

Vocabulary for Unit 8

Anointing of the Sick: From the Latin *inungere*, meaning “to smear” or “rub on” oil or ointment for medical purposes, referring to an act of applying oil in a religious ceremony or as part of a blessing.

antichrist: A pseudo-Messianism whereby a human being puts himself or herself in the place of God or declares himself or herself to be a new messiah.

Apostle: From the Greek *apostolos*, meaning “messenger,” especially a messenger who is sent on a mission. In the Gospels, Jesus chose the Apostles and sent them on a mission, just as Jesus was sent by the Father to preach the Gospel to the whole world.

Ascension: From the Latin *ascendere*, meaning “to climb up,” referring to the feast celebrated for forty days after Easter commemorating Christ’s being taken up into Heaven to be seated at the right hand of the Father.

charism: A special gift or grace of the Holy Spirit given to an individual Christian or community, commonly for the benefit and building up of the entire Church.

Church: From the Greek *kyriake*, meaning “the Lord’s house.” *Church* has multiple meanings: (1) the building where Christians gather for worship, (2) a specific Christian denomination, such as Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and so on, (3) the whole body of Christians, and (4) ecclesiastical authority, in contrast to civil authority, as in the case of Church and State.

conversion: A profound change of heart and a turning away from sin and toward God.

Deutero-Pauline: *Deutero*, from the Greek *deuteros*, meaning “second,” and *Pauline*, referring to Paul. Therefore, the term means “secondary writings attributed to Paul.”

disciple: From the Greek *discipulus*, meaning “pupil,” referring to the original followers of Christ and to all who try to follow Christ’s teachings.

ecclesia: A Latin word from the Greek *ekklesia*, meaning “assembly” of all the citizens to consider an issue, referring in Christian usage to the assembly of those called to follow Christ.

epistle: Another name for a New Testament letter.

evangelize: From the Greek *eu*, meaning “good,” and *angelos*, meaning “messenger,” referring to the spreading of the Gospel (Good News) of Christ.

Gentiles: Non-Jewish people.

Gnosticism: A group of heretical religious movements that claimed salvation comes from secret knowledge available only to the elite initiated in that religion.



Holy Spirit: From the Latin *spiritus*, meaning “breath” or “soul,” referring to the Third Person of the Trinity, the Paraclete divinely sent to teach and guide the Church to the end of time. The seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel (right judgment), fortitude (courage), knowledge, piety (reverence), and fear of the Lord (wonder and awe).

kerygma: A Greek word meaning “proclamation” or “preaching,” referring to the announcement of the Gospel or the Good News of divine salvation offered to all through Jesus Christ. *Kerygma* has two senses. It is both an event of proclamation and a message proclaimed.

martyrdom: Witness to the saving message of Christ through the sacrifice of one’s life.

Pauline letters: Thirteen New Testament letters attributed to Paul or to disciples who wrote in his name. They offer advice, pastoral encouragement, teaching, and community news to early Christian communities.

Pentecost: The fiftieth day following Easter, which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the early Apostles and disciples.

Way, the: The original name for Christianity during the time of the Apostles.

