

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Sacred Scripture*

Directed Reading Guide

*Part 2B The New Testament Letters*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read through the chapter and fill in the missing information. All the questions run sequential to the chapter. If a true/false statement is false, correct it.

**Pages 244 – 246 Letters Attributed to St. Paul**

1. True or False? While six of the twenty-one letters of epistles in the New Testament are traditionally attributed to St. Paul, there is debate about Paul's authorship of all of these.
2. What are two plausible explanations as to why Paul would have paid someone to write for him when he was clearly literate himself?
3. Briefly explain the four main sections of Paul's letters:
  - (a)
  - (b)
  - (c)
  - (d)
4. Paul's letters are not arranged \_\_\_\_\_, but in a rough approximation of longest to shortest, \_\_\_\_\_ with Romans and ending with \_\_\_\_\_. Seven of his letters emphasize a very clear concern about the \_\_\_\_\_, believing that Jesus was returning \_\_\_\_\_ and unexpectedly.
5. Because of the \_\_\_\_\_ in style and \_\_\_\_\_ of this kind, it may be that 2 Thessalonians, Colossians, and Ephesians were penned by close \_\_\_\_\_ or admirers of Paul who \_\_\_\_\_ them as they thought Paul would have himself, giving him \_\_\_\_\_ because the \_\_\_\_\_ were fundamentally his.
6. Why are the Second Letters to Timothy and the Letter to Titus classified as "Pastoral Letters"?
7. True or False? In the ancient world, an author was commonly accepted as the person whose ideas were being used, whether or not the person crafted the exact wording or not.

**Pages 247 – 251 *St. Paul: The Source of the New Testament Letters***

8. Aside from \_\_\_\_\_, no other person in the New Testament is as well known and \_\_\_\_\_ as St. Paul. The two primary \_\_\_\_\_ for knowing his life are his own letters and the \_\_\_\_\_. While Pauline theology is more clearly delineated in his \_\_\_\_\_, Acts provide more of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Paul's life.
9. Paul was born a \_\_\_\_\_ probably between AD 5 and 15. His hometown of \_\_\_\_\_ was a cultured \_\_\_\_\_ city that was known for its \_\_\_\_\_, intellectual life, and extensive \_\_\_\_\_. Though it would have been primarily made up of \_\_\_\_\_, it would have also have been home to a fair amount of faithful \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ at the feet of an esteemed rabbi, \_\_\_\_\_, and the fruits of this education are revealed by his complex use of \_\_\_\_\_ and vocabulary and the breadth and depth of his knowledge of the \_\_\_\_\_.
11. True or False? Paul was a person of great passions: if he was ardent in his persecution of the Church before his conversion, he was even more enthusiastic in building it up after his experience of Jesus.
12. Paul was on his way to \_\_\_\_\_ when he had an eyewitness experience of the \_\_\_\_\_. The experience changed him and he became a \_\_\_\_\_ and a dedicated missionary advancing the \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the Roman \_\_\_\_\_.
13. In 2 Corinthians Paul describes the many ways he suffered in completing his work. Briefly list these below.
14. Paul established small \_\_\_\_\_ of believers, choosing and \_\_\_\_\_ on local leaders to carry on his work after he left. As questions, \_\_\_\_\_, dissensions, or misunderstandings arose, they wrote to him or sent \_\_\_\_\_ to ask for his guidance, and Paul sent back letters supporting, challenging, \_\_\_\_\_, and teaching believers.
15. True or False? The Gospel of Luke ends the account of Paul's life with his arrival in Rome, and ancient custom suggests that he died there during the persecutions of Emperor Nero.
16. In Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ he reveals through his \_\_\_\_\_ work his central focus for explaining the meaning of \_\_\_\_\_, the role of Jesus, and an understanding of Church and \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Summarize eight main points of Paul's theology:
  - (a)
  - (b)
  - (c)
  - (d)

(e)

(f)

(g)

(h)

**Pages 252 – 275 *The Thirteen New Testament Letters***

18. Explain the difference between Paul's "Pastoral Letters" and his "Captivity Letters?"
19. True or False? The early Church believed all the Pauline letters were faithful not simply to Paul, but also to the Tradition that had been handed down from the Apostles.
20. True or False? The Good News had reached Rome from Jerusalem, a distance of over 1,400 miles, less than twenty years after Jesus' Death and Resurrection.
21. The Letter to the \_\_\_\_\_ is Paul's letter of introduction to the Christians living in Rome, written in AD 57–58 from \_\_\_\_\_. The church there was likely founded directly by \_\_\_\_\_ who came from the church in Jerusalem which \_\_\_\_\_ Paul because he thought that these missionaries with \_\_\_\_\_ were directing the Gentiles in Rome to keep the \_\_\_\_\_.
22. True or False? Peter strongly held that legal observance of Jewish Law was no longer necessary for Christians He often had difficulty in convincing other Jewish Christians that this was true, including Paul.
23. Because Paul was well aware how difficult it would be for \_\_\_\_\_ to give up a lifetime of practicing Jewish \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_, he used the Letter to the \_\_\_\_\_ to expound on the teaching that it is \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus Christ's Death and Resurrection that \_\_\_\_\_ us to God.
24. List the themes found in the letter to the Romans.
25. True or False? In Romans, Paul taught that we earn Jesus' intervention in human history, and we earn our Salvation by human means.
26. Paul says we share in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ's Death because we, too, were baptized into his \_\_\_\_\_. In the ancient rite the \_\_\_\_\_ were completely submerged in the water, as though they had died to \_\_\_\_\_ from God, and were then brought up out of the \_\_\_\_\_ as though they had been born again to a \_\_\_\_\_ with God as Father.

27. Corinth was a very \_\_\_\_\_ Roman sea \_\_\_\_\_ located near Athens and \_\_\_\_\_ that was known for every vice imaginable. Because of both its economic and \_\_\_\_\_ importance, as the provincial \_\_\_\_\_ of Achaia, it was an obvious place for Paul to \_\_\_\_\_ and spread the Gospel.
28. What news came to Paul in Ephesus that prompted him to write to the Christians in Corinth? What warning did he send to them?
29. In the \_\_\_\_\_ Letter to the Corinthians Paul \_\_\_\_\_ them to appreciate their connection with \_\_\_\_\_ and to see themselves as though they were all united into \_\_\_\_\_, like a “temple.” Maintaining \_\_\_\_\_ was critical for creating the right environment for the \_\_\_\_\_ to work within the Church in Corinth.
30. What did Paul mean when he described the Church as the Body of Christ?
31. Another prominent \_\_\_\_\_ of the letter involves \_\_\_\_\_. He condemned Christians who went to \_\_\_\_\_, as well as other issues involving idolatry and \_\_\_\_\_ that even spilled over to the ways the Corinthian \_\_\_\_\_ conducted itself at \_\_\_\_\_.
32. True or False? Paul disagree that it was acceptable to eat meat that had been sacrificed to pagan gods.
33. True or False? In First Corinthians, St. Paul develops the earliest record of the institution of the Lord’s Supper in the New Testament.
34. True or False? Paul offered a number of positive qualities of love that didn’t describe it as an emotion or sensual attraction.
35. The \_\_\_\_\_ of 2 Corinthians deals with Paul’s past \_\_\_\_\_ with the Corinthians, his \_\_\_\_\_ among them, praise for their \_\_\_\_\_, an appeal for the collection for the Church in \_\_\_\_\_, and a rigorous defense of his ministry against \_\_\_\_\_.
36. Why did Paul write the letter to the Galatians? What did they teach that conflicted with Paul’s message?
37. In Galatians Paul \_\_\_\_\_ his ministry and his place as an \_\_\_\_\_ as well as his message to the Gentiles that they were \_\_\_\_\_ from the Law. He also defended his \_\_\_\_\_ about faith and its relationship to \_\_\_\_\_. He also wrote that \_\_\_\_\_ incorporates all Christians into the \_\_\_\_\_ as children of God.
38. True or False? Although Paul’s letter to the Ephesians is traditionally thought of as one of the Captivity Letters, the writing style suggests it was not written by Paul at all.
39. According to Ephesians, what are two ways that God has revealed to us his eternal plan to unite everything in his name under Heaven and earth?

40. According to Ephesians, whose responsibility is it to work towards the fulfillment of God's plan?
41. True or False? Catholics remain connected through their participation in the sacraments, especially Reconciliation, and under the pastoral leadership of the pope and bishops.
42. Acts tells us that, as a result of a \_\_\_\_\_ he experienced, Paul decided he should preach the Gospel in \_\_\_\_\_; the first city in \_\_\_\_\_ to hear the Good News from him. He established a church in \_\_\_\_\_ and wrote a letter there while he was \_\_\_\_\_, presumable for \_\_\_\_\_ the Good News.
43. Because the \_\_\_\_\_ apparently faced opposition to their \_\_\_\_\_, Paul writes to urge them not to be intimidated in any way by their \_\_\_\_\_. Further, he encourages them in a spirit of true \_\_\_\_\_ that would enable them to remain \_\_\_\_\_ in the face of their \_\_\_\_\_.
44. True or False? Joy in the Lord for those who live in the Church is a major theme in Philippians.
45. What does the Kenotic Hymn in the letter praise Christ for? What two great Christian mysteries are spelled out in the hymn?
46. The Letter to the \_\_\_\_\_ was written to assist the church in Colossae in counteracting \_\_\_\_\_ who were \_\_\_\_\_ ideas about the existence of many different **spirits**, claiming they intervened in human \_\_\_\_\_. Belief in \_\_\_\_\_ spirits and practices to appease them encouraged the Colossians away from belief in the unique \_\_\_\_\_.
47. What was one of the primary ways the faith was able to spread? What became of these letters or "books?"
48. The Letter to the Colossians clarifies that Christ was the very \_\_\_\_\_: he was the \_\_\_\_\_ and all things everywhere came to be through him and \_\_\_\_\_ to exist through his \_\_\_\_\_. The letter may possibly be addressing some of the false teachings of \_\_\_\_\_.
49. True or False? The First Letter to the Thessalonians is very likely the last New Testament writing, dating to AD 50-51.
50. What pressing issues does Paul address in his first letter to Thessalonica?
51. The intention of \_\_\_\_\_ was to encourage, \_\_\_\_\_, and even applaud the great progress that they had made in the practice of their \_\_\_\_\_. A secondary purpose was to encourage them to refrain from \_\_\_\_\_, to promote their love and concern for \_\_\_\_\_, and to correct some \_\_\_\_\_.
52. True or False? In 1 Thessalonians Paul clearly wanted his reader to take their faith seriously and to always be on guard because you have no idea when the Lord is returning, nor the moment of your own death.

53. What confusion did Paul need to correct for the Thessalonians?
54. True or False? Current scholarly opinion favors the belief that Paul wrote 2 Thessalonians around AD 90.
55. First and Second Timothy and \_\_\_\_\_ were probably the work of the same \_\_\_\_\_, a later follower of \_\_\_\_\_. Both Timothy and Titus were fellow \_\_\_\_\_ and faithful disciples. These letters \_\_\_\_\_ from the Pauline letters in that they are addressed to \_\_\_\_\_ and give advice on \_\_\_\_\_.
56. Timothy \_\_\_\_\_ side by side with Paul and he is mentioned by name in \_\_\_\_\_ letters of the Pauline \_\_\_\_\_. The First Letter of Timothy begins with careful instruction to him to correct \_\_\_\_\_ in the church of \_\_\_\_\_ and returns to this \_\_\_\_\_ repeatedly.
57. Why does the author caution readers of 1 Tm 2:11-15 about dismissing the passage as simply expressing the culture of the day?
58. First Timothy gives \_\_\_\_\_ on who should be chosen to hold \_\_\_\_\_. It includes a description of the office of \_\_\_\_\_ as a noble task, along with the fear that some might become \_\_\_\_\_. It also gives directives about the prerequisite characteristics of \_\_\_\_\_, which resemble those given for bishops.
59. True or False? The directive not to lay hands on anyone too quickly suggests that the early Church had learned quickly the necessity of doing careful training and observation of those in preparation for religious responsibly.
60. Second Timothy dwells on Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ situation, in particular his \_\_\_\_\_ and reflections, in the midst of his \_\_\_\_\_. It is a very personal reflection of a Christian facing \_\_\_\_\_ in the midst of distress, and the near \_\_\_\_\_ of death, while looking back on his life's efforts with \_\_\_\_\_ and in hope.
61. The author tells Timothy not to get lost in \_\_\_\_\_, or be swayed by \_\_\_\_\_ teachings, but to challenge the wayward \_\_\_\_\_ and persuasively. Some of Paul's authentic \_\_\_\_\_ concerns are in this letter, with dire \_\_\_\_\_ of the wickedness that will precede the \_\_\_\_\_.
62. The Letter to \_\_\_\_\_ explains that Paul's reason for \_\_\_\_\_ Titus to minister in Crete was so that he could "appoint \_\_\_\_\_ in every town. It seems that at a very early point in the life of the \_\_\_\_\_ that there was a clear connection between a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_.
63. True or False? Priests cooperate with their deacons in serving the People of God and they are able to exercise their priestly ministry only by depending on the deacons and being in faithful communion with him.

64. From the earliest times, \_\_\_\_\_ have been given the task of \_\_\_\_\_ the faith that has been \_\_\_\_\_ down and correcting \_\_\_\_\_ of believe. The early Church was quite aware of the importance of remaining \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_, even before there was a New Testament.
65. The Letter to \_\_\_\_\_ was written during one of Paul's imprisonments, and is a \_\_\_\_\_ from Paul to Philemon, who seems to have been a \_\_\_\_\_ of Paul's. The subject of the letter involves Philemon's runaway \_\_\_\_\_, Onesimus, whom Paul beseeched, should not be \_\_\_\_\_ for his actions.
66. True or False? True or False? Paul tells Philemon that he should treat Onesimus as a brother in Christ.

**Pages 276 – 278 *The Letter to the Hebrews***

67. True or False? While the Letters to the Hebrews was associated with Paul, it is more accurate to say that the author is anonymous.
68. The author of **Hebrews** possessed a classic education and was almost certainly a **Jewish Christian** because of his grasp of the **Greek** version of the Hebrew scriptures known as the **Septuagint**. Unlike the recipients of Paul's letters, the recipients of Hebrews had been **Christian** for quite some time and had apparently survived a time of terrible **suffering**.
69. Why was the Letter to the Hebrews controversial in the years after its circulation?
70. Hebrews is written as a \_\_\_\_\_, developing the theme of Christ as \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus willingly offered the \_\_\_\_\_ of his life for us and for our sins. It draws attention to the \_\_\_\_\_ significance of what God did through Jesus, offering \_\_\_\_\_ for a broken humanity in ways that the yearly repeated sacrifices of the old \_\_\_\_\_ could not.
71. What is the message of the Letter to the Hebrews?
72. True or False? The amazing difference between the Pharisees and Jesus was that Christ is "holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, higher than the heavens".
73. What powerful message is given in Hebrews?