

LESSON 8:

THE EARLY CHURCH AND THE CHURCH TODAY

The "final act" begins with the Acts of the Apostles and continues today. The kingdom of God is established, and its first years are filled with growth and hope. Keep in mind the Church's three stages of growth—through the Jews (Jerusalem) to the Gentiles (Judea and Samaria) and then to the whole world. God continues to walk with his people and guide them. As in

the Old Testament, there are times when people fall away from God's will and selfishly succumb to sin. God continues to keep his promise, however, and the gates of hell will not prevail against his Church. The once-and-for-all covenant in Jesus Christ and in the Eucharist ensures that: "I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

TIME PERIOD(S) COVERED: _____

WHERE WE ARE ON THE JOURNEY: _____

OPENING QUESTIONS: _____

VERSE TO REMEMBER: _____

BREAKING IT DOWN

1. What does the word "witness" (in Acts 1:8) mean?

2. What Old Testament event does Pentecost mirror yet "undo," or "counteract"? _____
3. How many days was Saul blind? _____
4. What does the word "apostle" mean, literally? _____
5. What is the third step of *lectio divina*? _____

POP QUIZ: RELOADED

Now that you have gone through *T3: The Teen Timeline*, take another crack at the pop quiz from the beginning of this study.

Take your time and don't be afraid to use your notes.

You might be surprised by how much you have learned ...

Early World

1. On what day was Adam created?
2. What did the devil look like in Genesis?
3. Who did Noah take on the Ark with him in addition to the animals?

Patriarchs

4. What was Abraham's original name?
5. What does the name "Isaac" mean?
6. What was the name of Jacob's son whose brothers sold him into slavery?

Egypt and Exodus

7. When Moses asked God what his name was, what did God tell him?
8. What was the last plague God sent upon Egypt?

Desert Wanderings

9. How long did the Israelites wander in the desert?
10. What did Moses do that upset God and kept Moses from entering the Promised Land?

Conquest and Judges

11. What city did the Israelites march around for seven days before God leveled it?
12. What was the symbol Rahab used to save her family from the invading army?

Royal Kingdom

13. What did God warn the Israelites a king would do to them?
14. What was David's occupation before his great battle with Goliath?
15. What was the name of David's son who became king?

Divided Kingdom

16. When did the kingdom divide into the Northern and Southern Kingdoms?
17. Who was the boy king who took over the throne at eight years old?
18. What prophet was a young adult when God called him?

Exile

19. What civilization destroyed Judah and took the people into slavery?
20. What prophet (book) tells the famous story of the lion's den?

Return

21. After being released from slavery, what did the Israelites need to rebuild?
22. What was the name of the heroic queen who saved her people from a massacre?

Maccabean Revolt

23. What was the name of the Jewish family who stood up to the Greeks and refused to worship false gods?
24. What is the miraculous significance of the oil used to cleanse and rededicate the Temple?

Messianic Fulfillment

25. Which Gospel tells of the angel's visit to the Virgin Mary?
26. Where did Jesus' first miracle take place, at the request of his mother?
27. What is the Old Testament significance or tie-in of Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane?

The Church

28. What Old Testament event does Pentecost mirror but also "set straight"?
29. How long was Saul blind, and why did God choose him?
30. How many steps are there in *lectio divina*?