

Final Performance Task Options for Unit 7

Important Information for All Three Options

The following are the main ideas that you are to understand from this unit. They should appear in this final performance task so that your teacher can assess whether you learned the most essential content.

- First-century letters, including Paul's, follow a specific format and have recognizable characteristics.
- Many of Paul's letters respond to specific problems that the early Christian communities were facing.
- In his letters, Paul presents a vision of the Church as Christ's own Body, animated by the Holy Spirit.
- In his letters, Paul helps the early Christian community to understand the saving effect of their faith in Jesus.

In addition to demonstrating understanding of these four main concepts of the unit, your final performance task must also contain or demonstrate the following:

- In-depth, substantial content appropriate for an upper-level high-school religious studies course
- Responsible and accurate use of Scripture
- Substantive content that creatively and accurately engages with and interprets the material of this unit
- Proper grammar, spelling, and diction
- A neat and well-organized presentation

Option 1: An Exegetical Paper

Choose one passage from one of the Pauline or Deutero-Pauline letters, approximately five to fifteen verses in length. Ask your teacher to approve the passage you select. Then research and write a four- to five-page exegetical paper in which you interpret that passage. Use one of the exegetical methods you studied in unit 2, and consult at least three sources of information other than your student book. Your paper should follow this structure:

- an introduction that situates the passage you have chosen within the broad context of the literary, historical, and theological emphases of the Pauline or Deutero-Pauline letters
- an overview of the major topics or questions regarding the selected passage that your paper will explore



- a explanation of the methodology you will use to interpret the passage—that is, literary, sociohistorical, or ideological
- at least three substantive body paragraphs in which you analyze the passage using the methodology you have chosen and present your interpretation
- a paragraph explaining the relationship of the passage to Paul's vision of the Church, as well as how it may convey the significance of the saving effect of faith in Jesus
- a conclusion in which you apply your interpretation of the passage to some aspect of the world today: for example, a concern that many young people face, a problem that your school is encountering, or a pressing matter of national or international justice
- a bibliography

Option 2: A Letter from Paul Today

Write your own Pauline letter, four to five pages in length. Your letter should follow the same format as a letter of Paul and should address a substantive issue or problem in your school, your city or town, the nation, or another country. Just as in Paul's letters, your letter should include an ecclesiology that speaks to the particular problem or issue. Finally, your letter should include research that elaborates on the issue or problem. Attach a bibliography to your letter.

Option 3: Create a Mockup of a Social Networking Page for Paul

In this group option, you will create a mockup of a social networking page for Paul that elaborates on his life, ministry, and letters. Include information about the communities to whom his letters were addressed and the issues with which they struggled and to which Paul responded. You may use a word-processing program or layout program to create the mockup of the page. The mockup should include original content and pictures that your group creates. Although you may use humor, all posts should be relevant to the topic of Paul and his letters.

