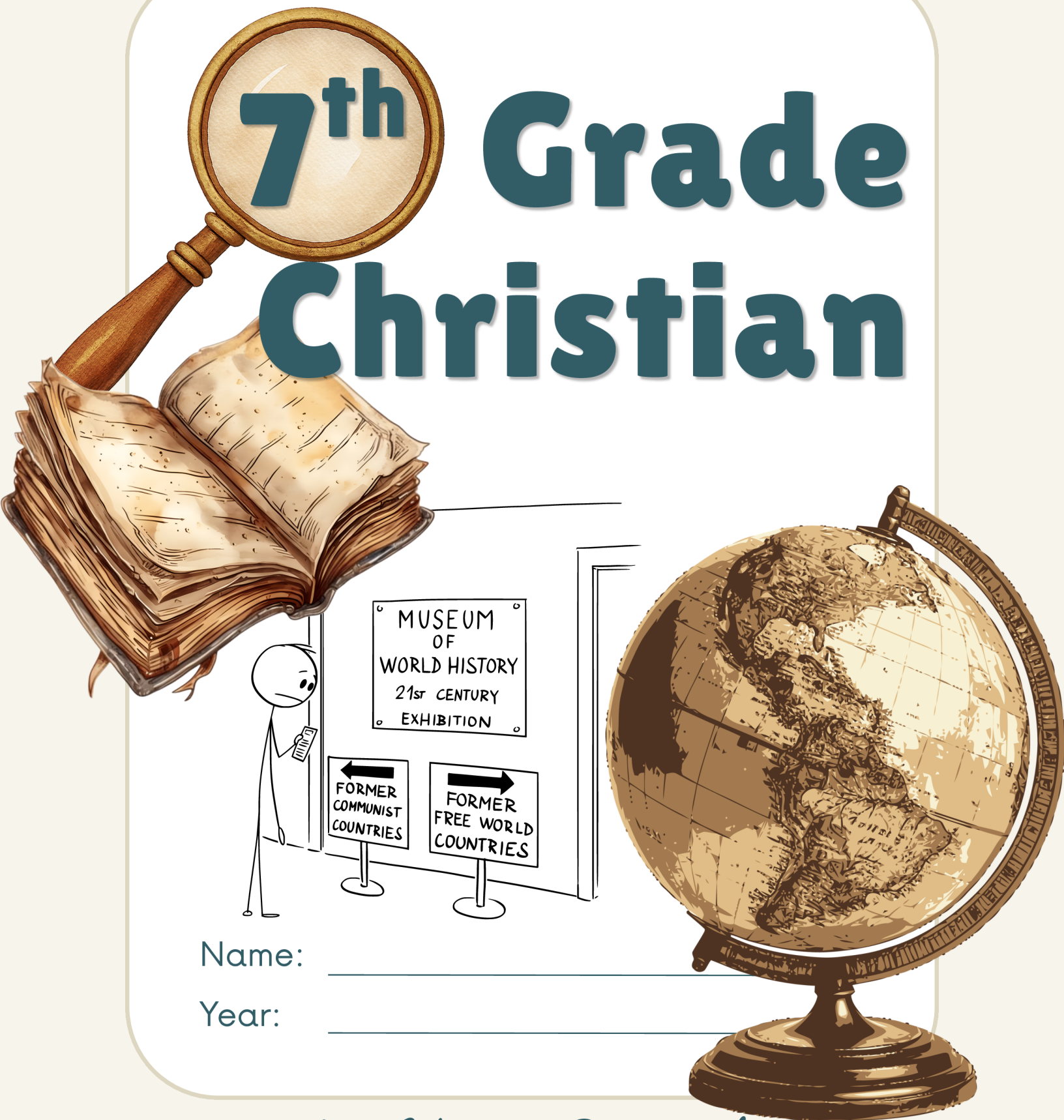


History, Language Arts, Reading, Bible



Name: _____

Year: _____

by Katie Swank

Here is a structured 30-week curriculum framework and an extensive multi-week sample workbook designed around 7th-grade Christian History using the NKJV Bible.

30-Week Christian History Outline

Module 1: The Early Church & Defending the Faith (Weeks 1–10)

- Week 1: Pentecost and the Birth of the Church (Acts 2)
- Week 2: The Apostle Paul and the Expansion to the Gentiles
- Week 3: Roman Persecution: Polycarp and the Catacombs
- Week 4: Defending the Canon: How We Got the New Testament Books
- Week 5: The Council of Nicaea: Defending the Deity of Christ
- Week 6: Augustine of Hippo: Grace vs. Human Merit
- Week 7: Monasticism: Preserving the Scriptures in a Falling Empire
- Week 8: The Rise of Islam and its Impact on Eastern Christianity
- Week 9: Patrick and the Celtic Missionaries
- Week 10: The Great Schism of 1054: East Meets West

Module 2: The Middle Ages & Foundations of Renewal (Weeks 11–20)

- Week 11: Charlemagne and Christendom
- Week 12: The Crusades: Motives, Missteps, and Consequences
- Week 13: The Inquisitions vs. Scriptural Liberty
- Week 14: John Wycliffe: "The Morning Star of the Reformation"
- Week 15: John Huss and the Stake of Constance
- Week 16: The Invention of the Printing Press: God's Perfect Timing
- Week 17: Martin Luther and the 95 Theses (1517)
- Week 18: William Tyndale: Translating Scripture at the Cost of Life
- Week 19: John Calvin and the Reformation in Geneva
- Week 20: The Council of Trent and the Counter-Reformation

Module 3: Global Expansion & Modern Challenges (Weeks 21–30)

- Week 21: The Puritans and the Pilgrim Flight for Religious Freedom
- Week 22: The First Great Awakening: Edwards and Whitefield
- Week 23: John and Charles Wesley: The Methodist Revival
- Week 24: The Rise of Modern Missions: William Carey to India
- Week 25: Hudson Taylor and the Inland Mission of China
- Week 26: The Second Great Awakening and the Rise of Cults
- Week 27: The Compromise of Higher Criticism vs. Biblical Inerrancy
- Week 28: The Scopes Monkey Trial: The Cultural Attack on Genesis
- Week 29: Faith Under Totalitarianism: Richard Wurmbrand and the Underground Church
- Week 30: The Global Church Today: Growth in the Global South



Name: _____
Date: _____

WEEK 1:

PENTECOST AND THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT

Scripture Focus - Read Acts 1

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." — Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

Historical & Apologetic Overview

Christian history does not begin with human ideas; it begins with a supernatural event directed by God. On the day of Pentecost, fifty days after Jesus' resurrection, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in Jerusalem. God gave them a new, supernatural ability to speak in languages they had never learned so that Jewish visitors from every nation could hear the Gospel. Critics at the time tried to mock the disciples, claiming they were drunk. The Apostle Peter immediately defended the believers by quoting the Old Testament prophet Joel, proving that this event was the direct fulfillment of Bible prophecy. Three thousand people believed and were baptized that day, establishing the first local Christian church.

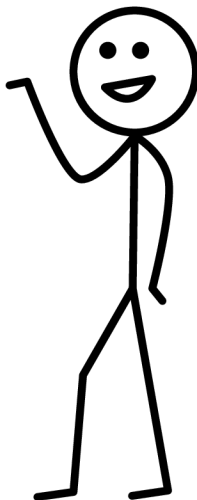
Fun Fact

Pentecost was originally a Jewish harvest festival called Shavuot (the Feast of Weeks). At the exact moment Jews were celebrating the gathering of physical crops, God gathered a spiritual "harvest" of 3,000 souls into His Church!

Fill in the Blanks:

On the day of Pentecost, the disciples received supernatural power when the _____ came upon them.

The Apostle Peter defended the disciples against mockers by quoting the Old Testament prophet _____.





Name: _____

Date: _____

WEEK 1:

PENTECOST AND THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT

Short Answer Questions

According to Acts 1:8, what was the primary purpose of the power given to the disciples by the Holy Spirit?

Why did God cause the disciples to speak in real, recognizable foreign languages rather than unknown sounds?



Name: _____

Date: _____





Name: _____

Date: _____

WEEK 1, DAY 2:

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE EARLY CHURCH

Scripture Focus: Read Acts 2

"And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers." — Acts 2:42 (NKJV)

Historical & Apologetic Overview

Right after the historic event of Pentecost, the newly formed Christian community did not scatter. Instead, they formed a deeply dedicated community in Jerusalem. According to Acts 2, they "continued steadfastly," which means they were completely committed to four main activities: learning the truth from the apostles, living in close community (fellowship), eating together and practicing communion (the breaking of bread), and praying together. Skeptics often wonder how a small group of ordinary disciples could launch a movement that transformed the Roman Empire. The answer lies in their supernatural unity and unwavering commitment to God's absolute truth. They even shared their physical possessions to make sure no one among them was poor or neglected, showing the world a radical, sacrificial love that couldn't be ignored.

Fun Fact

The Greek word used for fellowship in this passage is *koinonia*. It does not just mean "hanging out" or casual socializing; it refers to a deep, unbreakable spiritual bond and partnership where everything is shared in common!

Fill in the Blanks

1. According to Acts 2:42, the early believers continued _____ in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship.

2. The ancient Greek word for fellowship used in the New Testament is

_____.



Name: _____
Date: _____

WEEK 1: THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE EARLY CHURCH

Short Answer Questions

1. What were the four core spiritual habits that the very first Christian church prioritized daily?

1. Why did the early Christians' willingness to share their possessions and care for the needy serve as a powerful defense (apologetic) for the Gospel to the surrounding culture?



Name: _____

Date: _____





Name: _____

Date: _____

WEEK 1:

THE FIRST PERSECUTION AND BOLDNESS

Scripture Focus: Read Acts 3-4

"Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word..." — Acts 4:29 (NKJV)

Historical & Apologetic Overview

The rapid growth of the early Church quickly alarmed the religious leaders in Jerusalem. After the Apostle Peter and John miraculously healed a lame man at the temple gate in the name of Jesus, they were arrested by the Sanhedrin—the same powerful council that had condemned Jesus to death. The council strictly threatened the apostles and commanded them never to speak or teach in the name of Jesus again. Peter boldly responded that they must obey God rather than men. When released, the believers did not pray for safety or protection from their enemies; instead, they asked God for supernatural boldness to keep preaching. God answered by shaking the very room they were praying in and filling them with the Holy Spirit to continue their mission.

Fun Fact

The Sanhedrin was shocked by Peter and John's boldness because they recognized the two men were "uneducated and untrained" common fishermen. The council concluded that the only explanation for their power was that they "had been with Jesus."

Fill in the Blanks

1. The powerful religious council that arrested Peter and John for preaching about Jesus was the _____.
2. Instead of praying for safety from their enemies, the early Christians prayed for supernatural _____.



Name: _____

Date: _____

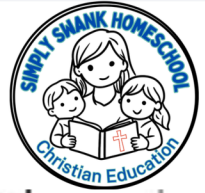
WEEK 1:

THE FIRST PERSECUTION AND BOLDNESS

Short Answer Questions

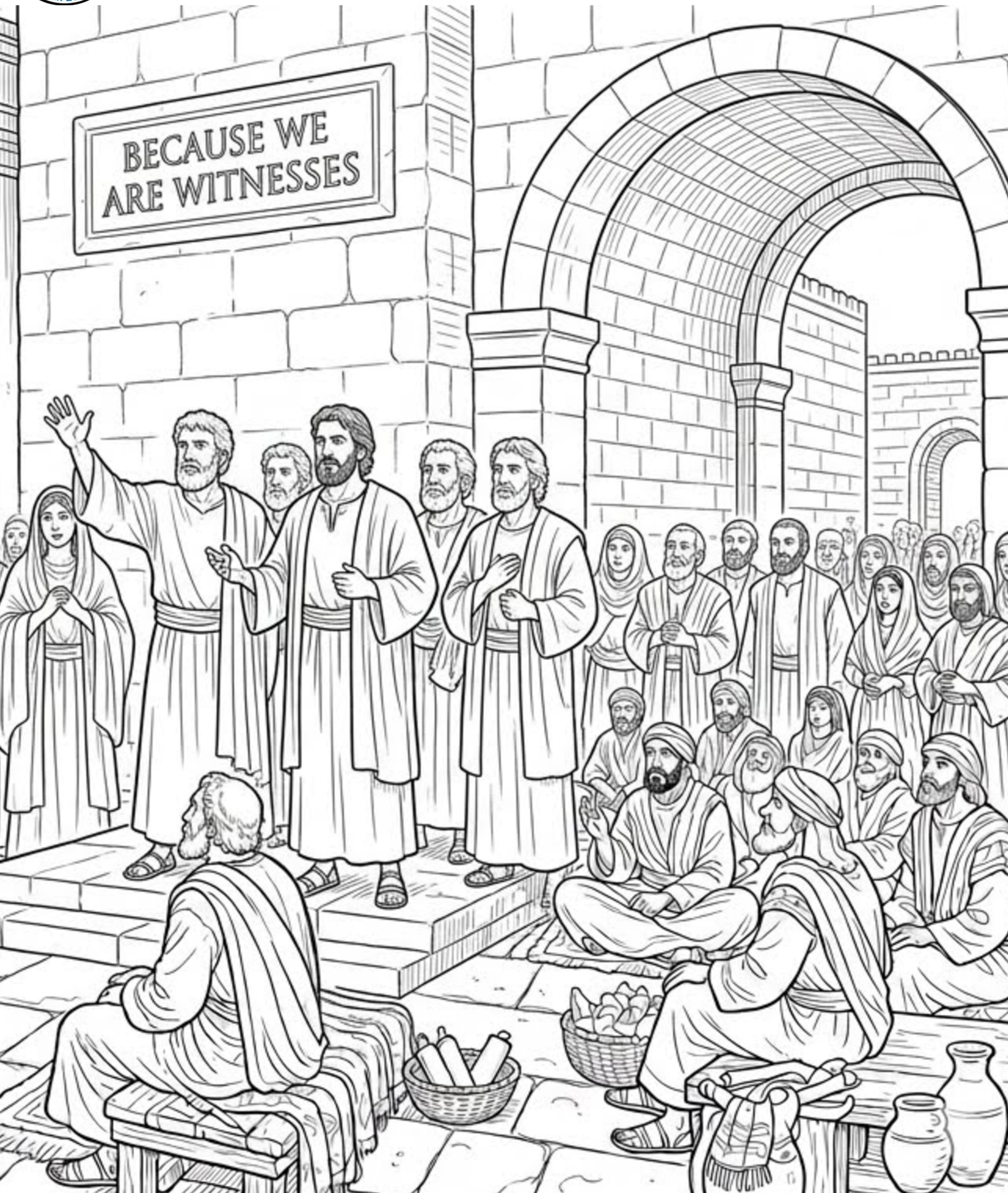
1. According to Peter's response in Acts 4:19-20, when a government or authority orders a Christian to stop sharing the Gospel, which authority must the Christian choose to obey?

Why did the healing of the lame man make it impossible for the religious leaders to deny that a real miracle had taken place?



Name: _____

Date: _____





Name: _____
Date: _____

WEEK 1:

INTERNAL CRISIS AND CHURCH PURITY

Scripture Focus: Read Acts 5

"But Peter said, 'Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?'" — Acts 5:3 (NKJV)

Historical & Apologetic Overview

While the early Church successfully resisted pressure from external persecution, a more dangerous threat arose from the inside: hypocrisy and deceit. A husband and wife named Ananias and Sapphira sold a piece of property. They wanted the reputation of being incredibly generous, so they brought a portion of the money to the apostles, falsely claiming it was the entire amount. God revealed this secret lie directly to the Apostle Peter. Peter confronted them, explaining that their sin was not just lying to human leaders, but lying directly to God the Holy Spirit. Immediately, both Ananias and Sapphira fell down dead as an act of divine judgment. This shocking event preserved the spiritual purity of the young Church and sent a powerful wave of holy fear through the entire community.

Fun Fact

This passage in Acts 5 provides one of the strongest defenses (apologetics) for the Trinity in the New Testament! In verse 3, Peter says Ananias lied to the Holy Spirit, and in the very next verse, he says he lied to God, proving that the Holy Spirit is a distinct person of the Godhead!

Fill in the Blanks

1. The husband and wife who brought a deceptive financial offering to the apostles were Ananias and _____.
2. Peter told Ananias that by misrepresenting his gift, he had lied directly to the _____.



Name: _____
Date: _____

WEEK 1: INTERNAL CRISIS AND CHURCH PURITY

Short Answer Questions

1. Why was the sin of Ananias and Sapphira judged so severely by God compared to ordinary mistakes?

How does the real historical event of Acts 5 challenge the popular cultural idea that God does not care about "small" hidden lies?



Name: _____

Date: _____





Name: _____

Date: _____

WEEK 1:

APPOINTING DEACONS AND SERVING THE SAINTS

Scripture Focus: Read Acts 5 - 6

"Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business..."

— Acts 6:3 (NKJV)

Historical & Apologetic Overview

As the early Church grew rapidly, it faced its first major organizational challenge. The Greek-speaking Jewish believers complained that their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food by the Hebrew-speaking believers. Instead of ignoring the problem or getting distracted from their primary mission, the apostles acted with wisdom. They realized they could not abandon preaching the Word of God to wait on tables. The apostles instructed the church to select seven godly men of high integrity, wisdom, and spiritual maturity to manage the food distribution. These men became the very first deacons (from the Greek word diakonos, meaning servant). This biblical approach solved the dispute, protected church unity, and allowed the apostles to remain fully focused on prayer and teaching.

Fun Fact

Among the seven men chosen as the first deacons were Stephen, who would shortly become the very first Christian martyr, and Philip, who later became a famous evangelist who shared the Gospel with an Ethiopian official!

Fill in the Blanks

1. The early Church chose a total of _____ men to handle the daily distribution of food to the widows.

2. The ancient Greek word for servant from which we get the word deacon is

_____.



Name: _____
Date: _____

WEEK 1:
APPOINTING DEACONS AND SERVING THE SAINTS

Short Answer Questions

Why did the apostles refuse to leave their work of preaching to personally handle the physical food distribution crisis?

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners and a thick black border, intended for the student to write their answer to the first question.

What specific spiritual and character qualities did a person need to have to be chosen as a deacon, proving that even "practical" jobs in the church require deep spiritual maturity?

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners and a thick black border, intended for the student to write their answer to the second question.



Name: _____

Date: _____





Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade _____

WEEK 1: WEEKLY REVIEW & QUIZ

Scripture Memorization Review

Review your memory verse for this week.

"But you shall receive power....."

Matching Assessment

Match the term or person on the left with the correct historical or biblical description on the right by writing the correct letter in the blank.

1. _____ Seven men chosen to serve and handle food distribution to protect church unity.
2. _____ The day the Holy Spirit descended with power, marking the birth of the Church.
3. _____ A husband and wife who faced swift divine judgment for lying to the Holy Spirit.
4. _____ The Greek word for a deep, unbreakable spiritual fellowship and partnership.
5. _____ The powerful religious council that threatened Peter and John for preaching Christ.
6. _____ The Greek word meaning "measuring rod" used for the inspired books of the Bible.

Answers:

Pentecost A, Koinonia B, Deacons F, The Sanhedrin C, The Canon D, Ananias & Sapphira E

Short Answer Cumulative Review

When the Sanhedrin ordered the apostles to stop speaking in the name of Jesus, what timeless biblical principle did Peter establish regarding civil government and God's authority?

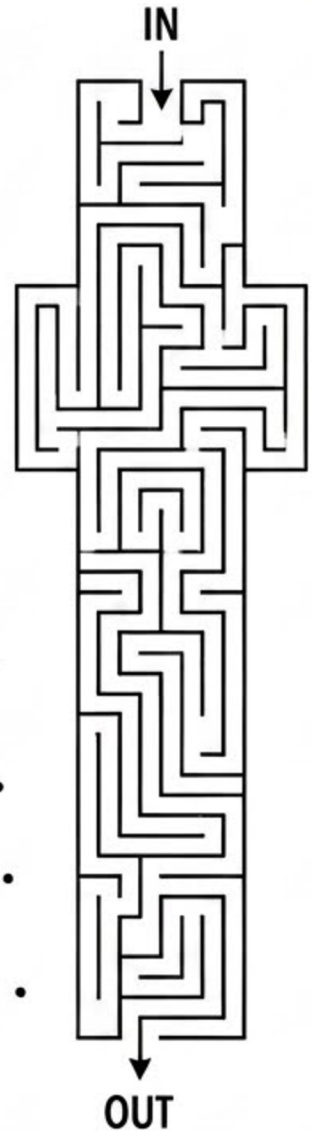
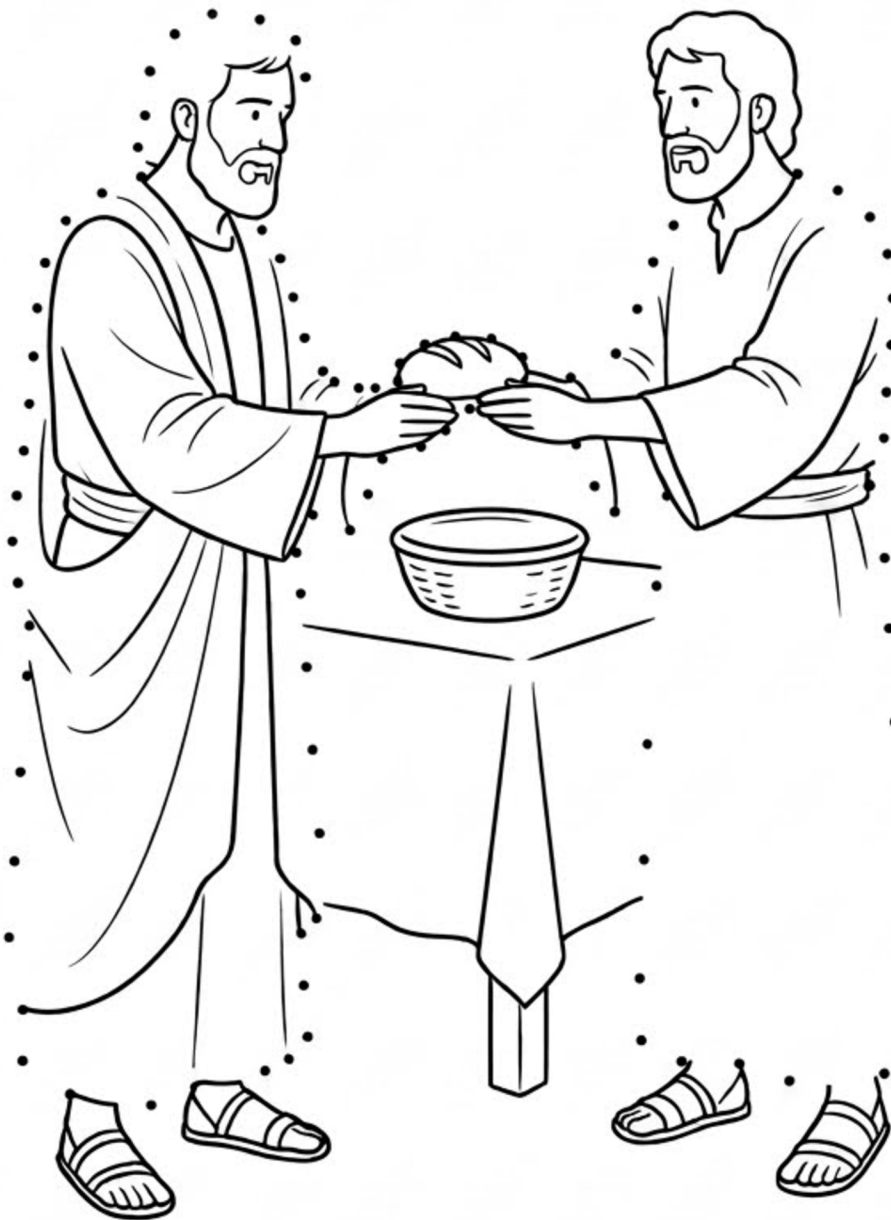
Skeptics claim that the early church arbitrary "invented" the New Testament centuries later. Based on what you learned this week, why is this claim historically inaccurate?



Name: _____

Date: _____

BIBLE ADVENTURE: SERVING BREAD (DOT-TO-DOT & MAZE)



TRIVIA QUESTION: In Acts 6, how many men (including Stephen) were chosen to oversee the distribution of food?

ANSWER: