster)

To Discuss After You Read

- The authors say, "Today one-third of the world's population call themselves Christians." The rest of the world's population includes various Muslim sects, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Tribal religions, Chinese folk religions, or no religion at all. Why is this important? ➡ first, because it demonstrates the broad effect of Christianity around the world since the time of Christ; second, because it shows the great need for continuing missions around the world today
- According to the authors, what is (and always has been) the source of motivation for Christians to love others and live better lives? ➡ gratitude to Jesus Christ; a desire to be like Jesus Christ
- 4. Why is it important to know that Christianity "... is a religion with distinctly Jewish origins"? ⇒ to understand the beginnings and the history of Christianity, we must know something about Jewish history—the roots of Christianity
- 5. Why did Mahatma Gandhi say, "I love your Christ, but not your Christians"? ➡ because self-proclaimed Christians had caused great pain among his people
- 6. What is the geographical location of the greatest number of Christians today? ➡ Africa, Asia, and South America

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 1

Current Events | Three reports this week

Do three reports; at least two of international concern.

Parents: How to "Teach" (or Learn!) Current Events

If your children are unfamiliar with key people, dates, events, and terms, read together! Browse through a current news magazine together; choose an appropriatelooking article, then start reading. *If it helps, read the article out loud*. There should be no shame in this. If our children need our help, then we should give it to them. By helping them now, we reduce the need for us to help them later.

As you read, ask your children if they understand what the author is talking about. If you come across an uncommon or unfamiliar term, explain it or look it up. Try to give your children whatever historical, cultural, and other background you can. In addition, talk about what appear to be parallel situations with which they might be familiar from their studies of history or other cultures.

This process may be rather slow at the start, but it will enable your children to understand what they would have otherwise never understood. It will give them a wealth of information they would otherwise know nothing about.

After you finish reading, have your children try to summarize what you just read. We have found that the best time to hold current event discussions is either over the dinner table or, for older students, during your daily student-teacher time.

We believe students need to learn that world affairs matters of social, political, economic, and cultural concern—are appropriate for their interest: they should be informed about these matters, and they ought to be forming biblically-appropriate opinions about them. As citizens of God's Kingdom, we are called upon to be gracious (and, therefore, informed) ambassadors to the peoples and kingdoms of this world.

The "textbook" for your study of current events should be articles found in current newspapers and magazines (see Section Three). We believe you should be able to make three verbal reports per week on some matter of significant local, regional, national, or international concern that you have read about that week. You should recount the details of the story and understand what the authors are talking about. But you should also be able to state who the protagonists are and *what makes each matter significant*: why we should care. What are the potential effects of the matter turning out one way or another? What are the two (or more) sides arguing about (issues as well as side issues)?

We believe you should be able to add a statement about your own position on the issues of the day (how you would like to see the matter turn out) and you should be able to explain why you believe and feel as you do.

Day 2

Bible/Apologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Question 1 (#1–15)

Continue working through the questions listed on Day 1.

More Than a Carpenter | Chapters 1–2

Adventuring Through the Bible | Chapter 48

^{1.} The term "nations" in Greek is *ethné* (ETH-nay), which means "ethnic groups" or "peoples." That definition is much broader than defining nations by political boundaries. Within each "nation" there are many "ethnic/people groups." (Depending on how you want to split things up, there are between 3,000 and 10,000 ethnic or people groups in the world today.)

The Story of Christianity | pp. 12-19

Vocabulary

These promises, known as the **Abrahamic Covenant** ... (see Genesis 12:1–3; the promises of God made to Abraham in Scripture)

The Code of Hammurabi (an entire body of laws, arranged in orderly groups, written by the King of Babylon)

The Ark of the Covenant (sacred chest where the ancient Hebrews kept the two tablets containing the Ten Commandments)

... they like the Israelites, were of **Semitic** ancestry ... (an adjective that describes things originating from the Asian Middle East)

The Israelites were forced to build the cities of **Pithom** ... (one of the "treasure" cities built for Pharaoh Rameses II)

The Israelites were forced to build the cities of Pithom and **Rameses** ... (one of the "treasure" cities built for Pharaoh Rameses II)

Israel and Judah had repeatedly disobeyed the **Torah** ... (the religious laws of the Hebrews at this time)

- ... a **shofar** is blown. (a trumpet made of a ram's horn)
- To Discuss After You Read
- 7. Put the following major characters in Israel's history in chronological order: Joseph; Moses; David; Jacob; Adam and Eve; Joshua; Noah; Abraham; Saul. ⇒ Adam and Eve; Noah; Abraham; Jacob; Joseph; Moses; Joshua; Saul; David
- According to the authors, what are some examples of Old Testament teachings that make up much of the framework of Christian thought, which indicate Christianity's Jewish heritage? ➡ God is active in history; He is not far away and uninvolved; God redeems his people; Scriptures are the Word of God; there is a divine law that all must obey
- 9. Can you think of some others? ⇒ love for your neighbor; care for the poor; God is love
- 10. When did the northern kingdom of Israel fall and to whom?
 ➡ in 722 BC to the Assyrians
- 11. When did the southern kingdom of Judah fall and to whom?
 → in 597 BC to the Babylonians
- 12. What role did the Persian king, Cyrus the Great, play in Jewish history? ➡ he freed the Babylonian captives

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 1

Current Events | Three reports this week

Day 3

Bible/Apologetics

More Than a Carpenter | Chapters 1–2 Adventuring Through the Bible | Chapter 49 Memorization | Mark 10:45

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 20-23

Vocabulary

... when the Jewish *canon* was determined ... (the books of the Bible officially accepted as Holy Scripture)

The *Hellenization* of the Eastern world was so complete ... (to make Greek in character, culture, or civilization)

Their effort is known as the **Septuagint** ... (a Greek version of the Hebrew Scriptures)

... collectively known as the Old Testament **Apocrypha**. (certain writings which are received by some Christians as an authentic part of the Holy Scriptures, but are rejected by others)

... celebrated today by Jewish communities and is called **Hanukkah** ... (an eight-day holiday commemorating the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem)

To Discuss After You Read

- 13. What was Alexander the Great's greatest influence on the world?
 → the spread of Greek philosophy, language, and culture
- 14. Which of these influences had the greatest impact on the writing of the New Testament? → the spread of the Greek language
- 15. What did this influence have to do with the writing of the New Testament?
 → the New Testament was written primarily in Greek (Koine, or "common" Greek)
- 16. What was the effect of the Maccabean Revolt for the Jews?
 → the restoration of religious freedom
- 17. What Jewish festival, still celebrated to this day, was established to honor this victory? ➡ Hanukkah²
- 18. Give a brief description of the five major religious parties of the Jews during the life of Jesus and the beginning of the church: the Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes, Herodians, and Zealots.

^{2.} Hanukkah is an eight-day festival. It is the only Jewish festival not specified in the Hebrew Bible. Part of the celebration involves a candle being lit each day of the feast until, on the eighth day, a total of eight candles are lit. The word *Hanukkah* means "consecration" or "dedication." After the destruction of the Temple in AD 70 the feast has been observed by lighting lamps in private homes. Thus, the name Feast of Lights.

6 | Week 1 | Section Two | Parent Guide | History of the Christian Church

- 19. To which of the five major religious parties did the common people among the Jews tend to belong?
 none—they followed a simple form of Judaism
- 20. Who was Herod the Great, and why is he famous? → the Roman Empire's "King of the Jews" in Syria, Galilee, and Judea; he was a competent administrator and builder (he built the Temple that stood in the days of Jesus), but he was ruthless and a murderer (he killed three of his sons, two of his wives, the baby boys in Bethlehem in an effort to kill the baby Jesus, and anyone else whom he saw as a threat to his absolute authority)

Timeline and Map Activities

Note: To refresh on how to do the timelines and the Markable Map refer to notes found in **Section Four**.

Alexandria (map 2)

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 1

Current Events | Three reports this week

Day 4

Bible/Apologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Question 2 (#1–15)

Read question 2, plus answer all the questions (#1–15).

- #2 What is meant by the word "scriptures"? ➡ special revelation, the Word of God
- #3 What is meant by the word "rule"? → that which teaches men what they must believe (in order to be saved from sin) and do (in order to serve God once more)
- #4 Are the educated and intelligent more certain to know God's truth than the uneducated and simple?
 Why? ⇒ no, some of the most intelligent and best-educated people lack true wisdom; true wisdom can be given to any man regardless of his education
- #5 Was man's knowledge originally supposed to come from nature alone? ➡ no, nature only taught man that there is a God; the Bible was given to show man how to learn about God
- #6 What are the two sources of "truth"? → natural revelation and Special revelation
- #7 What is the principle of the so-called "scientific method?" → the "trial and error" method of discovering truth

- #8 What does natural revelation alone (by itself) now do for all men? ➡ it reveals God and leaves man without excuse
- #9 What does Liberalism mean when it says the Bible "contains" the Word of God? → some parts of the Bible are the Word of God, and that other parts are the word of man; they can decide for themselves which part is true and which part is false
- #10 What does Neo-orthodoxy mean by saying this? → new Modernism; the whole Bible is the fallible word of man; God somehow uses these words so that through them man receives (in his own mind) the true word of God; one part may "speak" to one man and another part "speaks" to another man
- #11 What does *Reformed* Christianity mean by saying this?
 → they believe that the whole Bible (every single word) is the truth of God
- #13 What do we mean by saying it is clear? Who (for example) denies this? → the scriptures were written so that ordinary people and even children could understand
- #14 What do we mean by saying it is sufficient? Who denies this? ⇒ we do not need something else in addition to the Bible in order to know what we need to know; many false religions deny this; they say we need tradition, the findings of science and other books
- #15 If the Bible is what we say it is, why do we have the Catechisms? ⇒ the Catechisms are convenient summaries of the teaching of the Bible

More Than a Carpenter | Chapters 1-2

Adventuring Through the Bible | Chapter 50

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 24-29

Vocabulary

The gifts **the wise men**, or Magi, brought to ... (the sages who visited Joseph and Mary and Jesus shortly after Jesus was born)

John also preached an *apocalyptic* message ... (prophetic of devastation)

... even those who opposed him referred to him as '**Rabbi**' ... (Master; lord; teacher, a Jewish title of respect or honor for a teacher)

... the promised Messiah—God *incarnate* ... (embodied in human form)

This **Eucharist**, or 'thanksgiving' ... (a Christian sacrament commemorating the Last Supper)

... Jesus was then led before the **Sanhedrin** ... (the great council of the Jews, which had jurisdiction of religious matters)

He was then taken to **Golgotha**, or the 'skull' ... (a hill near Jerusalem where Jesus was crucified)

To Discuss After You Read

- 21. List the three temptations of Jesus, as recorded in Matthew 4:1–11. ⇒ turn stones into bread; jump off the top of the Temple; bow down and worship Satan and receive rulership of the world as a reward
- 22. How do these compare with the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (from I John 2:16)? → tempted like Eve (and Adam), Jesus overcame the temptations
- 23. Who was John the Baptist? ➡ cousin of Jesus; the one who prepared the way for the ministry of Jesus by calling people to repent
- 24. According to the authors, into what two categories do all the miracles of Jesus fall?
 → those that demonstrate his compassion by meeting physical and emotional needs, and those that prove his divinity and power over all creation
- 25. List the trials of Jesus. → before Caiaphas, the high priest; before the Sanhedrin, the Jewish high court; before Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea; before Herod Antipas, tetrarch of Galilee; once again before Pilate
- 26. Which of these authorities actually condemned Jesus to death by crucifixion? ➡ *Pilate*

27. What were the "seven final words" (phrases) of Jesus on the cross? ➡ Father forgive them (concerning the crowd who crucified him); today you will be with me in paradise (to the penitent thief who hung beside him); behold your mother (to ask John to watch after his mother); My God, My God, why have you forsaken me; I thirst; it is finished; into Your hands I commit my spirit

- 28. Which holds the most meaning for you? Why? → My God, My God, why have you forsaken me: because I will never have that experience
- 29. What is the name by which most Christians know the mandate for evangelism that Jesus gave to his disciples immediately prior to his ascension? → *the Great Commission*
- 30. What does it say (Matthew 28:18–20)?
 → "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 1

Current Events | Three reports this week

Day 5

Bible/Apologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Question 2 (#1–15)

Continue to work through all the questions listed on Day 4.

More Than a Carpenter | Chapters 1-2

Adventuring Through the Bible | Chapter 51

Memorization | Luke 19:10

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 30-35

Vocabulary

On the first **Pentecost** after Jesus' resurrection ... (a solemn festival of the Jews—so called because it is celebrated on the fiftieth day after the second day of the Passover)

The **Jewish diaspora** had scattered them to most corners ... (the dispersion of the Jews from Palestine after the Babylonian exile)

... he would debate with Jews, God-fearing Gentiles, and **Epicurean** and Stoic **philosophers** ... (those who believed that the world is a random combination of atoms and that pleasure is the highest good)

... he would debate with Jews, God-fearing Gentiles, and Epicurean and **Stoic philosophers** ... (those who held that men should be unmoved by joy or grief, and should submit without complaint to unavoidable necessity)

... invited Paul to come and speak at the **Areopagus on Mars Hill** ... (the council or court of justice which met in the open air on the hill)

Although the **New Testament canon** was not officially recognized until ... (the books of the Bible officially accepted as Holy Scripture)

... used much of the same source material as the other two **synoptic Gospels** ... (the first three gospels of the New Testament, which share content, style, and order of events)

... Joseph ben Mattathias, better known as Flavius **Josephus** ... (Jewish general and historian who took part in the Jewish revolt against the Romans)

To Discuss After You Read

- 31. What was the missionary strategy of Paul and his associates? ➡ focus on the cities; go to the Jews first, then to Gentiles
- 32. Where, and by whom, was Paul converted (see Acts 9)? → on the road to Damascus by the Lord himself

- 33. What general areas did Paul visit on his three missionary journeys? ➡ 1st journey—Galatia; 2nd journey—Asia Minor, Macedonia, Greece, Achaia; 3rd journey—same as the 2nd journey
- 34. Where was the first European church established? ➡ Philippi in Macedonia
- 35. What was the Jerusalem Conference about? → whether or not Christians must follow Jewish customs to be saved
- 36. And the decision? → see Acts 15:24–29; in general: no, Christians did not have to follow Jewish customs; however, they should behave in such a way as to avoid offending Jews unnecessarily

Note: See the reading in *The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History* for more complete information.

38. Some Christians (primarily Roman Catholics) believe not only that Peter was the first bishop of Rome, but that, based on Matthew 16:18, he was the first in an unbroken line of apostolic succession that extends to the present pope.³ Others (notably Protestants) disagree. Protestants in general interpret the passage in Matthew differently. As you read Matthew 16:18, do you believe it teaches that Peter was to be the first bishop of Rome (the pope)? (Before you answer this question, take a careful look at the *context*—Matthew 16:13–20, at least.) If you don't believe it teaches that Peter was to be the first pope, then what do you believe it does teach? What proof can you give for your answer one way or the other?

Note to Mom or Dad: Please assist your student with this answer. Ask your priest, pastor, minister, or other theologically educated person to help you. This question has generations of debate attached to it. It is a "hermeneutical" (method of interpretation) question, the answer to which seems, in my (Gus') opinion, based more on culture, tradition, and interpretation of scripture than on the plain teaching of the text. AND ... the answer does *not* affect the deity or lordship of Jesus, nor the salvation of believers. However, it does affect how the church is organized and led. Please be fair in your search. Don't just take the "party line" of your church, but "dig it out."

- 39. Is there room for both interpretations, or must it be one way or the other?
- 40. The authors of your book focus on three major first century cities as primary points from which the Christian faith spread. What are they? → Jerusalem, Antioch, and Ephesus

Timeline and Map Activities

- Destruction of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem (AD 70)
- Tarsus 1; Asia Minor 2; Damascus 3; Ephesus 4;
 Syrian Antioch 5; Galatia 6; Macedonia 7; Greece 8;
 Achaia 9; Rome 10; Jerusalem 11 (map 1)

The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History | pp. 15–17 "Titus Destroys Jerusalem"

From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya | pp. 26–30 "Paul the Apostle"

Vocabulary

... where he effectively established *indigenous churches*. (those comprised of natives in that area)

To Discuss After You Read

- 41. Tucker tells the story of Thomas. Of all the "missionary disciples," she says, his story has the most historical support. And, in sum, what is his story? → that he was carried off as a slave to India and eventually was able to evangelize King Gundaphorus (Gundobar), who converted and was baptized
- 42. Tucker says the greatest missionary of the first century church was undoubtedly who? → the Apostle Paul
- 43. In what ways does Tucker suggest St. Paul could or should be an example for modern missionaries? → he ministered in major population centers—perhaps we should, too; he established churches fully expecting them to stand on their "own two feet" rather than survive as "mission" churches, requiring "outside" funds and resources; his use of a secular career to fund his ministry ("tentmaking"); his movement down the socioeconomic ladder; his courage and commitment in the face of physical persecution, mental and emotional travail, and cultural isolation from "his own"
- 44. In your opinion, was St. Paul "successful"? → my answer: yes, ultimately, but it took a lot of "failure" (certainly failure by our culture's standards!) to get to "success"!

Note: Tucker mentions the tradition that Paul was martyred along with Peter and many other Christians during the persecution by Roman Emperor Nero. That is the prevailing tradition, but it is also believed by some that Paul was able to live much longer and do mission work in Europe (particularly Spain—see Romans 15:24, 28).

Timeline and Map Activities

Arabia (map 9)

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 1

Current Events | Three reports this week ■

^{3.} For a list of all the popes and biographical sketches on each one, see <u>www.newadvent.org/cathen/12272b.htm</u> (accessed 2002).

200 BIBLE/HISTORY WEEK 2				Schedule	
Date:	Day 1 6	Day 2 7	Day 3 8	Day 4 🦻	Day 5 10
Bible/Apologetics		• • •	· · ·	• •	•
The Westminster Shorter Catechism	Question 3, plus ans questions (#1–12)	wer all the		Question 4, plus ans questions (#1–12)	swer all the
More Than a Carpenter	chap. 3				
Adventuring Through The Bible	chap. 52				
Bible Reading		John 1	John 2	John 3	John 4
Memorization	John 1:14				•
History and Biogra	phies				
The Story of Christianity	рр. 36–39	рр. 40–43	pp. 44–45	pp. 46–47	pp. 48–49
From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya	pp. 17–20 "The Irresistible Advance"	pp. 21–26 "The Early Centuries …"	pp. 30–34 "Polycarp"– "Perpetua" 🕒		
The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History			pp. 13–15 "The Fire in Rome"; pp. 19–21 "The Martyrdom …"	pp. 17–19 "Justin Martyr Writes His <i>Apology</i> " (5)	pp. 22–23 "Irenaeus Becomes Bishop of Lyons"
Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1	chap. 2				
Current Events Three reports this week.					
Other Notes					

Day 1

Bible/Apologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Question 3 (#1–12)

Read question 3, plus answer all the questions (#1-12).

#1 What is meant by the word "principally" in the Catechism? ⇒ the Bible was given to teach us "what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man"

#2 Are there things we cannot learn from the Bible? Give an example. → there are many things that we cannot learn from the Bible; examples: complete history of the human race; technical information needed in the various sciences; all the information we might wish about Jesus

🔟 Special Note to Mom or Dad 🕜 Map Point 🕒 Timeline Suggestion

- #3 Name a subject about which the Bible says nothing whatsoever. ➡ the Bible has something to say about everything
- #4 How much of the world does the man in figure 3.1 really understand correctly? Why? ⇒ Fig. 3.1 man is in darkness and does not understand the world at all
- #5 Why does the man in figure 3.2 understand the world in a true sense? ⇒ the man in Fig. 3.2 has the light of God's word and is able to understand his place in the world
- #6 Explain these words from the Bible: "in thy light shall we see light." → the Holy Spirit has regenerated the heart so that God's Word is received and believed
- #7 What are the two basic parts of the Catechism?
 Why? ⇒ what the Bible teaches us to believe concerning God; the duty that God requires of man
- #8 Upon what does the Catechism place first emphasis?
 Why? ⇒ what we are to believe; you cannot live a right life with a wrong faith
- #9 Is true faith enough? Explain. ⇒ no, we also need right practice
- #10 Would it be wrong if the Catechism treated the law before faith? Why? → yes, it might be assumed that Christ is less important than the law; careless readers could imagine that salvation comes by our doing what the law commands; the impression might be created that we do not need the law of God after we believe in Christ
- #11 What are some of the reasons in favor of treating faith before law? ➡ we cannot live a right life without faith; faith will help us do what God commands
- #12 What is the most important truth that we can learn from this Catechism question? → true Christianity is never faith without works

More Than a Carpenter | Chapter 3

Over the course of this week, read Chapter 3.

Adventuring Through The Bible | Chapter 52

Memorization | John 1:14

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 36-39

Vocabulary

The Romans were **culturally eclectic** ... (selecting what seems best of styles or ideas found in various regions or people groups)

... others to help in the work of spreading the gospel, known as **presbyters** or **elders** ... (pastors, overseers, and leaders of the Christian church)

To Discuss After You Read

- What resources do the authors suggest helped the early Christians to convert pagans who were apathetic or even hostile to their message?
 → the force of Christian teachings; the compelling story of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus; the unique teaching about God becoming flesh; the impact of the caring and loving community life of the Christians; the unity of the church
- 2. In your view, which of these "reasons for growth" is most important in your time where you live. Why? After all, the Kingdom moves and grows through different means in different times and cultures.
- 3. You will see in your studies this year how the position and authority of church leaders has been, and continues to be, an issue of controversy in the church. The authors say that the preeminence of bishops and other church leaders was unchallenged in the early church. Read the following passages of New Testament Scripture and give your view, based on these texts, of the importance of bishops, elders, and other church leaders in the early church: Acts 14:23; Acts 20:17, 28–31; 1 Timothy 3:1–13; Titus 1:5–9; Hebrews 13:17. → Paul, *Timothy, and others ordained leaders, men of God who met a lengthy list of qualifications. They were aware that wolves would come to destroy the flock, and the overseers were to protect their flock*

From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya | pp. 17–20 "The Irresistible Advance"

Vocabulary

... where gentile seekers had gotten a head start in **synagogues**. (a place of meeting for worship and religious instruction in the Jewish faith)

While **evangelism** and church planting took priority ... (the spreading of the Christian gospel by public preaching or personal witness)

Charlemagne ... was the prime mover in the **Carolingian Renaissance**. (a revival of classical art and architecture lasting from the 8th to the 10th century)

Celtic and Arian missionaries conducted noteworthy evangelistic ventures ... (a member of a European people who occupied Britain, Spain and Gaul in pre-Roman times)

... and **Arian** missionaries conducted noteworthy evangelistic ventures ... (a believer in the doctrine of Arius, who thought Christ was inferior to God the Father in nature and dignity)

The **Benedictines** were particularly influential through their founding of ... (a religious order of the Roman Catholic Church with a monastic life that replaced severity with moderation)

... **Scholasticism** occupied the best minds of the church. (philosophy and theology of Western Christendom in the Middle Ages characterized by joining faith and reason) "... *dialectics* their sword and lance." (the art or practice of arriving at the truth by the exchange of logical arguments)

Pietism on the continent and the evangelical movements ... (a reform movement which stressed the emotional and personal aspects of religion)

To Discuss After You Read

- 4. Tucker says that the Great Commission was probably not well understood by many New Testament Christians, nor was it the primary impetus for the rapid growth of the church during the early centuries. What does she say the impetus was? ➡ persecution
- 5. How can persecution motivate Christians? → in the early church, it physically forced believers to leave Jerusalem and take the Gospel elsewhere; it also reinforces belief: one has to be fully persuaded if one is willing to die for a belief
- 6. What king ranks above all other kings as the greatest military supporter of the church? ➡ Charlemagne of the Franks (AD 742–814)
- 7. Do you think the Kingdom of God needs military support?

Optional: *How to Read Church History, Volume 1* | Chapter 2

To Discuss After You Read

- Mr. Comby lists six reasons—three cited by common people, three by philosophers and politicians—why non-Christians objected to Christianity in the first two hundred years of the church's existence. In a few words, what were these six objections (pp. 30–33)?
- 9. How did the Christian apologists respond to these charges (pp. 33–37)?
- 10. Already by the beginning of the third century Christians were struggling with issues of church-state relations. What was one of the bigger church-state issues at that time (p. 37)?
- 11. A personal question: as you read the testimonies of various early Christian martyrs (pp. 38–46), what particularly strikes you? What challenges you or causes you to think?

Current Events | Three reports this week

Day 2

Bible/Apologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Question 3 (#1–12)

Continue to work through the questions on Day 1.

More Than a Carpenter | Chapter 3

Bible Reading | John 1 Memorization | John 1:14

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 40-43

Vocabulary

... the form of **liturgy** Justin describes ... (a rite or body of rites prescribed for public worship)

To Discuss After You Read

- Briefly describe a worship assembly in the early church. In what ways do you think their assemblies of worship differed from the assemblies of worship where you attend church today?
 in the early church they met on Sunday, shared the Eucharist, read Scriptures, prayed, sang, met in homes
- 13. Who were the Apostolic Fathers? → the most famous church leaders in the generation immediately following the time of the apostles¹
- 14. Write brief descriptions of the following philosophical challenges to the early church: Gnosticism, Marcionism, Montanism, Mithraism.

From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya | pp. 21–26 "The Early Centuries: Evangelizing the Roman Empire"

Vocabulary

... the intellectual reasoning of the early **apologists**. (people who argue in defense or justification of something, such as a doctrine)

To Discuss After You Read

- 15. According to Tucker, what circumstances aided the spread of the Christian faith for the early missionaries? (Read Acts 8:4.) → mobility in the Roman Empire (good roads); the universal use of the Greek language (no language barriers); the availability of the synagogues for teaching; a spirit of openness to new ideas in the Roman Empire
- 16. According to Tucker, Christianity penetrated the Roman world though what five main avenues? → preaching and teaching; personal witness; acts of kindness and charity; faith shown in persecution and death; intellectual reasoning of the early apologists
- 17. Which would you consider to be the most effective in the culture where you live? ⇒ I would guess either acts of kindness and charity, or personal witness; I think postmod-

^{1.} The Apostolic Fathers are not mentioned in the Bible. According to the *Holman Bible Dictionary*, electronic ed., five Apostolic Fathers appear in the original seventeenth century list: Barnabas, Clement, Ignatius, Polycarp, and Hermas. Today the list usually adds four manuscripts: *The Didache, The Epistle to Diognetus, Papias,* and *Apology of Quadratus*. Although scholars dispute whether any of the writers knew the apostles, all but possibly two of the writings, *The Epistle to Diognetus* and the *Apology of Quadratus*, originated before AD 156.

12 | Week 2 | Section Two | Parent Guide | History of the Christian Church

ern culture is fairly immune to logical reasoning, teaching raises hackles, and persecution is not widespread

- 18. Tucker points out that persecution of Christians was sporadic and localized and that the total number of martyrs was not great, but that no Christian could feel entirely safe from official retribution. If you are a Christian, do you feel safe where you live? Do you know of anyone who has been, or is being persecuted because of their Christian belief? If so, give the details.
- 19. What are some of the setbacks the church experienced in its early years, according to Tucker? → persecution, doctrinal controversy, the decline in evangelism once Christianity became the state religion
- 20. According to Tucker, what was the effect on Christianity when it was made the official religion of the state by Constantine?
 → the church was filled with "nominal" Christians who had less concern for spiritual matters and more concern for politics and social prestige; elaborate structures replaced the simple house-churches; creeds replaced spontaneous testimonies and prayers; vibrant evangelism waned
- 21. How would you consider your church today in this picture?
 → the church l attend: fervent Christians with concern for spiritual matters, simple structure (though not house church), no creeds, but also little spontaneity and evangelism

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 2

Current Events | Three reports this week

Day 3

Bible/Apologetics

More Than a Carpenter | Chapter 3

Bible Reading | John 2

Memorization | John 1:14

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 44-45

From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya | pp. 30–34 "Polycarp" through "Perpetua"

To Discuss After You Read

- 22. What is your reaction when you read the record of the martyrdom of Polycarp? [Polycarp] ⇒ what powerful words: a life of faithful service and God's faithfulness
- 23. In what sense can it possibly be said, as Tucker suggests, that the execution of Polycarp resulted in a victory for the Christians at the time? [Polycarp] ➡ *a strong witness to all*

24. In your own words, briefly tell the story of Perpetua. [Perpetua] → horrifying: a young mother, husband unknown, endures her father's desperate pleas that she forsake Christ; her death must have been painful beyond all reckoning: first torture with a mad heifer, and two beheadings

Timeline and Map Activities

- Polycarp (various possible dates, but Wikipedia says 69–155)
- Perpetua (AD 181–203)

The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History

pp. 13–15 "The Fire in Rome"; pp. 19–21 "The Martyrdom of Polycarp"

To Discuss After You Read

25. What was the significance of the great fire in Rome in AD 64 to Christians? → Nero blamed the Christians for starting the fire; it was at that time that the first wave of persecution broke out against Christian believers

Timeline and Map Activities

(B) Rome burns (AD 64)

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 2

Current Events | Three reports this week

Day 4

Bible/Apologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Question 4 (#1–12)

Read question 4, plus answer all the questions (#1–12).

- #1 What is the meaning of the word "spirit"? ➡ it is the thinking and knowing part of a man. Non-material: it cannot be seen or felt, or weighed, or measured; hard to be precise
- #2 Define: infinite, eternal, and unchangeable. ⇒ infinite: endless; eternal: everlasting; unchangeable: never changes
- #3 Why can't we say that God is spirit? → God is not the only spirit and to say He is spirit is not to distinguish Him from other spirits
- #4 Are there other spirits besides God? Explain. → yes, one example is angels who are "ministering spirits"
- #5 To what might we liken a spirit? → the thoughts of a man
- #6 What does this Catechism answer teach us to deny as respects God? → that God has any material substance

- #7 What are the two kinds of attributes belonging to God? ⇒ incommunicable and communicable
- #8 Give a brief definition of each.
 ➡ incommunicable: attributes only God posses; communicable: attributes man also possesses
- #9 Are the communicable attributes the same in man as in God? Explain. ⇒ no, God has all these in a far higher sense than man ever can
- #10 What does the Bible mean when it speaks of God as having hands, feet, etc? → some of the scripture texts, which speak of God in such a way, are simply meant to express in human terms what we could hardly understand in any other way; also, Christ manifested Himself by taking on human form (preludes to His future manifestation) in the Old Testament
- #11 What does the Bible mean when it speaks of God repenting? ➡ God is always holy, and always has anger against sin; when man changes, God will use the correct manner in dealing with him; God does not change His mind
- #12 Be ready to discuss figure 4.1 in this lesson, showing how it illustrates the teaching of the Catechism.

More Than a Carpenter | Chapter 3

Bible Reading | John 3

Memorization | John 1:14

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 46-47

Vocabulary

They were largely **pragmatic** and embraced the attitude ... (dealing with facts; practical)

To Discuss After You Read

- 26. Who were the apologists? → writers who explained and defended Christian beliefs
- 27. Why was their work important to the early church? → their writings helped clarify and define Christian belief in view of their culture
- 28. Name some of the early apologists. → Aristedes, Quadratus, Irenaeus, Tertullian; Justin Martyr
- 29. What was Tertullian's main concern about the work of the apologists?
 → he was concerned that Greek philosophy and Christian theology would be mixed, which happened as most of the apologists expressed Christian theology in philosophical terms
- 30. Do you see any problems with such a practice? If so, what and why?

The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History

pp. 17–19 "Justin Martyr Writes His Apology"

To Discuss After You Read

- 32. What Justin Martyr and other apologists did may be seen as the contextualization of the Gospel, i.e., explaining the Gospel in the context of the prevailing culture. They attempted to explain the faith as a reasonable system of belief (one that makes sense and can be explained logically). What pros and cons do you see to a contextualized approach to evangelism? → *example—pro: it allows a culture to understand theological concepts; con: it robs the Gospel of its "mystery"—this was Tertullian's concern*

Timeline and Map Activities

- () Justin Martyr's *Apology* (AD 150)
- The martyrdom of Polycarp (AD 156)

Optional: *How to Read Church History, Volume 1* Chapter 2

Current Events | Three reports this week

Day 5

Bible/Apologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Question 4 (#1–12)

Continue to work through the questions on Day 4.

More Than a Carpenter | Chapter 3

Bible Reading | John 4

Memorization | John 1:14

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 48-49

To Discuss After You Read

- 33. According to the authors, the slave trade in the Roman Empire may have played a valuable part in the spread of the Gospel. How so? → many slaves and poor people became Christians and were then traded among Roman citizens throughout the Empire, thus, the Gospel spread as they were moved from place to place
- 34. What is the location and approximate time of existence of the earliest known Christian church building? ➡ modern Syria, in the ancient city of Dura-Europos; it was built in the mid AD 200s
- 35. When and where did Christianity first become the official religion of a country? → in AD 301, in Armenia, under King Tiridates III

The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History

pp. 22-23 "Irenaeus Becomes Bishop of Lyons"

Optional: *How to Read Church History, Volume 1* | Chapter 2

Current Events | Three reports this week ■

200 BIBLE/HISTORY WEEK 3			K 3 SCHEDU		
Date:	Day 1 11	Day 2 12	Day 3 13	Day 4 14	Day 5
Bible/Apologetics					
The Westminster Shorter Catechism	Questions 5–6, plus questions (#1–16)	answer all the		Question 7, plus answer all the questions (#1–11)	
More Than a Carpenter	chap. 4				
Bible Reading	John 5	John 6	John 7	John 8	John 9
Memorization John 6:29					
History and Biogra	phies				
The Story of Christianity	рр. 50–53	pp. 54–55	pp. 56–59 🕒 🕄	pp. 60–63 🕒 🕄	pp. 64–65
The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History	pp. 26–29 "Origen Begins …"; "Cyprian Writes …" ᠿ	pp. 30–31 "Anthony Begins His Life …"	pp. 32–36 "The Conversion …"; "The Council …"	pp. 36–38 "Athanasius's Letter …"	pp. 38–40 "Bishop Ambrose …"
Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1	chap. 3				
Current Events					
	[ſ	1	1
		Other No	otes	•	•

Day 1

Bible/Apologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Questions 5–6 (#1–16)

Read questions 5 and 6, plus answer all the questions (#1–16).

- #1 State the three essential truths that make up the doctrine of the Trinity. → there is one God; the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God; each of these persons is distinct from the others
- #2 What does "Godhead" mean? → the unity and plurality of God (Trinity)

- #3 What does "substance" mean? ➡ form, matter, element
- #4 What do unitarians believe? What modern cult is unitarian? → they believe there is only one person (the Father, or Jehovah) who is God; they teach that Jesus is a created being and that the Holy Spirit is merely a name for the power of God; Jehovah's Witnesses
- #5 What do polytheists believe? What modern cult is polytheistic? ⇒ they believe that there is more than one being that may be called God; Mormons
- #6 Is the doctrine of the Trinity easy to understand? If not, then why do we believe it? → not easy to understand, but the scripture allows no other view
- #7 Cite a text of scripture proving that there is only one God. ⇒ 1 Kings 8:60; 1 Cor. 8:5, 6; Isaiah 44:6

🔟 Special Note to Mom or Dad 🔇 🕈 Map Point 🕒 Timeline Suggestion

- #8 What four things, which properly belong to God only, also can be proved from scripture to belong to Christ and the Holy Spirit? ➡ they are everywhere present, they are eternal, they perform the works of God, and they are worshipped as God
- #9 Give an example of each of these as respects the person of Christ. ➡ Matt. 28:20; John 1:1; Heb. 1:3; John 20:28
- #10 Give an example of each of these as respects the person of the Holy Ghost. → Acts 5:3, 4; John 6:63; Matt. 12:31; 1 Cor. 2:10
- #11 What did "Modalism" teach? What scripture disproves this error? → Modalism: God is one person but plays different "parts," each time He played a "part" the other parts did not exist; but in Matt. 3:16, 17–23: he plays all parts simultaneously
- #12 What did "Monarchianism" teach? → only one person in the Godhead could really be "King"; they did not believe that the three persons were equal in power and in glory
- #13 What scripture could "Monarchianists" try to use to their advantage? ➡ John 14:28
- #14 What answer could be given against this attempt? Philippians 2:6—it is only in respect of Christ's human nature, and because He took such humiliation upon Himself, that he can say "my Father is greater than I"
- #16 Is the doctrine of the Trinity taught in the Old Testament? Explain. → yes, Genesis 1: 26–27

More Than a Carpenter | Chapter 4

Over the course of this week, read Chapter 4.

Bible Reading | John 5

Memorization | John 6:29

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 50-53

Vocabulary

... of these were the attempts to understand the **Trinity** and the **Incarnation** ... (**Trinity:** the union of three divine persons, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in one God; **Incarnation:** the doctrine that the Son of God was conceived in the womb of Mary and that Jesus is true God and true man)

... chambers have since come to be called *catacombs*. (an underground cemetery consisting of chambers or tunnels with recesses for graves) ... most famously St. Peter's **Basilica**. (a Roman Catholic church that has been accorded certain privileges by the pope)

... it was the site of a great school for *catechumens* ... (one who is being taught *the principles of Christianity*)

... ending the **penultimate persecution** of Christians in the Roman Empire ... (the next to the last persecution)

To Discuss After You Read

- 1. What were the two main issues of the internal theological debates in the church at the beginning of the third century?
 → the Trinity and the Incarnation of Jesus
- Would you consider these issues major or trivial? Were they worthy of people getting upset about? Explain.

 major: who Jesus was and is, and who God is remain central to Christian beliefs
- 3. The authors of your book simply *state*, they don't even attempt to *prove*, that "[t]he Bible teaches that God is one, and that Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are God." How would you try to "prove" that the idea of the Trinity (*one* God in *three* persons) is found in Scripture? (Check out, for one God, Deuteronomy 6:4; for all three persons mentioned: Luke 3:21-22. And there are certainly verses about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit individually.)

Note: Early on in the church's history, the "winning" side in any debate "merely" anathematized (cursed) and excommunicated the "losing" side. Within a few hundred years (after the church became supported by the state), "losers" were no longer "merely" anathematized and excommunicated; they were dealt with by the "secular arm" as well and could be banished or even executed.

Whether someone believes—or even *knows* to believe—in the concept of the Trinity: I imagine that is not a salvation issue. (Did the thief on the cross understand, much less know about the concept of the Trinity?)

- 4. Yet ... These things matter, don't they? The concept of the Trinity, or the age of the earth (a more current debate): shouldn't there be *some* point where we will draw the line? Has the modern church *lost* something by becoming as relaxed as it has over doctrinal matters? Has it *gained* something? ➡ *lost: unity; gained: private interpretation*
- 5. What is Monarchianism? → the belief that to equate Jesus with God is to endanger God the Father's monarchia: His sole (mon-) authority (archia)
- 6. What are the two schools of thought within Monarchianism? ⇒ 1) the belief that Jesus is less than God, i.e. he is a mere man in whom God is especially present; 2) the belief that Father, Son, and Spirit were simply different "modes" of the one God
- 7. What is the source of the term "catacombs"? ➡ it comes from the underground burial chambers at Kata Kumbas, just outside Rome

- 8. What famous basilica was built over catacombs? ➡ St. Peter's Basilica
- 9. Name the Alexandrian Fathers. → Clement of Alexandria; Origen
- 10. Where was the first Latin-speaking church established? ➡ North Africa
- 11. The statement associated with the picture at the bottom of p. 52 expresses the thought behind this course of study. What is it? ⇒ when reading the stories of church history, let us not become sidetracked by the outward activity; let us remember that the primary reality (and our primary responsibility!) is to worship Jesus "in spirit and in truth"

The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History

pp. 26–29 "Origen Begins Writing"; "Cyprian Writes On the Unity of the Church"

Vocabulary

He lived an *ascetic life*, spending much of the night ... (denying self, rigidly self-disciplined, especially for spiritual improvement)

His **Hexapla** was a feat of textual criticism. (a work by Origen in which 6 parallel columns listed various translations of the Old Testament)

To Discuss After You Read

- 12. Describe Origen's attempt to live an "ascetic life." → he prayed day and night, ate little, slept little, had only one coat and no shoes (as per Matthew 19:12), castrated himself to avoid temptation
- 13. What do you think of Origen's asceticism? Do you think his motive was good? Do you think his behavior was right? ➡ it's good to honor God and follow as He calls; as long as Origen believed he was obeying God, I think that's good, though I'm glad it's not my calling
- 14. Origen wrote over 2,000 works; do you think his asceticism may have contributed positively to that output? *he presumably had fewer distractions than a married man with children*
- 15. Do you think Christians today should re-adopt a perspective in which an ascetic lifestyle is valued? ➡ do what God calls you to do
- 16. The authors highlight some of Origen's beliefs that show he accepted Greek philosophy. Can you think of any such beliefs that should have been viewed as alien to orthodox Christianity? → that matter and the material world are implicitly evil; the preexistence of the soul and that one's present position in the world is determined by his conduct in the preexistent state; denial of material resurrection; universal salvation; that only the human Jesus died on the cross, not God

- 17. Do you think these beliefs are the same heresy the apostle John deals with in 1 John 4:2–3 and 2 John 7–8? → I don't think he denies that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh
- 18. What was the result of his espousal of these beliefs? ➡ he was excommunicated

Timeline and Map Activities

(h) Origen (185–254)

Optional: *How to Read Church History, Volume 1* | Chapter 3

Vocabulary

On the Friday before their baptism, the *catechumens* ... (those who are being taught the principles of Christianity)

... the preparation or **catechumenate**, could last for three years. (the time period when one is receiving instructions in the doctrines of Christianity)

... teaching on doctrine and morality, which was given the name *catechesis* ... (oral religious instruction usually given before baptism or confirmation)

The candidate for baptism had to be presented by ... (godparents). (Christians who would stand sponsor for him and guarantee his good behavior)

The **eucharist**, or the celebration of the Lord's resurrection ... (*literally to give thanks; the solemn act of commemorating the death of Christ, in the use of bread and wine*)

The development of **penance** during the first three centuries is not very well known. (a Catholic sacrament; repentance, confession and absolution; voluntary self-punishment in order to atone for some wrongdoing)

* * *

Ignatius of Antioch: church leader who was accused of violating an edict to sacrifice to pagan gods, arrested, led before the emperor Trajan, taken to Rome, and martyred.

Irenaeus: the disciple of John speak, first a priest at Lyons, later the bishop, and who has an exceptional place in Christian literature.

Origen: generally considered the greatest theologian and biblical scholar of the early Eastern church. He is regarded as the father of the allegorical method of scriptural interpretation \square .

Tertullian: an early Christian author who used Latin instead of Greek in arguments about Christian doctrine and provided Christian thought with new Latin vocabulary **Q**.

Cyprian: martyr who led Christians in North Africa during persecution by the Roman emperors Decius and Valerian.

To Discuss After You Read

About Origen: Fr. Schmemann comments:

For Origen martyrdom meant more than confession of Christ in the presence of one's persecutors. It was the whole life of a Christian, which in this world can only be the "narrow way" if he is to strive for evangelical perfection.... His desire to follow the teachings of the Gospel to the letter led him, as is known, even to emasculation [cutting off his genitals in hopes of ridding himself of sexual desire]....

When he was very young he assumed the office of instructor, whose duty was to explain the Scriptures to new converts... "I would wish you to use all the strength of your mind for the advantage of Christianity," ... [he wrote] to his disciple Gregory Thaumaturgus. "To achieve this I desire you to take from Greek philosophy those spheres of knowledge which are potentially an introduction to Christianity, and whatever information from geometry and astronomy may serve to explain the sacred books; that what philosophers say of geometry, music, grammar, rhetoric, astronomy—namely that they are handmaidens of philosophy—may be said as well of philosophy itself in relation to Christianity."

... [In] the interpretation of the Scriptures ... Origen struck out on new paths... . According to Origen, ... the Old Testament reveals the New, and the New reveals the coming kingdom of God "when God will be all in all."

... [Origen] was the first to formulate a systematically Christocentric [Christ-centered] conception of the Old Testament.¹

... Origen ended his long and righteous life as a "confessor"—one who bore witness to Christ under torture—dying from injuries suffered during the persecutions of Decius. His longing for martyrdom, which had never slackened since his childhood, was satisfied.²

Schmemann concludes:

While [Origen's] figure is unusually attractive and his example inspiring, ... we cannot overlook the danger of his approach to the Bible.... [When he went to the extreme,] each word acquired an incalculable number of meanings, some of them extremely fantastic.... [Further,] he rejected the clear doctrine of the creation of the world from nothingness.... According to [him], the world evolves from God and returns to Him....³

About Tertullian: Michael A. Smith writes that "[Tertullian] is the first great Christian in the early history of the church whom succeeding ages would not canonize [declare a saint] but dare not condemn."⁴

As your book points out, Tertullian was one of the Church's leading theologians, providing us with many of the Latin words we use even today: "sacrament," "resurrection,""penitence,""Trinity," and "person" (in relation to God). In fact, the name "New Testament" was coined by him!

But, of course, Tertullian also joined that semi-charismatic and, by his time, ultra-conservative group called the Montanists and "from his vantage-point he scourged the remainder of the churches for their sins (real and imagined). It is said that in his last years he left the Montanists and founded his own sect. The Tertullianists survived as a distinct group until the fourth century, when they were readmitted into fellowship with mainstream Christianity, as their particular opinions were not considered heretical enough to exclude them."⁵

Tertullian is best remembered for his apologetic [defensive] writings, which, to put it mildly, might be called "energetic." Smith writes:

> [Tertullian] tears the Roman legal procedure to shreds, pointing out its glaring inconsistencies when dealing with Christians. He demands why Christians alone are not allowed to speak in their own defense. He questions the reasoning of judges who torture other suspects to obtain the truth, but torture Christians to obtain a denial... . He refutes the allegations of "secret crimes" by describing Christian meetings; yet even here he cannot miss a chance for a sly dig at Roman officialdom. He remarks, in an aside, that Christian church leaders are appointed because of their merit, not because (as with pagan priesthoods) they have paid for the honor!⁶

Tertullian the doctrinal writer ... uses every weapon in his barrister's [lawyer's] armory.... He aims to refute [heretics] at every step of their argument, wanting to win every way—rather like the man facing a charge of defamatory language, who swore that he didn't say it, but that if he did it was privileged conversation, and anyway it was true!⁷

Tertullian's works show clearly the way which North African Christianity would take, a way of enthusiasm, martyrdom and heated controversy. But it was a way with its own particular attractiveness.⁸

- 19. How was baptism in the early church similar to, and how was it different from, baptism as you are familiar with it in your own church? Talk not just about the ceremony, but, far more, about the preparation and requirements, the understood meaning of baptism, etc.
- 20. To my knowledge, no Protestant denomination has a practice called penance or related to penance. Is this good or bad? (Discuss this question from both a biblical and practical perspective. Also, keep in mind the historical context. The Church faces persecution—or potential persecution. How can you know whether you should trust someone?)
- 21. From what you have been taught in the past, how can you tell a true (or the true) church when you see it?

^{1.} i.e., he was the first to look for images of Christ, or what theologians call "types" of Christ, in the Old Testament. See the examples of such typological preaching in Comby, p. 66—where Jericho becomes "a figure of this world" and "Joshua foreshadowed the coming of Christ. When Christ came, he sent out his apostles, as Joshua had sent out the priests...."

^{2.} Schmemann, pp. 52–55.

^{3.} Schmemann, p. 55.

^{4.} M. A. Smith, *From Christ to Constantine* (London: Inter-Varsity Press, 1971), p. 100.

^{5.} Ibid., p. 101.

^{6.} Ibid., p. 102.

^{7.} Ibid., p. 103.

^{8.} Ibid., p. 105.

- 22. What do you see as the strengths and/or weaknesses of Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons' statements concerning how you can know the true Church (pp. 62–63)?
- 23. What was the key criterion by which the Christians of the second century said they would determine if a book was Scriptural or not (p. 64)?

Current Events | Three reports this week

Day 2

Bible/Appologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Questions 5–6 (#1–16)

Continue to work through the questions on Day 1.

More Than a Carpenter | Chapter 4

Bible Reading | John 6

Memorization | John 6:29

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 54-55

To Discuss After You Read

- 24. What significant theological question emerged as a result of the great persecution initiated by Roman Emperor Galerius? → how should the church respond to those who had temporarily given up the faith during the persecution?
- 25. Why do you think this was such a problem at the time? → imagine if a member of your family had remained faithful and been killed; now this weak-willed, faithless one, who worshipped the emperor, a false god, wants to "make amends"? If one could simply and easily disavow then re-avow faith: why should anyone go to the trouble of "holding fast" or bearing the persecution?
- 26. Can you imagine having fellowship with an idolater who turned their back on the truth for a season? Should those who deny the faith be forgiven or rejected by the church? Why or why not?
- 27. What of Peter: didn't he deny Christ? What happened to him? Are there grounds for making a distinction between him and other faithless Christians? ⇒ once Peter met the risen Lord, he did not deny again: he was converted and filled with the Spirit; can a converted individual deny and stay converted?

The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History | pp. 30–31 "Anthony Begins His Life as a Hermit"

To Discuss After You Read

28. When the great persecution ceased, what situation developed in the church that caused men like Anthony

to withdraw from the world? → they realized it didn't take a whole lot of pricey commitment to be a member of the church

29. This was the beginning of Monasticism (withdrawal to monasteries to escape the corruption of the world and gain a deeper level of spirituality). What do you think: can a person find deeper spirituality by withdrawing from society? Can one find deeper spirituality by living and serving within society? How? Why?

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 3

Current Events | Three reports this week

Day 3

Bible/Apologetics

More Than a Carpenter | Chapter 4 Bible Reading | John 7

Memorization | John 6:29

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 56-59

Vocabulary

This era also saw the development of **monasticism** ... (living in seclusion from the world, often with religious vows and having fixed rules of conduct emphasizing asceticism)

... it has since come to be known as the **Byzantine Empire**. (the eastern part of the later Roman Empire, dating from AD 330 when Constantine I rebuilt Byzantium and made it his capital)

... one son adopted **Arianism**, while the other remained orthodox ... (the doctrines of Arius, denying that Jesus was God and stating that he was only the highest of created beings)

To Discuss After You Read

30. Who was the first "Christian" Emperor? → Constantine

Note: Fr. Alexander Schmemann comments:

The descriptions of [Constantine's conversion] closest to it in time mention no vision of the Cross nor the traditional words, "In this sign conquer." They say merely that he was led in a dream to have a new sign inscribed on his weapons. This done, he conquered Maxentius and entered Rome.

Later the basic narrative began to grow into a legend, not without the help of Constantine himself. One point is beyond question: the sign he saw and under which he won his decisive victory was in his own mind a Christian symbol, and from that time on he counted himself a Christian. Did he actually become one?

Not until twenty-five years after the battle of the Milvian Bridge, did he receive baptism, the only symbol the Church accepts of becoming a Christian.... [But] then what had he been before? ...

In Constantine's mind the Christian faith, or rather, faith in Christ, had not come to him through the Church, but had been bestowed personally and directly for his victory over the enemy.... Consequently the victory he had won with the help of the Christian God had placed the emperor—and thereby the empire as well—under the protection of the Cross and in direct dependence upon Christ.

This also meant, however, that Constantine was converted, not as a man, but as an emperor. [From his perspective,] Christ Himself had sanctioned his power and made him His intended representative,⁹ and through Constantine's person He bound the empire to Himself by special bonds.

... All the ambiguity of the "age of Constantine" in Church history result[s] from the primary, initial paradox that the first Christian emperor was a Christian outside the Church, and [yet] the Church silently but with full sincerity and faith accepted and recognized him.[!]¹⁰

- 31. What did the Edict of Milan in 313 do for Christians? → it gave them freedom of conscience and worship and restored confiscated Christian property to the church
- 32. What effects did Constantine's reforms have on the church? → they gave higher status to bishops; they effectively made the state and church one; they made money and property available to the church; they allowed Christian symbols to appear on coinage and Roman standards; they made Sunday a day of rest; they made available new copies of the Bible; they practically impacted the laws
- 33. Which Roman Emperor officially made Christianity the state religion, and when? ➡ *Theodosius, in 380*
- 34. What was the doctrine of Arius that prompted the Council of Nicea in 325? ➡ he denied the full divinity of Jesus
- 35. Is this a major issue? → major: Jesus claimed to be God, so if he was not, he was a liar

Timeline and Map Activities

Bedict of Milan (313)

 Constantinople (now Istanbul, Turkey) (2; Milan (3) (map 1)

The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History |

pp. 32–36 "The Conversion of Constantine"; "The Council of Nicea"

To Discuss After You Read

36. The authors state that "God certainly used Constantine to make things happen for the church." What is your

10. Alexander Schmemann, *Historical Road of Eastern Orthodoxy* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, [1963] 1977), pp. 65–66. take on how God has moved through leaders and governments for the benefit of His church throughout history and how He is moving in today's world? Can you think of any examples?

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 3

Current Events | Three reports this week

Day 4

Bible/Appologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Question 7 (#1–11)

Read question 7, plus answer all the questions (#1–11).

- #1 What does "decree" mean? And "counsel"? And "foreordained"? ➡ decree: the plan of God; counsel: reason; foreordained: planned from the beginning
- #2 What does the plan of God include? ➡ everything
- #4 What are some of the differences between our human plans and the great plan of God? → God's plans are: eternal, absolute, perfect and all inclusive; our plans are determined by God
- #5 Who gave God advice when He worked out His plan?
 Why? ⇒ no one gave God advice; his purpose and plan has always been in God's mind and has never been changed
- #6 What two kinds of events or happenings do people often think of as being "outside" God's control? Prove that they are included in His plan. → chance or ac-cidental happenings and man's free will
- #7 When did God make His plan? ➡ he has had this plan forever
- #8 For what reason did God make His plan? → for His own Glory
- #9 Does this not mean that God is self-centered? If so, why is this not wrong for God, and yet wrong for man? → for God not to do so would be a denial of His being
- #10 What are the two (common) false inferences often drawn from this doctrine of the "decrees"? ➡ that God is the author of sin and that human persons are treated as "pawns" on a chessboard
- #11 Answer both of these false inferences. → God is not the author of sin: Satan is. The Bible teaches that those who are finally lost do not really want to be saved. The decree of God does not in any way weaken or destroy the responsibility of people

^{9.} As Schmemann points out, the Roman emperor had, in the popular thinking of that day, become "the connecting link between God and the world, while the state was the earthly reflection of divine law."

More Than a Carpenter | Chapter 4 Bible Reading | John 8 Memorization | John 6:29

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 60-63

Vocabulary

... which corresponds to the final **Canon** ... (the writings officially recognized as Scripture)

... his translation is known as the **Vulgate**. (the ancient Latin translation of the Bible made by Jerome)

To Discuss After You Read

- 37. What was the basic message of the Nicene Creed?¹¹ *that God and Jesus were "two <u>persons</u>" (two hypostases) but "of one <u>substance</u>" (homoousion—ho-mo-OO-seeon); put another way, it affirmed that Jesus shared the same divinity as His Father*
- 38. What was the Cappadocian Fathers' contribution to the Arian controversy? → they made a distinction between the Greek words for "substance" (ousia) and "person" (hypostasis), enabling them to say that the Father and the Son were one in substance, but distinct in person
- 39. What is the Nicene Creed? ⇒ the revised version of the "Creed of Nicea"; it includes a statement about the Holy Spirit;¹² it was revised at a council in Constantinople in AD 381; it is still used in the Christian church to this day

Note concerning "heresy" and "orthodoxy": Your authors make a slightly strange comment when they say that "[m]any theologians ... veered away from orthodox views.... Such heretical teaching prompted the Council of Ephesus to be convened."—To make such statements, the authors must speak from the perspective of people who live long after the Council, because before the Council it was not at all clear what was "orthodox" and/or what was "heretical." We know now which views were declared heretical and which views were declared orthodox. But these declarations were made at the Council itself. It wasn't as if the Council merely reasserted what other recognized authorities had said before.

Note concerning Nestorius and Nestorianism: We

will be studying the so-called Nestorian Church over the next few weeks. I think you need to understand just a bit of what your authors are saying about what Nestorius is supposed to have taught. They say Nestorius "appeared to argue that there were two persons in Christ, rather than ... that there was a single person, both God and man."-Please see how complicated this gets! We just read about "persons" vs. "substance." Part of what came into play in Nestorius' case was a difference in preferred terminology among various theologians. Some theologians preferred Greek-based words; others preferred Latin-based words. In both cases, the "equivalent" words had a lot of overlap of meaning, but (as is usually the case when one translates from one language into another), the overlap wasn't perfect. Certain terms held connotations that some people didn't like.... The crux of the case for Nestorius: he said that the eternal God couldn't possibly be born, certainly not by a woman. When a person is born, it means they come into being. But God existed before Mary existed, so in what sense could she be said to be the Mother of God? In essence, he said, "If the person who uses the term is very careful to define what he means, I have no objection to the term 'Mother of God.' But it would be better," he said, "if we would normally refer to Mary as the 'Mother of Christ'—who was both God and man together....."—The arguments waxed hot. Personalities got involved. I'm afraid both sides in the controversy were more interested in "proving a point" than in expressing or granting Christian charity to their opponents....—We will learn more.

Timeline and Map Activities

- Council of Nicea (325)
- Nicea (1); Cappadocia (1) (map 1)

The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History | pp. 36–38 "Athanasius's Letter Recongnizes the New Testament Canon"

To Discuss After You Read

- 40. What two major criteria did the early church use to identify the canon? → apostolic origin of a writing; the use of the writing in the churches: if it was both used, and it edified the people, the church assumed it was inspired by God as it inspired believers
- 41. Who was the first to present the New Testament canon as we know it today, and when? ➡ Athanasius, in 367

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 3

Current Events | Three reports this week

^{11.} The original form of the Creed of Nicea, although amplified since, reads as follows: "We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of all things, both visible and invisible; and in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Only begotten of the Father, that is to say, of the substance of the Father, God of God and Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made, both things in heaven and things on earth; who, for us men and for our salvation, came down and was made flesh, was made man, suffered, and rose again on the third day, went up into the heavens, and is to come again to judge both the quick and the dead; and in the Holy Ghost."

^{12.} The additional text reads, "We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Lifegiver, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and Son is worshipped and glorified."—**Note:** At the Council of Florence (1438–45), the phrase "and the Son" [*filioque*—feel-ee-O-kway] was added after "from the Father." In other words, the Council of Florence said the Creed should read, "We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Lifegiver, who proceeds from the Father *and the Son* ..."This "filioque clause" has been a major source of contention between the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches.

Bible/Appologetics

The Westminster Shorter Catechism | Question 7 (#1–11)

Continue to work through the questions on Day 4.

More Than a Carpenter | Chapter 4

Bible Reading | John 9

Memorization | John 6:29

History and Biographies

The Story of Christianity | pp. 64-65

Vocabulary

The Roman **basilicas** were a cross between a place ... (a public building of ancient Rome, typically oblong with a semicircular area at one or both ends, or a Christian church of a similar design)

Theodosius' **penance** came at a time when the practice ... (a means of repairing a sin committed, and obtaining pardon for it, by submitting to a punishment corresponding to the transgression)

To Discuss After You Read

- 42. In what ways were the size, status, and character of the church changed in the 4th century? → *it grew in numbers and wealth; it constructed great church buildings; it established elaborate liturgies; it was open to abuse of money and power by its leaders; it became allied with the state*
- 43. According to the authors, what physical change in the worship assembly demonstrated a greater separation between clergy and laity? ⇒ the emphasis on the mystery and splendor of the Communion service led to the altar being separated from the people in the church by a curtain or screen
- 44. Digging Deeper: There are obviously differing traditions concerning communion in the churches today. Do you know how your church's beliefs and practices concerning communion are similar to or different from those of other churches? (For example: who is permitted to partake of the elements? Is anyone in particular not permitted to partake? Is everyone who is permitted, permitted to ingest both bread and wine? Do you use unleavened bread? Cracker/wafers? Leavened bread? What about the drink: is it fermented? Do you drink from the same cup as other members of the congregation or do you each drink from your own cup? How often do you celebrate? Who officiates: only an ordained clergyman? An unordained man? A woman? A young person? What language is used? Do you follow a prescribed form, or can the leader speak according to whim? ...) Do you know how your church's tradi-

tion is different from the communion tradition in other churches? Do you have any idea why the various traditions are different?

- 45. What did Ambrose of Milan do that demonstrated the church's power over the state for the first time? → he forced emperor Theodosius to do public penance because he had massacred thousands of civilians in Thessalonica
- 46. In the United States, we pride ourselves on the "separation of church and state." Yet church and state always impact one another one way or another, either directly or indirectly. Since the mutual impact is inescapable, which way would you prefer to have things: church officially over the state, state officially over the church, or neither one over the other, but both affecting one another informally? Do you think your preference is workable?

Note on Monasticism: Morton M. Hunt gives us a clear picture of the kind of lives these monks and ascetics lived:

Some lived in huts or caves, but the more devout preferred dry wells, the deserted dens of beasts, and tombs. Most refrained from washing, and prized their crusted, malodorous state. A monk named Arsenius wove palm leaves, and refused to change the nauseous water in which he steeped them year after year, so as to add stench to his other discomforts; the monk Macarius ate nothing but raw desert herbs for seven years; and the monk Besarion did not lie down while sleeping for forty years. The most famous was Saint Simeon Stylites, who, it is often pointed out, spent thirty years on top of a sixty-foot pillar; it is less often mentioned (though equally true) that he also accumulated spiritual credit by allowing himself to become a mass of clotted and ulcerated filth, and that he bound a rope around his waist so tightly as to produce a maggot-infested putrefaction. Worms filled his bed, and fell from him as he walked; sometimes he replaced them, saying: "Eat what God has given you!"

In the Verba Seniorum, a collection of anecdotes and maxims of the desert fathers, a young monk tormented by sexual daydreams asks a wise old monk: "I entreat thee to explain to me how thou hast never been harried by lust." The old man replies: "Since the time that I became a monk I have never given myself my fill of bread, nor of water, nor of sleep, and tormenting myself with appetite for these things whereby we are fed, I was not suffered to feel the stings of lust."¹³

The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History

pp. 38-40 "Bishop Ambrose Defies the Empress"

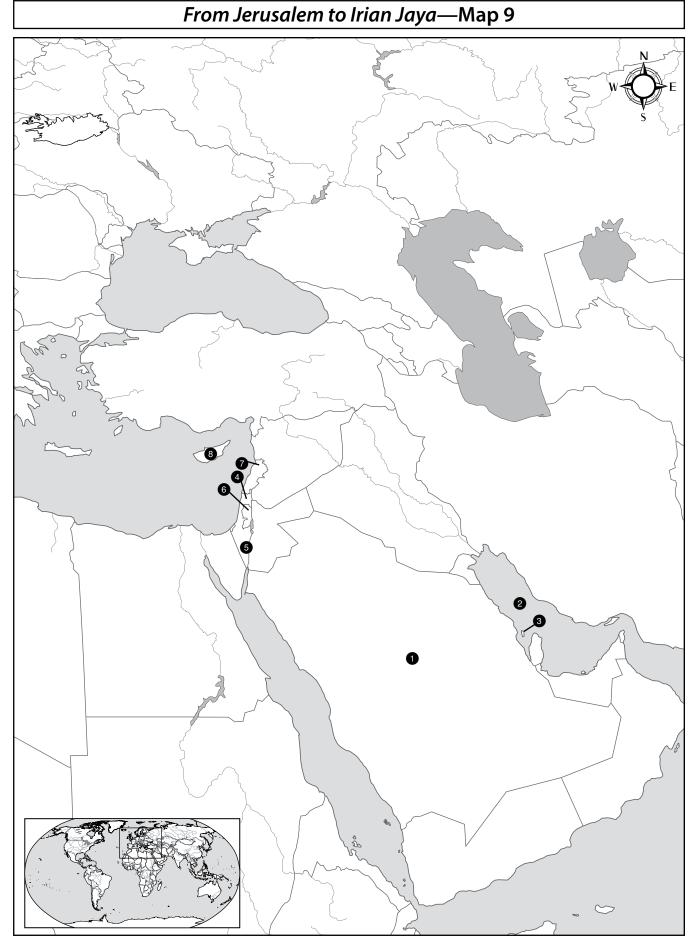
To Discuss After You Read

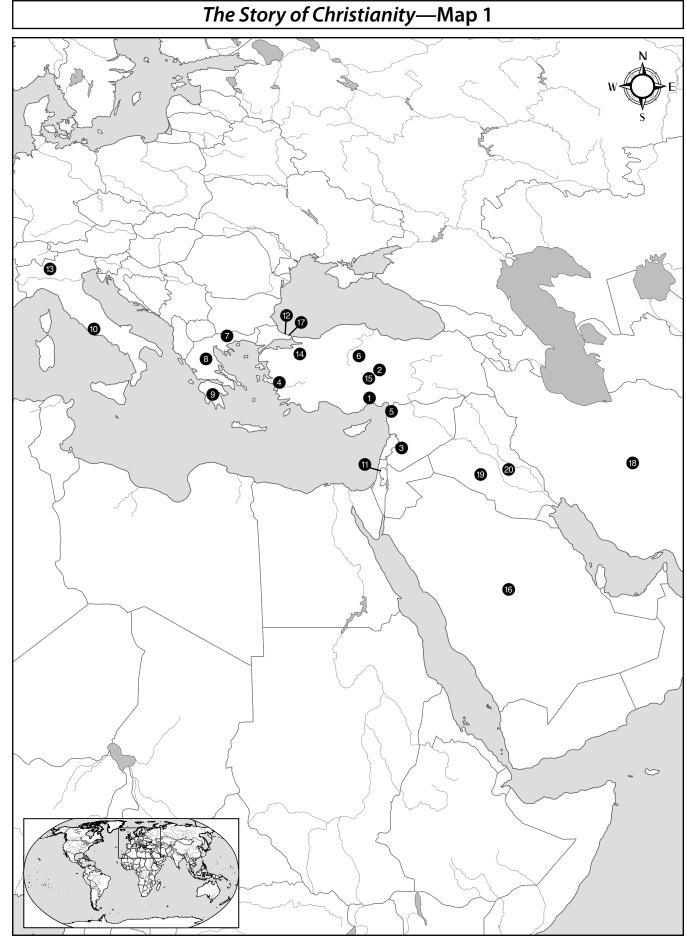
47. "[A] different kind of pattern began to develop between the church and state." How would you summarize it? ➡ *balance of, or struggle for, power*

Optional: How to Read Church History, Volume 1 | Chapter 3

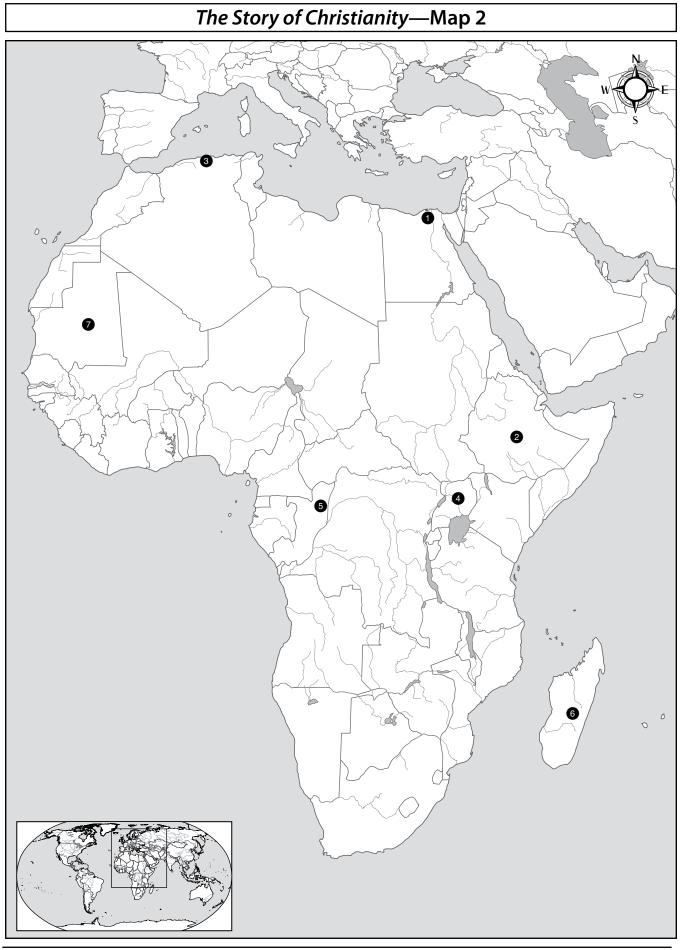
Current Events | Three reports this week ■

13. Morton M. Hunt, The *Natural History of Love* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1959), pp. 106–107.





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His	History of the Christian Church—Scope and Sequence: Schedule for Topics and Skills						
Week	Bible	History and Biographies					
1	Westminster: Q. 1, 2; Mat- thew 1:21; Mark 10:45 (Luke 19:10)	The Story of Christianity–The Old Testament: The Story of Israel; Between the Old and New Testaments; "For Unto Us a Child Is Born"; The Infant Church; The 100 Most Important Events–Ti-tus; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya– Paul the Apostle; How to Read Church, vol. 1–The Birth of the Church (The Early Church)					
2	Westminster: Q. 3, 4; The God-Man; John 1–4 (John 1:14)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –A New Religion; Worship and Leadership; Challenges to the Early Church; Persecution; Defending the Faith; The Triumph of Faith; <i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> –The Fire in Rome; Polycarp; Justin Martyr; Irenaeus; <i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –The Irresistible Advance; The Early Centuries: Polycarp; Perpetua; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 1</i> –Christians in a Hostile World (<i>The Early Church</i>)					
3	Westminster: Q. 5–7; John 5–9 (John 6:29)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –The Developing Church; The Great Persecution; Christianizing the Empire; Crisis in the Empire; The Church Gains Power; <i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> – Origen; Cyprian; Anthony; Constantine; The Council of Nicea; New Testament Canon; Bishop Ambrose; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 1–</i> Being a Christian in the Early Centuries (<i>The Early Church</i>)					
4	Westminster: Q. 8, 9; John 10–14 (John 14: 1–3)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –Monasticism; Augustine: The Victory of Grace; Barbarians in the West; The Church in the East; Byzantium in its Glory; <i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> –Benedict of Nursia; Augustine; Jerome; John Chrysostom; The Council of Chalcedon; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 1</i> –The Church in the Christian Empire (<i>The Church in the East</i>)					
5	Westminster: Q. 10, 11; John 15–19:16 (John 20:30–31)	<i>The Church of the East</i> –The Church of the East; The Church in Persia; Persecution; The Church in Arabia; Expansion in Central and Eastern Asia; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 1–</i> The Church in the Christian Empire; The Formation of the Creed (<i>Christianity in the East</i>)					
6	Westminster: Q. 12–15; John 19:17–21:25; the Unfinished Story; Acts 1 (Acts 1:8)	<i>The Church of the East</i> –Syrian Christians of Southwest India; The Missionary Enterprise in Fur- ther Asia; The Spread of Christianity in China and Japan; Cemetery Inscriptions from Southern Siberia; Factors in the Decline of the Church in the East; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 1</i> –The Forma- tion of the Creed (<i>Christianity in the East</i>)					
7	Westminster: Q. 16–18; Acts 2–6 (Acts 4:12)	<i>Church of the East</i> –Additional Factors in the Decline of the Church in the East; The Easter Church's Lasting Legacy; The Church of the East Today; The Name; The Bible of the Church of the East; Customs and Practices of the Church in the East; Was Nestorius a Heretic? How to Read Church, vol. 1–The Church Fathers (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)					
8	Westminster: Q. 19; Acts 7–11 (Acts 11:19–21)	The Story of Christianity–An Era of Missions; Civilizing the Barbarians; Mission and Reform; The 100 Most Important Events–Patrick; Columba; Gregory I; Synod of Whitby; Boniface; Bede; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya–The Early Centuries: Ulfilas; Patrick; Columba; Roman Catholic Missions: Boniface (Winfried); Anskar (The growth of the Church)					
9	Westminster: Q. 20–21; Acts 12–16 (Acts 14:27)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –Invasions in the East; A New Empire and a Christian Culture; West- ern Europe Returns to Chaos; Church, State, and Monks; Splendor and Schism; <i>The 100 Most</i> <i>Important Events</i> –Charles Martel; Charlemagne; Cluny; Cyril and Methodius; <i>From Jerusalem to</i> <i>Irian Jaya</i> –Cyril and Methodius (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)					
10	Westminster: Q. 22–23; Acts 17–21 (Acts 20:20–21)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –Splendor and Schism; The Gregorian Reformers; The Crusades; Revival in Faith, Art, and Learning; <i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> –Vladimir, Prince of Russia; The East-West Schism; Pope Urban II; The Monastery at Clairvaux; The Fourth Lateran Council; The Waldensians; <i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –Raymond Lull (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)					
11	Westminster: Q. 24, 25; Acts 22–26; (Acts 26:22–23)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –Revival in Faith, Art, and Learning; Friars and Faith; Devotion and Division; <i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> –Anslem; Universities of Paris and Oxford; Thomas Aquinas; The Divine Comedy; Francis of Assisi; Catherine of Siena; Wycliffe; John Hus; <i>How to Read Church, vol.</i> 1–The Middle Ages (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)					
12	Westminster: Q. 26; Acts 27–28; Letters to the Church: the Epistles of Paul; the Master Key to Scripture; Romans 1–2 (Romans 1:17; Review)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –The Eastern Churches; The Renaissance; Europe at the Time of the Reformation; The Reformation in Germany; <i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> –Johann Gutenberg; The Spanish Inquisition; Savonarola; Michelangelo; Martin Luther; <i>How to Read Church, vol.</i> 1–Christendom: The Foundations of a Society (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)					
13	Westminster: Q. 27; Romans 3–7 (Romans 5:6–8)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –The Reformation in Switzerland; The Radical Reformation; The Spread of the Reformation; <i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> –Ulrich Zwingli; John Calvin; Anabaptist; John Knox; St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre; Henry VIII; The Book of Common Prayer; John Smyth; <i>How to Read Church, vol.</i> 1–Christendom: Expansion, Challenges and Defense (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)					

Histo	ry of the Christian C	hurch—Scope and Sequence: Schedule for Topics and Skills (cont.)
Week	Bible	History and Biographies
14	Westminster: Q. 28, 29; Romans 8–12 (Romans 12:1–2)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> —The Spread of the Reformation; the Catholic Reformation; Early World Missions; <i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> —King James Bible; Mayflower Compact; Ignatius of Loyola; Council of Trent; <i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> —Roman Catholic Missions: Francis Xavier; Matthew Ricci; Batholomew de Las Casas; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 1</i> —The Autumn of Christendom (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)
15	Westminster: Q. 30, 31, 86, 87; Romans 13–16; the Epistle to the 21st Century (Romans 15:1–3)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –The Close of the Reformation; The Impact of the Enlightenment; Catholic Movements; Arminianism and Pietism; <i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> –Jan Amos Comenius; John Bunyan; The Westminster Confession of Faith; George Fox; Rembrandt; Philip Jacob Spener; <i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –The Moravian Advance: Dawn of Protestant Mis- sions; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 2</i> –Renaissance and Reformation (<i>The Growth of the Church</i>)
16	Westminster: Q. 32–34; 1 Corinthians 1–5 (1 Corinthians 1:18)	The Story of Christianity–Churches Under Attack; Revival Fires; The 100 Most Important Events– Moravian Brethren; Johann Sebastian Bach and George Frederic Handel; Isaac Watts; John Wesley; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya–The Moravian Advance: Count Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf; Christian David and Hans Egede; George Schmidt; How to Read Church, vol. 2– Catholic Reform in the Sixteenth Century; The Seventeenth Century: Toleration out of Conflict (The growth of the Church)
17	Westminster: Q. 35–36; 1 Corinthians 6–10 (1 Corinthians 9:19)	The Story of Christianity–Revival Fires; the Orthodox Church in the Age of Reason; The 100 Most Important Events–Jonathan Edwards; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya–American Indian Missions: Paul Le Jeune; John Eliot; The Mayhews; David Brainerd; Eleazer Wheelock; David Zeisberger; Isaac McCoy; Marcus and Narcissa Whitman; How to Read Church, vol. 2–Religious Flowering of the Seventeenth Century; Reformation of the Sixteenth Century (The growth of the Church)
18	<i>Westminster:</i> Q. 37, 38; 1 Corinthians 11-15 (1 Corin- thians 13:13)	The Story of Christianity–New World of Freedom; Christianity Attacked, Divided, and Flour- ishing; New Movements in Protestantism; a New Era for Missions; The 100 Most Important Events–William Wilberforce; John Keble; Soren Kierkegaard; Robert Raikes; William Carey; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya–South Central Asia: William Carey; How to Read Church, vol. 2–The Seventeenth Century: Tolerance out of Conflict (The growth of the Church)
19	Westminster: Q. 39–44; 1 Corinthians 16; When I Am Weak, I Am Strong; 2 Cor- inthians 1–3 (2 Corinthians 1:3–4)	The Story of Christianity–American Christianity; The 100 Most Important Events–Campbells/ Disciples of Christ; Adoniram and Ann Judson; Charles G. Finney; John Nelson Darby; Dwight L. Moody; Richard Allen; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya–South Central Asia: William Carey; Adoniram and Ann Judson; George and Sarah Boardman; Alexander Duff; James and Isabella Thoburn; How to Read Church, vol. 2–Evangelization of the World (The growth of the Church)
20	<i>Westminster</i> : Q. 45–48; 2 Corinthians 4–9:5 (2 Corin- thians 4:5–6)	The Story of Christianity–The Eastern Churches; Christianity in Industrial Society; World Evange- lization; The 100 Most Important Events–Charles Spurgeon; Elizabeth Fry; William Booth; David Livingstone; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya–Black Africa: Robert and Mary Moffat; How to Read Church, vol. 2–Evangelization of the World (The growth of the Church)
21	Westminster: Q. 49–54; 2 Corinthians 9:6–13 (2 Corinthians 10:17–18)	<i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –Black Africa: David Livingstone; George Grenfell; William Sheppard; Alexander Mackay; Mary Slessor; China: Robert Morrison; Liang Afa; Karl F. A. Gutzlaff; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 2</i> –New Worlds: Britain and North America (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)
22	Westminster: Q. 55, 56; How to Be Free; Galatians 1–5 (Galatians 2:20–21)	The Story of Christianity–World Evangelization; The 100 Most Important Events–Hudson Taylor; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya–China: J. Hudson Taylor; Jonathan and Rosalind Goforth; Mildred Cable; The Pacific Islands: Henry Nott; How to Read Church, vol. 2–The Church in the Age of Enlightenment and Revolution (The growth of the Church)
23	Westminster: Q. 57–59; Galatians 6; Calling of the Saints; Ephesians 1–4 (Ephesians 1:3)	<i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –The Muslim World: Hiram Bingham; John Williams; John G. Paton; John Coleridge Patteson; Florence Young; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 2</i> –The Shock of the Revolution (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)
24	Westminster: Q. 60–66; Ephesians 5–6; Christ, Our Confidence and Our Strength; Philippians 1–4:1 (Philippians 2:1–2; Review)	<i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –The Muslim World: Henry Martyn; Samuel Zwemer; Temple Gaird- ner; Constance Padwick; Maude Cary; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 2</i> –Restoration and Liberalism (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)
25	Westminster: Q. 67–72; Philippians 4:2-23; Power and Joy; Colossians 1-4 (Colossians 3:1-3)	<i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –Korea and Japan: Horace Allen; Henry Appenzeller; Horace and Lillias Horton Underwood; John L. Nevius; Protestant Mission Initiatives in Japan; William Smith Clark and Kanzo Uchimura; Charles and Lettie Cowman; Mabel Francis; How to Read Church, vol. 2–The British Experience (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)

Histo	History of the Christian Church—Scope and Sequence: Schedule for Topics and Skills (cont.)				
Week	Bible	History and Biographies			
26	Westminster: Q. 73–75; Hope for a Hopeless World; 1 Thess. 1-5; Hold- ing Back Lawlessness; 2 Thess. 1 (1 Thess. 2:13)	<i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –Single Women Missionaries: Adele Marion Fields; Charlotte (Lot- tie) Diggs Moon; Amy Carmichael; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 2</i> –A World Wide Christianity			
27	Westminster: Q. 76–81; 2 Thess. 2-3; How to Build a Church; 1 Timothy 1-3 (2 Thess. 3:3-5)	<i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> –Student Volunteer Movement; <i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –Sin- gle Women Missionaries: Johanna Veenstra; Gladys Aylward; Student Volunteers: C. T. Studd; John R. Mott; Robert E. Speer; <i>How to Read Church, vol. 2</i> –The Weight of Modernity (<i>The growth</i> <i>of the Church</i>)			
28	Westminster: Q. 82–88; 1 Timothy 4-6; Sturdy Christians in a Collapsing World; 2 Timothy 1-2 (1 Timothy 4:12-14)	<i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –Student Volunteers: Fletcher Brockman; E. Stanley Jones; "Faith" Missionaries: A. B. Simpson; Fredrik Franson; Rowland Bingham; Peter Cameron Scott; C. I. Scofield (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)			
29	Westminster: Q. 89–93; 2 Timothy 3-4; Hope for the Future, Help for Today; Titus 1-3 (Titus 2:11-13)	The Story of Christianity–Fortress Rome; Facing the New Century; A World at War and A New Theology; The 100 Most Important Events–Papal Infallibility; Pentecostalism; Karl Bath; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya–"Faith" Missionaries: Jim Eliot; Eliza Davis George (The growth of the Church)			
30	Westminster: Q. 94–97; Philemon; Hebrews 1–4:13 (Hebrews 1:1–2)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –The Orthodox Church in Communist Russia; The West Between the Wars; <i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> –The Fundamentalist Movement; <i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –Innovation and Ingenuity: Medical Missions; Ida Scudder; Carl Becker (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)			
31	Westminster: Q. 98, 99; He- brews 4:14–9:28 (Hebrews 4:14)	The Story of Christianity–World War II and After; The 100 Most Important Events–Cameron Townsend; Christian Radio Broadcast; Dietrich Bonhoeffer; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya–Inno- vation and Ingenuity: William Cameron Townsend; Elizabeth "Betty" Greene (The growth of the Church)			
32	Westminster: Q. 100, 101; Hebrews 10–13; Faith in Action; James 1 (Hebrews 12:1–2)	<i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –Twentieth-Century Martyrs: Betty and John Stam; Paul Carlson; Betty Olsen; Chet Bitterman; William Donald McClure (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)			
33	Westminster: Q. 102, 103; James 2–5; Living Stones; 1 Peter 1–2:3 (1 Peter 1:3–5)	The Story of Christianity–Developing Churches; Ecumenical Movements; The 100 Most Impor- tant Events– World Council of Churches Is Formed; From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya–Third World Missions: Pandita Ramabai; William Wade Harris; Semisi Nau; John Sung; Elka of the Wai Wai (The growth of the Church) Sphere Four: Indigenous Missions Defined			
34	Westminster: Q. 104, 105; 1 Peter 2:4–5:14; Faith in the Face of Falsehood; 2 Peter 1 (2 Peter 1:3–4)	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> –Social Issues and Activism; Changing Catholicism; the New Evangeli- cals; the Pentecostal Movement; World Christianity (<i>The global Church</i>) <i>The 100 Most Important</i> <i>Events</i> –Martin Luther King Jr.; Second Vatican Council; Billy Graham; Modern Charismatic Renewal			
35	Westminster: Q. 106; 2 Peter 2–3; Authentic Christianity; 1 John 1–3:24 (1 John 2:1–2)	<i>The 100 Most Important Events</i> –Chinese Church Grown Despite Cultural Revolution; <i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –New Methods and Strategy: R. Kenneth Strachan; Orlando Costas; Donald McGavran; Ralph and Roberta Winter; Lesslie Newbigin (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)			
36	Westminster: Q. 107; 1 John 4–5; the Vital Balance; 2 John; Believ- ers and Bosses; 3 John; Contending for the Faith; Jude (2 John 1:6; 3 John 1:11; Revelation 5:12, 22:7; Review)	<i>From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya</i> –Saints and Celebrities: Bob Pierce; Bruce Olson; Mother Teresa; Brother Andrew and Open Doors; Helen Roseveare; Jackie Pullinger; Don Richardson; Post- script (<i>The growth of the Church</i>)			