Socratic Seminar Ticket

Please answer the following questions in paragraph form. Completion of this handout will allow you to participate in the socratic seminar on early Christian communities.

1. What were the political and legal issues surrounding the birth of Christianity in the early to middle first century?
2. How might these issues, as well as the social stigma that came with being Christian, have affected the initial development of Christian communities?
3. Why would encouragement and leadership from Christian leaders have been especially helpful during this time?
4. What challenges do you see for the writers of the letters, given all of the above information?