

Name _____

Unit 2 Reading Guide

New Testament: God's Plan Fulfilled

Chapter 4: The Life and Teachings of Jesus

Article 16: The Birth of Christ

1. The _____ of Matthew and Luke are primarily _____ statements about the person and _____ of Jesus Christ. In other words, the accounts of Jesus' birth and _____ focus on explaining _____, rather than _____.
2. The Gospel of _____ begins with a genealogy traced through Joseph's family. Notice that it begins with _____, the father of the _____ faith. The Gospel's Jewish _____ would have felt an immediate connection to _____ when the Gospel identifies him as a "son of _____" (1:1).
3. Although Jewish genealogy was traced through the _____, there are four women, besides Jesus' mother, Mary, mentioned: _____, _____, _____, and "the wife of Uriah" (_____).
4. Matthew's _____ makes a point of recognizing the important role that _____ played in Jewish history.
5. _____ is a Hebrew word meaning "God is with us." For the Jewish community, the presence of God was found in the _____ of the _____, which was kept in the _____ of _____ in the _____.
6. In contrast to the Gospel of _____, the Gospel of _____ infancy narrative emphasizes Jesus' _____ and breaks down _____.
7. The _____ circumstances of Jesus' birth, the recognition of the poor _____, and the Gospel's emphasis on _____ must have made an impression on Luke's _____. His infancy narrative, and much of the rest of his Gospel, places no importance on _____ or _____ status.
8. Luke takes Jesus' ancestry all the way back to _____. It is his way of telling his _____ audience that, yes, Jesus is a son of _____, but he is also a _____ of our very first parents. That points to a truth that will be fully revealed later in Jesus' ministry, that both _____ and _____ are included in God's plan of salvation.



Article 17: In the Flesh

1. The term _____ comes from a Latin word meaning “to become flesh.” It refers to the _____ of Jesus Christ, the Divine Son of God, becoming _____.
2. Through the Incarnation, Jesus Christ became truly _____ while remaining truly _____. He is the _____ who heals the sin of our first ancestors and the _____ that came about as a result.
3. Because Jesus is both truly _____ and truly _____, he is the perfect _____ between humanity and God.
4. A _____ is a person who acts as a “middle man” or a “_____” between two or more parties to help _____ of misunderstandings or language barriers, or bring about _____.
5. Another way the _____ describes the reconciling work of Christ is by giving him the title, the _____ (or “the last Adam”). _____ gives Jesus this title in his First Letter to the Corinthians and in his Letter to the Romans (see 1 Corinthians 15:45).
6. God created Adam to live in _____ with him in a state of _____ and justice, but Adam chose to sin. Jesus Christ became the _____; he embodied the union of God and _____ that was intended for the first Adam. In doing so, Jesus allowed the grace of _____ to become available to us all.
7. Mary is the _____ of God because she is the mother of Jesus Christ, who is one _____ with two natures, _____ and _____. Because she carried the Son of God in her womb, she is given the title of _____, a Greek word meaning “God-bearer.”
8. In 2002, Pope Saint John Paul II found it “fitting to add . . . a meditation on certain particularly significant moments in his public ministry” and added the _____ Mysteries (“On the Most Holy Rosary,” October 16, 2002).

Article 18: Bearing the Burden

1. Intentionally letting go of the things you really want can be an act of _____. Sometimes it can be very painful. But it can also lead you to become more _____, more empathetic to other people’s losses, and more _____. Jesus embraced _____ and encouraged his _____ to do so.
2. The problem of wealth is not the _____ itself, but the ease in which it can _____ us from doing God’s will. By giving it _____, _____ it with others, we free ourselves to focus on what is of lasting value: the building up God’s _____.
3. Did Jesus really believe that Peter was “_____”? Nothing else in the Gospels leads us to think that. Recall that Jesus sometimes used _____, or exaggerations, to make a point. He wanted his disciples to know that his Passion and death were _____ elements of his _____.
4. Christ also wanted them to know that sharing in his _____ is part of a _____ mission as well. Right after this incident, Jesus made it clear that there is a cost for being his follower: “Whoever wishes to _____ after me must _____ himself, take up his _____, and follow me” (Mark 8:34).
5. It is difficult enough hearing that being a _____ of Jesus Christ requires _____ in order to help others. On top of that, Jesus informs his disciples that they might also be _____ as well.



6. When the Gospels were written—some forty to seventy years after Jesus' death and Resurrection—
_____ were increasingly persecuted by both the Jewish and _____ authorities.
7. There are numerous places where Christians have _____ terrible waves of persecution. In some parts of the world today, merely _____ yourself as a Christian requires great _____.
8. Christ's entire life was a work of _____ that revealed the Father's love for us. His poverty, his sacrifice, his _____ to endure persecution, and his selfless love _____ us how we are to live our lives.

Article 19: Grabbed from the Grave

1. Before his _____ from the dead, the Son of God also offered hints to his _____ over death, as in these three accounts of _____ from the dead.
2. The _____ of Jairus and the (hemorrhaging) woman plays an essential role: God's presence is always there for us, but we must _____ out and _____ with God to change our lives.
3. Many scholars attribute the similar accounts in Matthew, Mark, and Luke to Luke and Matthew's use of _____ Gospel as a _____ for their writings.
4. It might seem odd to us that Matthew mentions the presence of _____ players at the home when Jesus arrives. However, knowing about the _____ of the time helps us understand. In this case, _____ families followed a set of _____ when someone died.
5. The Gospel of John is the only Gospel that tells the account of Jesus _____ Lazarus from the _____ (see 11:1–44). Lazarus and his sisters, Martha and Mary, are _____ of and deeply loved by Jesus (see 11:5).
6. For Martha, Jesus is the _____, but she does not see him as the Lord over _____ and _____. Jesus leads her toward a deeper _____ and understanding of who he is.
7. The most striking and terribly _____ aspect of the _____ of Lazarus is that it acts as the breaking point that leads to Jesus' _____.

Chapter 5: Jesus' Death: Four Perspectives

Article 20: One Threat in Five Events

1. The three _____ Gospels include Jesus quoting the prophet _____, through whom the Lord said, "Has this house which bears my name become in your eyes a den of _____?" (Jeremiah 7:11). By repeating this quote, Jesus is _____ the leaders of his time for refusing to _____ the aliens, orphans, and widows, as well as for their _____.
2. In the cleansing of the _____, Jesus publicly _____ their _____ and questions their integrity. It is not surprising that they see him as a very dangerous _____.
3. By including this _____ account (by a woman) just before Jesus' death, the Gospel authors are making the point that Jesus is the _____ who saves us from sin. It also foreshadows his role as the _____ who offers the _____—himself (see Hebrews 5:1–10).



4. Jesus' acceptance of women's _____ in public and religious life and his promotion of their _____ is another way he is a _____ to the Jewish leaders.
5. _____ Gospel does not mention Judas meeting with the chief priests, but he does mention the influence of the _____ (see 13:2), as does Luke (Luke 22:3). Judas is a warning to _____ not to assume that just because we follow Christ we are above _____.
6. Recall that John places Jesus' _____ on _____ to symbolize his role as the slaughtered lamb. Second, the _____ meal in John does not include Jesus establishing the _____; there is no mention of bread and wine.
7. Instead, John records a set of _____ by Jesus in which he prepares the Apostles to _____ his _____ after his death and Resurrection.
8. _____ were _____ priests of high rank in the _____. They had administrative _____ and presided over important Temple functions and were probably leaders in the _____.

Article 21: Why They Killed Jesus

1. Jesus' presence and teachings _____ the very livelihood of all those associated with the _____, particularly the _____.
2. Mark and Matthew explicitly say that the _____ found Jesus _____ of _____ (see Mark 14:64 and Matthew 26:65). Luke and John don't use that word, but certainly imply it.
3. _____ Gospel describes the charges against Jesus with the most detail. "We found this man _____ our people; he opposes the _____ of _____ to Caesar and maintains that he is the _____, a king" (23:2).
4. The chief priests also claim that Jesus was "_____ the people to revolt" (23:14). In all four Gospels, Pilate addresses the accusation that Jesus is "the _____ of the Jews."

Article 22: Carrying the Cross

1. They _____ Jesus by hailing him as "_____ of the Jews," spitting on him, and beating him even more—a description much like the treatment of the _____ prophesied by Isaiah.
2. Compared to the other Gospels, John tends to focus more on Jesus' _____ and portrays him as _____ and in control of his destiny.
3. Like Simon, we are also called to _____ in the _____ of Jesus and help _____ his cross, to participate in his mission. That is why Christians _____ crosses on our necklaces, T-shirts, and the walls of our homes, so that we never lose sight of Jesus' _____.
4. The _____ of the _____ consists of _____ events and is commonly used as a _____ as the individual or group moves from station to station.



Article 23: Crucifixion and Death

1. To _____ someone, soldiers would attach the victim's arms to the _____ using rope, nails, or both. They would _____ the beam and fasten it to the post or _____, then nail or tie down the victim's _____. Depending on how it was done, death by crucifixion could come in _____, or it could be sadistically drawn out to last _____.
2. [Otherwise,] the _____ of the body pulling down on the arms made it increasingly difficult to _____. If they wanted a victim to _____, they might break his legs so that he could not _____ himself. In that case he would soon die of _____. Others could die of thirst, hunger, _____, exposure to the elements, heart failure, or any combination of these factors.
3. _____ was intended to be a _____ and painful death and was purposefully done in _____ view so that many people would see it. A sign was hung around the neck or placed above the victim to identify the person's _____.
4. All of this was done to _____ others from committing the same _____. It was a Roman form of _____ used to frighten the population into _____.
5. Some of the other details in the Gospel accounts are connected to Old Testament _____. For example, all four Gospels include the scene in which the soldiers _____ to divide Jesus' garments among themselves.
6. [Recall that] the sanctuary was an area of the Jewish Temple called the _____ of _____, where the Ark of the Covenant, the place in which _____ symbolically resided, was kept. Only the _____ could pass behind that veil, and only once a year on the Day of _____.
7. When Jesus died, he atoned for all our sins, so the _____ was torn and the _____ of _____ was laid bare for all to see. With no veil to _____ it, all of humanity had _____ to God's presence.
8. (The Gospel of) _____ reports that instead of breaking Jesus' legs, as they did with the others crucified with him, the soldiers _____ Jesus' side with a _____, and _____ and _____ flowed from the wound.

Chapter 6: Resurrection and Ascension

Article 24: Nothing in the Dark?

1. Just as the prophet _____ was hidden for three days in the belly of a _____, so too was _____ hidden for three days in the "belly" of the _____.
2. All four Gospels name _____ of _____ as the person who _____ Jesus, but their descriptions of him vary. John says that Joseph was secretly Jesus' _____ (see 19:38). In Matthew, Joseph is described as a _____ man (see 27:57) who laid Jesus in his own new tomb.
3. His body was then wrapped in a _____ cloth and laid in Joseph's _____. It was also the custom to _____ the body with spices and oils.



4. There is a detail about Jesus' _____ that only the Gospel of Matthew includes. Matthew tells us that Pontius Pilate placed a _____ at the tomb (see 27:62–66). In this account, the chief priests and Pharisees warn _____ about Jesus' claim that he would _____ three days after his execution (see 16:21).
5. They are worried that the _____ will _____ the body and claim that Jesus is _____, which will cause problems for them if the word spread to others. We learn that these _____ are frightened when the _____ occurs (see 28:4).
6. The _____ says that after his death and prior to his Resurrection, Jesus "_____ into _____." This means that Jesus "experienced death and his soul joined the others in the _____ of the dead. But he descended there as _____, proclaiming the Good News to the spirits _____ there"¹ (CCC, number 632).

Article 25: What Is Resurrection?

1. The _____ is the _____ rising of Jesus from the _____ on the third day after his death on the cross. He is not simply _____ back to the same life he had before; rather, Jesus truly dies, passes through and _____, and returns to a new and different life.
2. Mortal bodies will get old, die, and decay, but a _____ body is eternal and _____ (see 1 Corinthians 15:42). This could explain why some of the disciples find Jesus _____ after his Resurrection (see Luke 24:15–16; John 20:14, 21:4).
3. The New Testament writers offer many _____ who testified to the _____ including the eleven remaining Apostles, Mary Magdalene and the other women, and the two disciples outside _____.
4. Besides the _____ witnesses, there are a few other things that point to the Resurrection being an authentic _____ event.
5. Jesus lived in a _____ society where women were considered _____ to men. They thought so little of women's testimony that women were not allowed to be used as _____ in court. Yet, in all four Gospels, the first witnesses of the empty tomb were _____ and the other _____.
6. If the disciples were going to _____ about it, naming the women as _____ would have been a terrible idea. The only logical reason the evangelists would do this is because _____.
7. Another aspect to consider is the _____ situation that Jesus' followers found themselves in immediately before and after his _____. Why would they continue to put their lives in _____ for a _____?
8. The only reasonable explanation for all this _____ is that the early Christians experienced the _____ of the _____. This event forever changed their lives and they dedicated themselves to _____ the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection. The Resurrection is the _____ of our _____.



Article 26: Resurrection Appearances

1. When Jesus sat at the _____, “he took _____, said the _____, broke it, and gave it to them” (Luke 24:30). It was then that their eyes were _____, but as soon as they _____ him, he vanished.
2. Looking back, they _____ that their hearts were “_____ [within us]” the whole time they were with him (24:32).
3. A “_____” heart, then, is one that is filled with _____ and _____ and guides us toward _____.
4. Another thing the Gospel accounts of the Resurrection teach us is how we might _____ to the _____ of Christ’s Resurrection from the dead. John’s Gospel offers us at least _____ different examples of the disciples’ _____ to the Resurrection:
5. The _____ disciple (John) believes before he _____ Jesus. The _____ of _____ is highlighted because it is the response of “the beloved _____.”
6. The second response is the example of _____ herself. It was only when Jesus called her by name that she realized who he was (see 20:11–18). This is the _____ of _____. Like Mary, we sometimes struggle to find God in our lives, even when he is right _____ our face.
7. When (Thomas) heard about Jesus’ Resurrection, he said to the others, “Unless I see the _____ of the nails in his _____ and put my finger into the _____ and put my hand into his side, I will _____” (20:25).
8. Thomas shows us the _____. Note that doubt is _____ as a bad thing in this account. Only when someone can _____ their doubts can they _____ them.
9. The fourth faith response comes from all of Jesus’ _____ who _____ had the privilege of _____ Jesus’ physical _____ on Earth—including _____. This is the response of _____.
10. Jesus had accurately _____ that _____ would _____ knowing him three times (see John 18:15–18,25–27). After the Resurrection, Jesus offers Peter a chance to _____ his love for him. Just as Peter had _____ him three times, Jesus asks Peter three times if he loves him.

Article 27: The Ascension

1. Though some of the _____ people believed their body kept them from the _____ world, Jesus’ _____ tells us the opposite: he ascended into Heaven *with a* _____.
2. Recall that before Jesus _____ into _____, he promised to send the _____. This is why the Ascension is closely tied to _____, for it means that Christ’s Ascension has cleared the way for the coming of the _____.
3. At that time, the _____ understood God to be in the heavens above the _____, so it was appropriate to describe Jesus as being _____ “_____” as he returned to Heaven.



4. They believed that the _____ of Heaven and Earth sometimes _____
_____ each other. The Old Testament records numerous _____ of angels on Earth.
5. The _____ is a reminder that Heaven and Earth _____ all around us, and that by
following Jesus on _____, we will also follow him into our _____.

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Endnote Cited in Quotations from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Second Edition

1. Gen. 2:17.

