

Final Performance Task Options for Unit 6

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:

- The Acts of the Apostles presents an ideal vision of the early Christian community.
- The Acts of the Apostles recounts the expansion of the Apostles' ministry to include the Gentiles.
- The Acts of the Apostles recounts the Apostles' missionary activities "to the ends of the earth."
- Paul was instrumental in the growth of the early Christian community.

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 the Acts of the Apostles, approximately five to fifteen verses in length. Ask your teacher to approve the passage that 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 Acts of the Apostles
- 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 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 Children's Book

Write and illustrate a children's book about the Acts of the Apostles that is directed at fourth graders in a Catholic elementary school. Your book must be neatly bound and visually appealing, and it must consist of at least ten pages of material, including at least six original illustrations.

Option 3: A Series of Prayer Experiences

Your parish youth group has chosen to spend the next four meetings reading, studying, and praying with the Acts of the Apostles. You have been asked to plan the opening prayer experiences for all four meetings. Each prayer experience is expected to last about 15 minutes and to focus on one particular theological or spiritual theme found in the Acts of the Apostles. Potential themes include community, unity, inclusivity, mission, the power of the Holy Spirit, and fidelity to God in the midst of struggle. Write detailed outlines of these four prayer experiences, including the following elements:

- the passage or passages from the Acts of the Apostles to be proclaimed
- music selections
- ritual elements
- written collects (prayers) to begin and end the experience (in YOU-WHO-DO-THROUGH format)
- items needed to create a prayerful environment, such as candles or incense
- any other supplies needed to engage the group and draw them into a prayerful frame of mind

On the due date, you will conduct one of your four prayer experiences for the class.

