

Unit 1: The Early Church

Directions: Circle the answer that best completes each statement.

1. The Holy Spirit used the celebration of the Old Testament festival of (Passover; Pentecost; the Day of Atonement; Easter) to bring people from many countries together to hear the Gospel, and the Christian church was born.
2. As a result of their evangelistic efforts, most of the Apostles suffered (torture; stoning; martyrdom; crucifixion).
3. The Roman government during the 200s (persecuted; honored; ignored; all of the above) the early Christians for practicing their faith.
4. The early Christian martyrs were strengthened in their faith by (the Word of God; Baptism; Holy Communion; all of the above).
5. Which of the following phrases about Augustine is *not* true? (He was a lifelong Christian; He had a Christian mother who prayed for him; He heard the Gospel from Ambrose and was baptized by him; He became a bishop.)
6. Augustine fought against many false teachings, including those of the Pelagians. The Pelagians taught that people are born without sin and (don't need a savior; can save themselves by their good works; can save themselves by making a decision to believe in Jesus; all of the above).
7. When we Christians defend our faith, we should rely upon (the catechism; the Bible; Christian books; the pastor) as the source of what we believe and teach.
8. Which statement about the origin and purpose of the creeds is *not* correct? (Creeds were often written in response to controversies within the church; Creeds summarized the teachings of the Bible; Creeds included church doctrine and traditions in addition to the teachings of the Bible; Creeds were faith statements that taught Christians what to believe and what not to believe.)
9. God used (missionaries; a former slave; Word and Sacraments; all of the above) to bring many people in Europe to saving faith in Jesus Christ as the Roman Empire was declining.

Directions: Answer each question as completely as possible. Some questions have more than one part. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

10. Peter, Paul, and the other Apostles were not perfect in their witness for Christ even after receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit. Think about a specific way that you sometimes fail in your own witness for Christ. Write a short prayer of confession. You can be assured that God will forgive you for Jesus' sake. (1 pt.)
11. The Apostles and early Christians confessed their faith in Jesus and sometimes lost their lives as a result. You may never be martyred for your faith, but you will probably have many opportunities to share it. What does Jesus Christ mean to you? Write your confession of faith here. (3 pts.) **I believe that Jesus Christ ...**
12. How can you carry on the Apostles' work? (1 pt.)
13. How is the relationship between church and state in your country today different from that of the Roman Empire in Constantine's time? (2 pts.)
14. How were the times of persecution experienced by the early church actually a blessing in disguise? (2 pts.)
15. Christians are also citizens of the state. How does God expect them to live in regard to their government? Does it matter if the government is corrupt? (2 pts.)
16. Why were the means of grace (Word and Sacraments) so important to the early Christians? (2 pts.)
17. A new church is forming in your neighborhood. You've heard that the worship services are quite exciting. You've also learned that the pastor has been preaching that faith in Jesus Christ is only one of many ways to be saved; the important thing is to be sincere in whatever you believe. Your friends are planning to join the church and have invited you to join them. What will you do? (3 pts.)

Name _____