

Name: _____

FUNDOCY Homework: Luther

Lesson Taught on February 13, 2022

Homework Due: February 27, 2022

Young Martin Luther grew up with a picture of God as a stern, angry judge demanding perfection from an imperfect person and waiting to send him to hell. Martin had a problem. He knew he was a sinner, but he also knew God demanded perfection. How could he find peace with God?

Later in his life, Luther as an insignificant monk stood up against the powers of church and state to tell them they had it wrong. You don't need money for salvation. God's "righteousness" is a free gift given to be accepted by undeserving sinners through Christ.

The Pope and his counsels had a problem of major league proportions brought to them by a minor league player. Martin Luther was prepared to stand firm in his belief and was beginning to create a stir.

Part I: The Lesson

1. Martin Luther was born in Eisleben, Germany on November 10, 1483. He saw his first Bible in 1503.

How old was Martin when he saw his first Bible?

How old were you when you saw your first Bible? (Your parents may be able to help you answer this one.) _____

2. Open your Bible to Luke 1:78-79. Highlight those verses and fill in the blanks below:
By the tender _____ of our God the _____ from on high will break upon us, to give _____ to those in _____ and in the shadow of death, to guide our _____ into the way of _____.
3. Luther was smart, but restless child. He started school (learning his lessons in Latin) at age 4 ½ ! Once his mother beat him bloody for stealing a nut! The boy was tormented by a picture of God as a stern, angry judge he couldn't escape. To him, God was the Creator who first created him imperfect, then demanded perfection. How fair is that?
4. At the monastery, Luther was:
 - a) Always late for chapel but his penitence was real

- b) Always late for everything, except for every meal
- c) A slacker, trying to get by with the minimal work
- d) A teacher's pet, trying to surpass all other monks in prayer, study and piety so God might possibly love him.

5. Look up and define the following words:

a) Monastery: _____

b) Pope: _____

c) Indulgences: _____

d) Ninety-Five Theses: _____

e) Purgatory: _____

6. One night in 1513, Martin was studying in the Black Tower of Wittenberg University. As he searched scriptures trying to find peace with God, he stumbled upon a verse that hit him like another lightning bolt: Romans 1:17. Highlight that verse in your Bible and write it below:

7. Duke Frederick, Luther's friend and protector boasted the largest collection of what commodity that could rescue you from 1443 years in purgatory if you paid to see and adore them?

a) Holy grails

b) Holy relics

- c) Holy rollerblades
 - d) Girlfriends
8. An "Indulgence" was a document from the pope guaranteeing:
- a) Forgiveness of sins you already committed
 - b) Forgiveness of sins you might one day commit
 - c) Forgiveness of sins for your dear departed relatives in purgatory
 - d) All of the above and a clever fundraising idea
9. Johann Tetzel's sales pitch was:
- a) "Indulgences: Buy or fry!"
 - b) "Indulgences: there not just for the living folks anymore!"
 - c) "As soon as the coin in the coffer rings, a soul from purgatory springs!"
 - d) "As soon as the coin in the coffer rings, I'm rich and you're stupid!"
10. Luther responded by:
- a) Nailing 95 Theses (statements against corruption) to the Castle Church door on Oct. 31, 1517.
 - b) Nailing 95 Reese Pieces to the Castle Church door on Oct. 31, 1517.
 - c) Nailing 95 fleeces to the Castle Church door on Oct. 31, 1517.
 - d) Staple-cunning Johann Tetzel's mouth shut.
11. Indulgences:
- a) Are not found in the Bible
 - b) Are not found in the Bible
 - c) Are not found in the Bible
 - d) All of the above, but can still be purchased today at the Vatican Gift Shop just outside St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome.

Part II: Reflection Questions (there are no wrong answers here!)

1. Have you ever tried to make a deal with God? What happened?

2. How do you picture God? As a friend? A parent? A judge? An unknowable far-off being? A cosmic force? A Santa Claus who is watching to see if you are bad or good? What makes you picture God this way?

3. What do you do when your conscience tells you to do one thing and your friends tell you something else?

4. What are three things going on in the world today you think are clearly wrong and against God's will?

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

What would it take for you to protest these wrongs?

Will you do it?

Now stop...think about things that you need guidance for or help with....and jot them below, then take a moment to pray, you can use the prayer below, which is Martin Luther's prayer for guidance.

Things I need help with:

Dear Lord God,

Give us your guidance that we may rightly understand your word, and more than that, do it. O most blessed Lord Jesus Christ, see to it that our search after knowledge leads us to glorify you alone. If not, let us now know a single letter. Give only what we, poor sinners, need to glorify you. Amen.