

THE FIRST PERIOD – THE CHILDHOOD OF JESUS	STANDARDS	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS	ESSENTIAL SKILLS
	<p>I. Standard 1: God as my Creator and Sustainer</p> <p>A. Identify creation as the work of God.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognize the order of creation as evidence of God’s engineering. 2. Recognize the beauty of creation as evidence of God’s artistry. 3. Recognize the brokenness of creation as the result of sin 4. Defend belief in creation with arguments from scripture and science. 5. Explain the New Creation as the goal of the Christian hope. <p>B. Recognize the inherent value that God has given to each individual human.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Articulate what it means to be created in the image of God. 2. Articulate that God created mankind to continue His work of love and creation. 3. Defend the value of human life <p>C. Appreciate that the Creator desires a personal relationship with His people.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Articulate prayers that are personal and from the heart. 2. Recognize the limitations of the general revelation of God available through knowledge of nature (Romans 1:20). 3. Appreciate the full revelation of God available through the Word and the Word made flesh (Hebrews 1:1-3). <p>D. Recognize God as the provider and protector of those who trust in Him.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the ordinary means by which God continues to provide for and protect His people. 2. Provide examples of God’s extraordinary provision for His people. 3. Articulate a God honoring approach to stewarding the gifts of God. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify time, talents, and treasures as gifts of God. b. Explain the concepts of sacrificial giving, first-fruits giving, and tithing. <p>II. Standard 2: God as my Redeemer</p> <p>A. Explain the centrality of Jesus of Nazareth within the Christian faith.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify Jesus as true God and true man. 2. Articulate the story of Jesus’ life and ministry. 3. Identify the importance of Jesus’ death and resurrection within God’s work of salvation. <p>B. Distinguish between a works-based approach to God and a Gospel-centered approach to God.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distinguish between the two central teachings of the scriptures: Law and Gospel 2. Articulate the fruits of a Gospel-centered life (Galatians 5:22-25) 3. Explain the importance of daily repentance within a Gospel-centered life <p>C. Living from the Gospel D. Daily repentance E. Means of Grace F. My Identity: I am a redeemed child of God.</p> <p>III. Standard 3: God as my Sanctifier</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Putting God’s Word into practice B. Daily repentance C. Personal Bible Study / Devotions D. Service to others E. Witness & Disciple Making F. Worship G. Articulate the story of the Early Church 	<p>What were some of Zechariah’s duties as a priest in the temple? What was the good news the angel brought to Zechariah? How was the message sent to Zechariah also good news for us? How is Zechariah’s disbelief similar to our lack of consistently trusting in God?</p> <p>How are both Mary and Joseph examples of people of faith? How is Jesus shown to be true God and true man as his birth was announced?</p> <p>What were the circumstances of the birth of John the Baptist? What did Zechariah mean when he said that God had “come and redeemed His people”? How was John a <i>forerunner</i> of Christ?</p> <p>What evidence is there in the Biblical account of the birth of Christ that Christianity is based on historical events that actually happened and not based on mythical events? Where is the Good News of salvation mentioned in the Christmas story? Why did Mary and Joseph take Jesus to the temple? In what ways are Simeon and Anna examples for disciples of Jesus? What did Simeon mean when he said that Jesus “will be the reason for the fall and rising again of many in Israel?”</p> <p>Why does Matthew so often refer to Old Testament prophecies in his account of Jesus’ life?</p> <p>For what purpose did God use dreams during this period of Jesus’ life?</p> <p>What Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled by Jesus in his first few years of life?</p> <p>What did Jesus mean by the statement, “I must be about My Father’s business”?</p> <p>How has Jesus’ obedience to His Father’s business impacted our lives today?</p>	<p>Knows the duties of a priest as described in Exodus 30:6-8 and Leviticus 16 and 21 (S3.F) Knows the details surrounding the angel’s visit to Zechariah and the message he received. (S2.A1) Connects the message of the arrival of the Messiah as the arrival of our redemption from sin. (S2.A3)</p> <p>Compares Zechariah’s failure to trust in God with our own daily struggles with faith and trust in God. (S3.B)</p> <p>Provides examples of faithful behavior of both Mary and Joseph. (S3.A)</p> <p>Gives evidences of Jesus’ humanity and divinity in the context of the story of the Annunciation. (S1.C.3; S2.A1)</p> <p>Summarizes the events surrounding the birth of John. (S2.A2) Defines the word <i>redeemed</i> and the phrase <i>the remission of sins</i> and how, according to Zechariah, people can receive this. (S2.A2) Explain what a forerunner is and how John fulfilled that role for Jesus. (S3.A; S3.E) Lists examples of documented historical evidence for the birth of Jesus. (S2.1) Identifies the Gospel contained in the message of the Angels to the shepherds. (S1.C.3, D.2; S2.A.2)</p> <p>Explains how Mary and Joseph were fulfilling the requirements of the Law by taking Jesus to be circumcised on the 8th day. (S1.C.3; D.1) Compares the words and actions of Simeon and Anna with the characteristics of Christian discipleship. (S3.A,F) Explains how Jesus’ life and teachings have resulted in both belief and unbelief for salvation for Israel. (S1.C.3; S2.A)</p> <p>Explains that Matthew’s gospel is written for Jews to understand that Jesus is the fulfillment of all Old Testament prophecy. (S1.C.3; S2.A.3) Explains how God used dreams and visions to communicate His will and revelation to various people in the story of Christ’s birth, including to Joseph and the wise men. (S1.D.2) Lists the prophecies that were fulfilled by Jesus and by those around Jesus in the events surrounding his birth and first few years of life. (S1.D.2; S2.A.2,3) Explains what Jesus’ Father’s business was and why Jesus was obedient to it, even at the age of twelve. (S1.C.3; S2.A.1,2) Identifies Jesus’ obedience to the will of the Father as being demonstrated in his willingness to suffer and die on a cross for our salvation. (S1.C, S2.A.2,3)</p>

STANARDS	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS	ESSENTIAL SKILLS
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Articulate the story of the Early Church</p>	<p>What was the message of John the Baptist?</p> <p>What does it mean that John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance? Why did Jesus need to be baptized?</p> <p>How were the temptations Jesus faced similar to the temptations we face today? How did Jesus respond to each of Satan’s temptations and how is that helpful to us?</p> <p>Why did Jesus choose the disciples he did to follow Him?</p> <p>Why does Jesus ask people to follow Him, and what does that mean? At the Wedding at Cana, how did Jesus’ mother show her faith in Jesus? What effect did Jesus’ miracle at the wedding have on His disciples? How is the Holy Spirit like the wind?</p> <p>How was the event of Moses’ putting a bronze snake on a pole a foreshadowing of Christ? What does it mean to be born again? Why was the Samaritan woman at the well surprised when Jesus asked her for a drink? What does it mean to worship God in spirit and in truth?</p> <p>What was the response of the people of Sychar to the woman’s testimony about Jesus?</p> <p>What is the purpose of observing a Sabbath Day?</p> <p>Why did Jesus heal people on the Sabbath?</p> <p>How does God want us to observe the Sabbath?</p> <p>As Jesus used it, what does the term “catch men” mean? What methods for “catching men” did Jesus use? How can we today “catch men”?</p> <p>What forms of evil did Jesus commonly confront in His earthly ministry?</p> <p>In dealing with each evil, what truth did Jesus establish? What blessings do these stories of Jesus’ authority and power over nature and over evil give us? According to the raising of Jairus’ daughter and the young man from Nain, why did Jesus raise these young people from the dead? What were the effects of Jesus raising these two people from death? How are these miracles of Jesus raising these young people related to the Church’s confession “I believe in the resurrection of the body” in the Apostles’ Creed?</p> <p>What do the four types of soil Jesus describes in his parable symbolize? Which type of soil are you?</p> <p>How are Jesus’ parables of the Weeds and the Net similar?</p> <p>Why did Jesus teach His disciple these parables?</p> <p>What are our tasks in God’s kingdom and is not our task?</p> <p>What kinds of people are blessed, according to Jesus in the Beatitudes?</p>	<p>Summarizes the message that John the Baptist preached. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Explains the meaning of a baptism of repentance and compares it to the baptism of the Holy Spirit. (S2.B.3)</p> <p>Explains the phrase to fulfill all righteousness as it pertains to Jesus’ baptism by John. (S2.A.1)</p> <p>Compare Satan’s temptations to Jesus to the temptations put in our lives today. (S3.A)</p> <p>Describes how Jesus used Scripture to respond to each of Satan’s temptations and concludes that we also need to respond to temptation by using the power of God’s Word. (S2.A.2; S3.A,B)</p> <p>Perceives that Jesus calls us as unworthy and unskilled disciples, then empowers us to live for him, as He did with His original twelve disciples. (S3.E)</p> <p>Identifies himself/herself as a disciple of Jesus, called by Him to imitate Him and be obedient to His will. (S3.E)</p> <p>Lists the conditions at the Wedding at Cana that led to Jesus performing his first miracle there. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Explains how Jesus’ miracle of turning water into wine caused His disciples to put their faith in Him. (S.A.2)</p> <p>Explains what Jesus meant in speaking to Nicodemus about how the Holy Spirit is like the wind. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Compares and contrasts Moses’ lifting up the snake in the desert with Jesus being lifted up on the cross. (S2.A.3)</p> <p>Defines what it means to be born again. (S2.G)</p> <p>Explains the cultural context of how Jews and Samaritans related to one another. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Explains Jesus’ words to the Samaritan woman about worship, and how Jesus is superior to a temple or a physical place of worship. (S2.E, S3.F)</p> <p>Describes how the people of Sychar embraced Jesus’ teachings and the change that occurred in them and compare it to the change that has occurred in us because of the Holy Spirit. (S2.A.2, S2.F)</p> <p>Explains the purpose of the Sabbath Day, how it is honored and dishonored. (S2.D.1,2,3a, 3b)</p> <p>Compares Jesus’ teaching about the proper view of the Sabbath verses the Pharisees misuse of it. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Lists examples of ways to observe a Sabbath Day of rest in a Godly and honorable way. (S3.A, B, C, D, E, F)</p> <p>Defines the term “fishers of men” as someone who is used by God to create new believers in Jesus. (S3.E)</p> <p>Explores ways and methods Jesus used to make believers and disciples. (S3.E)</p> <p>Lists ways in which disciples today – of all ages - can act as fishers of men. (S3.E)</p> <p>Identifies examples of evil that Jesus confronted, including demon-possession, disease, and hatred from religious leaders. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Confesses the truth that all authority in heaven and on earth resides in the person of Jesus Christ. (S2.A.1)</p> <p>Articulates an assurance and hope for a secure life in Christ based on evidence contained in these stories. (S2.F)</p> <p>Lists reasons why Jesus performed miracles of resurrection, including to demonstrate His authority over death, to fulfill prophecies, and to demonstrate His love and compassion for those under the curse of sin, death, and the power of the devil. (S2.A.3)</p> <p>Lists examples of the reactions of those who witnessed Jesus’ miracles of resurrection, including giving glory to God. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Connects the reality of Jesus raising these people from death to the reality that we, too, will be raised to life by the same power of Jesus. (S2.C)</p> <p>Lists the four types of soil in Jesus’ parable and defines them according to different responses to the Gospel. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Reflects on their response to the Gospel and identifies as rich soil. (S2.F)</p> <p>Compares Jesus parables of the Weeds and Nets as illustrations of the kingdom of God and the coming judgment that will separate believers from unbelievers. (S2.A.1,2,3)</p> <p>Perceives the reality that judgment comes for all people, and that this creates a sense of urgency in sharing the Good News with everyone. (S3.A, E)</p> <p>Articulates our responsibilities as disciples of Jesus to make disciples who make disciples with the understanding that our role in this is to share the Gospel, and God’s role is to create faith. (S3.A, D, E)</p> <p>List the kinds of people described as “blessed” in Jesus discourse of the Beatitudes. (S1.B.2, S2.B.1, B.2)</p>

		<p>What does each petition of the Lord’s Prayer mean?</p> <p>Why is it hard not to worry?</p> <p>According to Jesus, why do those who trust in Him not need to worry?</p> <p>Why did both the leper and the centurion go to Jesus for help?</p> <p>Why did Jesus help them?</p> <p>How did Jesus answer John’s question, “Are you the one who is to come?”</p> <p>According to Isaiah, what was to be the work of the Messiah?</p> <p>Is Jesus the promised Messiah?</p> <p>With so many people following Jesus, what were some of the problems that the disciples saw?</p> <p>How was Jesus being the shepherd that the people were missing?</p> <p>What does the Feeding of the Five Thousand teach about Jesus’ love and care for us?</p> <p>Why didn’t Jesus want to be king?</p> <p>How is the Feeding of the Five Thousand a foreshadowing of Jesus’ death?</p> <p>How are the fears of Jesus’ disciples on the rough seas like our fears?</p> <p>How did Jesus deal with the fears of His disciples and what does this mean for us?</p> <p>How are the two natures of Jesus illustrated in His miracle of calming the storm?</p> <p>What is the cause of all sickness in the world?</p> <p>What did Jesus do about sickness when He saw it?</p> <p>For what blessing of healing are you especially thankful.</p> <p>How did Peter respond when Jesus asked him, “Who do you say that I am?”</p> <p>Why was Jesus pleased with Peter’s answer to His question?</p> <p>Why would God the Father be pleased with Jesus?</p> <p>In what way is Jesus the true “rock” of the Church?</p> <p>How do we pile up “debts” similar to those of the unmerciful servant?</p> <p>To whom do we owe these debts?</p> <p>Do you respond in a similar way?</p> <p>In the parable of the Good Samaritan, why do you suppose the first two men didn’t help the wounded man?</p> <p>How are we like the wounded man in the Parable of the Good Samaritan?</p> <p>How is Jesus like the Good Samaritan?</p> <p>According to Jesus, what is the one thing needful Martha needed?</p> <p>How did Mary show her love for Jesus?</p> <p>In what ways are you like Mary? Like Martha?</p> <p>How did the rich young ruler expect to get into heaven?</p>	<p>Demonstrates knowledge of the meaning of the Lord’s Prayer by writing it in his/her own words. (S1.C.1)</p> <p>Confesses our lack of faith and trust in Jesus to consistently meet all of our needs. (S2.B.3)</p> <p>Relates Jesus’ words of assurance in the Beatitudes of how our heavenly Father loves and cares for us. (S1.D.1,2)</p> <p>Explains the needs of the leper (for healing) and the centurion (for the healing of a servant) and their respective faiths in compelling them to go to Jesus for help. (S2.B.2, D, F)</p> <p>Identifies the reason for Jesus’ healing them as the faith that they demonstrated in going to Him. (S2.B.1)</p> <p>Explains how Jesus responded to John’s disciples when they asked Him if He is in fact the Messiah. (S2.A.1, 2)</p> <p>Compares and contrasts the common conception of what the Messiah as a conquering earthly king and the actual prophecies of the Messiah from Isaiah as a suffering servant. (S2.A.3)</p> <p>Gives evidence of how Jesus is the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies concerning the Messiah. (S1.C.3; S2.A)</p> <p>Provides examples of the problems Jesus regularly faced because of the large crowds who followed Him. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Lists ways in which Jesus was providing for the physical and spiritual needs of the people, and also the ways in which Israel’s religious leaders were failing to provide for those needs. (S1.D.1, 2; S2.A.2)</p> <p>Articulates reasons why Jesus’ true mission was not to be a temporal earthly king, but the suffering servant Messiah prophesied, and why this had to be. (S2.A.2,3)</p> <p>Compares Jesus’ provision for the crowd to our daily bread we receive from Him. (S1.D.1, 2; S2.3)</p> <p>Compares the bread Jesus provided to the crowd to Him calling Himself the Bread of Life and the sacrifice of His body (and blood) on the cross – represented in the Lord’s Supper. (S1.D.1, 2; S2.3)</p> <p>Compares the dangers experienced by the disciples on the Sea of Galilee with dangers people are commonly experiencing today. (S1.D)</p> <p>Identifies ways in which Jesus demonstrated mercy and grace in dealing with the fears and weaknesses of His disciples and connects that to how Jesus is merciful and gracious to us. (S1.D.1,2)</p> <p>Identifies Jesus’ sleeping in the boat as a sign of his human nature and His authority over the wind and waters as a sign of His divine nature. (S2.A.1, 2)</p> <p>Identifies sin as the root cause of all sickness and disease in this world. (S2.D; S3.B)</p> <p>List examples of how Jesus responded to the physical and spiritual needs of those suffering from sickness and disease as He encountered them. (S1.D.1; S2.A.3)</p> <p>Identifies examples of healing in his/her own life for which he/she can give thanks and praise to God. (S3.F)</p> <p>Recites Peter’s answer of, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (S3.A, E)</p> <p>Explains that Jesus’ happiness with Peter’s answer was evidence of the Father’s work in the lives of Peter and the disciples, because His identify as Messiah was revealed to them by God. (S2.B.2; S3.E, F)</p> <p>Acknowledges the mystery of the Trinity and how Jesus, as the Son, came to earth to do the will of the Father, to bring joy to Him by being obedient to Him. (S2.A.2, 3)</p> <p>Explains how Jesus’ atoning sacrifice served to establish the foundation of the kingdom of God – the Christian Church that will exist unto all eternity. (S2.A.1, 2, 3)</p> <p>Acknowledges his/her own sins of thought, word, and deed, daily by commission and omission. (S2.B.3, D; S3.B)</p> <p>Confesses with David in Psalm 51: Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight. (S2.B.3, D; S3.B)</p> <p>Evaluates the authenticity of his/her own contrition and repentance. (S2.B.3, D; S3.B)</p> <p>Infers that Jesus was teaching that our own indifference or lack of courage to help others is failure to love our neighbor as ourselves. (S2.B.3, D; S3.B.)</p> <p>Compares our dependence on Jesus for healing with the neediness of the wounded man. (S2.B.3)</p> <p>Compares Jesus to the Good Samaritan, identifying his qualities of selfless and unconditional love. (S2.A.1, 2, 3)</p> <p>Identifies Martha’s need as reprioritizing her life to make Jesus’ words and presence as the most important. Compares and contrast Mary and Martha’s behavior while having Jesus as a guest in their home. (S3.A)</p> <p>Evaluates his/her ability to make the Words of Jesus of the utmost importance in life. (S3.A, B, C, F)</p> <p>Explains the rich young ruler’s delusion in thinking he has perfectly obeyed God’s laws, and his unwillingness to give all to follow Jesus. (S2, B.1)</p>
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		<p>How did the foolish rich man expect to have a happy life on earth?</p> <p>What is Jesus' message to us in the Parables of the Rich Young Ruler and the Foolish Rich Man?</p> <p>Describe the great banquet to which Jesus has invited us.</p> <p>What are some excuses that people give for not coming to the banquet? From these stories, how do you know that Jesus wants everyone to be saved?</p> <p>How are we like the younger son in Jesus' Parable of the Prodigal Son?</p> <p>How are we like the older son in Jesus' Parable of the Prodigal Son?</p> <p>Why did the father forgive and celebrate the return of the son?</p> <p>In the Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus, what messages in the Old Testament would have helped the rich man? In what ways was Lazarus rich?</p> <p>How can we, as Jesus said in this parable, listen to someone "who rises from the dead"?</p> <p>Why did Jesus not go to see His friend Lazarus right away when He heard he was sick?</p> <p>"Jesus wept." What does this smallest verse in the Bible teach us about Jesus?</p> <p>What did Jesus mean when He said, "I am the resurrection and the life"?</p> <p>How are "the blind" and Zacchaeus in similar situations?</p> <p>What does it mean to be a "son of Abraham"?</p> <p>What does the phrase, "The Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost" mean for us as his disciples today?</p> <p>Why did Jesus cry over Jerusalem as He entered it on Palm Sunday?</p> <p>Why did Jesus get angry with those who were conducting business in the temple?</p> <p>What was Jesus' answer to the question about payment of taxes?</p> <p>In what sense is Jesus both David's Son and David's Lord?</p> <p>How are the widow's gift at the temple and Jesus' gift to us similar? How are they different? In Jesus' discourse on the signs of His second coming, what are some things that happen in the heavens and the earth that cause people to be afraid? When disasters occur, according to Jesus' words, what are they warning us about? What are some things we should do to be ready for the Last Day? In Jesus Parable of the Sheep and Goats, what do the actions of the "sheep" indicate about a person's faith? What determines whether a person enters heaven?</p> <p>Why did the chief priests and scribes not want to kill Jesus during the entire time of the Passover?</p>	<p>Explains the rich man's shortsightedness in believing that his earthly wealth would bring eternal happiness, without acknowledging his stored-up treasures will end when he dies. (S2.B.1)</p> <p>Acknowledges that our lives should not be spent in merely accumulating possessions, but to see them as blessings use our possessions and wealth to help others and give glory to God. (S1.D.3; S3.D)</p> <p>Understands that the banquet referenced in Jesus' parable is our eternal life with Him and describes the blessings of being invited to it. (S1.A.5)</p> <p>Lists the excuses Jesus included in his parable from those who would not accept the banquet invitation. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Concludes from the Parable of the Banquet that Jesus' invitation extends to all people and extends across generations, wealth or lack of wealth, sick or healthy, etc. (S2.A.2, 3)</p> <p>Identifies as the younger son as we see our sin as a rebellion against our Father and a desire to live life on our own terms. (S2.B.3, D; S3.B)</p> <p>Identifies as the older son as we sin by depending upon our own righteousness and by looking in judgement upon others and seeing them as less worthy of God's love than us. (S2.B.1)</p> <p>Understands that the father in this parable is our heavenly Father whose love brings forgiveness and complete restoration of our broken relationship with Him. (S1.C.3; S2.A.3)</p> <p>Lists examples of Old Testament prophetic passages referencing the Messiah. (S1.C.3; S3.C)</p> <p>Associates Lazarus' presence in heaven with the greatest treasure of all – eternal life with Jesus. (S1.A.5)</p> <p>Recognize Jesus as the one and only who has defeated death, rose to life, and whose Word gives us the hope of eternal life. (S2.A.3)</p> <p>Infers that Jesus purposely waited until Lazarus was dead so that He could demonstrate His power of death in raising Lazarus to life again. (S2.A.2, 3)</p> <p>Infers that Jesus, as a fully human being, experienced the emotions of grief, sorrow, and anger; also infers that Jesus' grief was directly related to His anger at Satan and the pain that sin and death has brought to the children he creates and loves. (S2.A.1)</p> <p>Identifies Jesus' resurrection as our victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil, and as a result, qualifies us as worthy to receive life eternal. (S2.A.3)</p> <p>Infers that both the blind and Zacchaeus possessed a sinful condition that resulted in their need of restoration from the healing Jesus. (S2.B.3)</p> <p>Explains that all who are saved by grace through faith, like Abraham was, is a "son of Abraham." (S2.B.1, 2)</p> <p>Associates Jesus statement of coming to seek and save the lost with His Great Commission to us to go and make disciples of all nations, that He chooses to do His saving work through us. (S2.B.2, C; S3.E)</p> <p>Recognize Jesus' weeping over Jerusalem as His heartfelt sorrow over all the sin that resulted in His need to come and suffer and die for us. (S2.A.2, 3)</p> <p>Explains the conducting of business in the temple courts as an abuse of the sacredness and reverence for the house of the Lord and seeing Jesus' zeal for His Father's house being expressed in his anger. (S3.A, F)</p> <p>Understands that the phrase <i>render unto Caesar what is Caesar's</i> means we that our obedience to God is expressed in our submission to human authorities. (S1.D.3; S3.A)</p> <p>Articulates the difference between Jesus' designation as both a Son of David and Son of God in that He is a direct descendant in the family line of David and the Son of God incarnate, conceived by the Holy Spirit. (S2.A.1)</p> <p>Compares and contrasts the story of the widow's mite with Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross. (S1.D.3.b)</p> <p>Identifies examples of natural and manmade disasters that commonly cause fear in mankind. (S1.A.3)</p> <p>Understands that natural disasters (and mankind disasters) are to remind us that this world is passing away, and Christ has promised that one day He will return. (S1.A.3)</p> <p>Lists the specific things Jesus wants us to do while we wait for His return, including watching and praying. (S3.D, E)</p> <p>Explains that the good things a Christian does are the fruits of the faith inside them. (S1.D.3.a, b; S2.B.2; S3.A, D)</p> <p>Defines salvation as coming from faith, and not by the good things we do. (S2.B.1, 2)</p> <p>Describes the beliefs, concerns and conflicts within the chief priests and scribes concerning Jesus' popularity with the people and their determination to have him put to death. (S2.A.2)</p>
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	<p>Why was Jesus eager to celebrate the Passover with His disciples?</p> <p>Why did Jesus tell them to eat the bread and drink the cup often?</p>	<p>Interprets Jesus' eagerness to celebrate the Passover as a sign that Jesus' work of making atonement for the sin of mankind is about to take place – the fulfillment of thousands of years of prophecy. (S2.A.1, 2, 3)</p> <p>Interprets Jesus' words for us to eat and drink this meal often as an exhortation to receive the blessings and benefits this meal provides – forgiveness of sins. (S1.D.1; S2.A.1, 2, 3, C, D, E, F; S3.A, F)</p>
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	STANDARDS	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS	ESSENTIAL SKILLS
THE THIRD PERIOD – THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESSUS CHRIST	<p>I. Standard 1: God as my Creator and Sustainer</p> <p>A. Identify creation as the work of God.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognize the order of creation as evidence of God's engineering. 2. Recognize the beauty of creation as evidence of God's artistry. 3. Recognize the brokenness of creation as the result of sin 4. Defend belief in creation with arguments from scripture and science. 5. Explain the New Creation as the goal of the Christian hope. <p>B. Recognize the inherent value that God has given to each individual human.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Articulate what it means to be created in the image of God. 2. Articulate that God created mankind to continue His work of love and creation. 3. Defend the value of human life <p>C. Appreciate that the Creator desires a personal relationship with His people.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Articulate prayers that are personal and from the heart. 2. Recognize the limitations of the general revelation of God available through knowledge of nature (Romans 1:20). 3. Appreciate the full revelation of God available through the Word and the Word made flesh (Hebrews 1:1-3). <p>D. Recognize God as the provider and protector of those who trust in Him.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the ordinary means by which God continues to provide for and protect His people. 2. Provide examples of God's extraordinary provision for His people. 3. Articulate a God honoring approach to stewarding the gifts of God. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify time, talents, and treasures as gifts of God. b. Explain the concepts of sacrificial giving, first-fruits giving, and tithing. 	<p>Why did Jesus go to the Garden of Gethsemane?</p> <p>What burden of sin did Jesus already suffer here?</p> <p>Did Jesus receive any help here?</p> <p>What messages about prayer does God give us in the account of Jesus in Gethsemane?</p> <p>Do you agree or disagree with the statement that Judas is not Jesus' only betrayer?</p> <p>Why did Jesus not want Peter to defend Him at His arrest?</p> <p>Why was it so important to Jesus that He fulfill the prophecies of the prophets?</p> <p>What charges against Jesus were the chief priests trying to prove?</p> <p>Why did they want to prove these charges?</p> <p>Why did they have so much trouble finding reliable witnesses?</p> <p>Why did Jesus have to suffer such verbal and physical harassment?</p> <p>Describe the temptations of both Peter and Judas.</p> <p>How can we obtain strength to resist temptation?</p> <p>What does God promise to provide to all who suffer remorse for their sin?</p> <p>In summary, what were the many accusations brought against Jesus?</p> <p>Why was Jesus taken to so many people to be tried?</p> <p>How do the accounts of Jesus' trial before Annas, Caiaphas, Herod, and Pilate show that Jesus died for all types of sins?</p> <p>Describe some of the sufferings that Jesus endured in our place as He "suffered under Pontius Pilate."</p> <p>How is the event of Barabbas being freed and Jesus being crucified a picture of what Jesus has done for us?</p> <p>Describe how Jesus' suffering for our sins continued on the way to Calvary?</p> <p>Why didn't Jesus come down from the cross to show that He was, in fact, King of kings?</p> <p>What comfort comes to all people from Jesus' conversation with the dying thief?</p> <p>What is the significance of Jesus' words It is finished?</p> <p>How is Genesis 3:15 now fulfilled by Jesus' death?</p>	<p>Explains Jesus' need to pray to the Father for strength and support on the eve of His crucifixion. (S2.A.1, 2)</p> <p>Infers that Jesus' suffering and passion has begun with the stress and anxiety of what lay ahead of him, even while He was praying in the garden. (S2.A.1, 2)</p> <p>Identifies the angelic help Jesus receives as sent from the Father to sustain Jesus at this time. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Applies the example of Jesus praying to the Father to our need to go to the Father in good times and in bad times – and the example to pray for the will of God to be done, not our will. (S1.C.1; S3.A)</p> <p>Evaluates and criticizes the premise that Judas was Jesus' only betrayer with the understanding that all mankind is guilty because of our sin. (S2.B.3; S3.B)</p> <p>Infers that Jesus' rebuke of Peter at this time stemmed from His determination to go to the cross to fulfill the will of the Father in making atonement for the sin of mankind. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Interprets all of Jesus' life as a fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies – and understands this in that He did not fulfill them because they were written, but they were written because He would fulfill them. (S1.C.3)</p> <p>Lists and explains the charges brought against Jesus and evaluates them based on true justice and adherence to God's law. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Analyzes and evaluates the motives of the chief priests as trying to eliminate Jesus as a perceived threat to their power. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Infers that the difficulty in finding reliable witnesses against Jesus stemmed from the fact that the charges brought against Him were baseless and false. (S2.A.1, 2)</p> <p>Understands that all of the abuse Jesus suffered on our behalf, including that which He experienced in His trial, was all a part of the suffering He would endure, and which was prophesied about centuries earlier. (S1.C.3; S2.A.2, 3)</p> <p>Compares the similarities of both Peter and Judas' sin against Jesus and distinguishes Judas's sin as unforgiveable because of his unwillingness to repent. (S2.B.3; D, S3.B)</p> <p>Applies the truth of Romans 13:14 and clothing yourself in Christ as the means to resist temptation. (S2.F; S3.1)</p> <p>Applies the truth of 1 John 1:9 in explaining how God, who is faithful and just, forgives us for all our unrighteousness. (S1.A.3; S2.B.3, E; S3.B)</p> <p>Summarizes the accusations brought against Jesus by the chief priests, scribes, and Pharisees. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Understands the limits of authority held by the Jewish leaders under Roman rule, as well as the hierarchy within the priesthood among the Jews. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Infers that because Jesus was tried before both Jewish and Gentile courts, all people and all nations stand condemned, and whose sins are also all covered by the blood of Christ. (S1.B.2, 3; D.1, 2; S2.A.3)</p> <p>Identifies and lists the examples of suffering Jesus endured at the hands of Pontius Pilate. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Compares himself/herself to Barabbas and identifies the similarities of how we have been released from guilt through no merits of our own, and how the perfect and sinless Jesus has been punished in our place. (S2.D, E, F)</p> <p>Summarizes the abuses Jesus endured physically, emotionally, and spiritually as he went to his crucifixion (S2.A.2, 3).</p> <p>Explains why Jesus had to endure the sufferings of the cross to accomplish the will of the Father – to make full atonement for the sin of mankind. (S2.A.2, 3)</p> <p>Understands and explains how Jesus' loving response to the criminal's plea demonstrates that we, too, like the criminal, are welcomed into paradise by Jesus because of His death and resurrection. (S2.B.3, E; S3.B)</p> <p>Defines the phrase It is finished (<i>tetelestai</i>) as a statement that all of our sins have been paid in full, all accounts settled. (S2.A.1, 2, 3)</p> <p>Understands and explains the words of Genesis 3:15 (he will crush your head; you will bruise his heel) as a prophecy of the work of Christ on the cross – crushing the head of Satan. (S2.A.1, 2, 3)</p>
		<p>II. Standard 2: God as my Redeemer</p> <p>A. Explain the centrality of Jesus of Nazareth within the Christian faith.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify Jesus as true God and true man. 2. Articulate the story of Jesus' life and ministry. 3. Identify the importance of Jesus' death and resurrection within God's work of salvation. <p>B. Distinguish between a works-based approach to God and a Gospel-centered approach to God.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distinguish between the two central teachings of the scriptures: Law and Gospel 2. Articulate the fruits of a Gospel-centered life (Galatians 5:22-25) 3. Explain the importance of daily repentance within a Gospel-centered life <p>C. Living from the Gospel</p> <p>D. Daily repentance</p> <p>E. Means of Grace</p> <p>F. My Identity: I am a redeemed child of God.</p> <p>III. Standard 3: God as my Sanctifier</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Putting God's Word into practice B. Daily repentance C. Personal Bible Study / Devotions D. Service to others E. Witness & Disciple Making F. Worship G. Articulate the story of the Early Church 	

	<p>What evidence is there in the account of Jesus' death that He did, in fact, physically die?</p> <p>How did Joseph and Nicodemus show their trust in Jesus?</p> <p>Why did the chief priests want someone to guard Jesus' tomb?</p>	<p>Summarizes the evidence from the Gospel accounts that indicates Jesus physically died and didn't merely slip into a comma or was merely unconscious for a period of time. (S2.A.2, 3)</p> <p>Explains the actions of Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus and how their service of giving Jesus a proper burial were indications of their trust in Him. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Explains the concerns the Jewish leaders had about someone potentially stealing Jesus' body to fabricate a story of His resurrection, which led them to requesting a guard be posted at His tomb. (S2.A.2)</p>
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	STANDARDS	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS	ESSENTIAL SKILLS
THE FOURTH PERIOD – THE GLORIFIED GOD	<p>I. Standard 1: God as my Creator and Sustainer</p> <p>A. Identify creation as the work of God.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognize the order of creation as evidence of God's engineering. 2. Recognize the beauty of creation as evidence of God's artistry. 3. Recognize the brokenness of creation as the result of sin 4. Defend belief in creation with arguments from scripture and science. 5. Explain the New Creation as the goal of the Christian hope. <p>B. Recognize the inherent value that God has given to each individual human.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Articulate what it means to be created in the image of God. 2. Articulate that God created mankind to continue His work of love and creation. 3. Defend the value of human life <p>C. Appreciate that the Creator desires a personal relationship with mankind.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Articulate prayers that are personal and from the heart. 2. Recognize the limitations of the general revelation of God available through knowledge of nature (Romans 1:20). 3. Appreciate the full revelation of God available through the Word and the Word made flesh (Hebrews 1:1-3). <p>D. Recognize God as the provider and protector of those who trust in Him.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the ordinary means by which God continues to provide for and protect His people. 2. Provide examples of God's extraordinary provision for His people. 3. Articulate a God honoring approach to stewarding the gifts of God. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify time, talents, and treasures as gifts of God. b. Explain the concepts of sacrificial giving, first-fruits giving, and tithing. 	<p>What were the order of events that happened on Easter morning?</p> <p>What was the angels' message to the women who first appeared at the tomb?</p> <p>Why was it hard to for the disciples to believe this message?</p> <p>Why did the Scripture writers tell about so many people who saw Jesus alive?</p> <p>Why did the priests and leaders bribe the guards not to tell what happened to them?</p> <p>Why does the resurrection of Jesus bring us joy?</p> <p>What was the conversation about that the two disciples may have had on their way to Emmaus?</p> <p>What would have been some of the passages from Scripture that Jesus would have used to explain why the Messiah had to suffer?</p> <p>What proofs that He was really risen from the dead did Jesus give to Thomas and the disciples?</p> <p>Whose sins are to be forgiven?</p> <p>What do Jesus' words Peace be with you mean to us?</p> <p>From what He said and did, what was Jesus' purpose in appearing to His disciples on the beach?</p> <p>When is a person truly repentant?</p> <p>What is the meaning of Jesus' words Feed My lambs?</p> <p>Before He ascended into heaven, what directions did Jesus give to His disciples?</p>	<p>Designs a timeline that shows the chronology of events of the first Easter Sunday. (S2.A.2,3)</p> <p>Summarizes the angels' message to the women at the tomb. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Analyzes the thinking of the disciples regarding what their expectations of the Messiah were, and how this affected their willingness to believe that Jesus was alive. (S2.A.2)</p> <p>Analyzes the reasons by the Gospel writers wanted their readers to know who saw Jesus alive and why it was important for them to know that. (S2.A.3)</p> <p>Understands and explains the motives of the Jewish leaders for keeping the truth of what happened to the guards a secret so that the word of Christ's resurrection would not spread. (S2.A.2,3)</p> <p>Composes a personal expression of heartfelt joy because of the resurrection of Jesus. (S2.F; S3.A)</p> <p>Composes a hypothetical dialogue between the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. (S2.A.1,2,3)</p> <p>Employs Bible study tools and resources to identify Old Testament prophecies concerning the suffering servant nature of the Messiah. (S2.A.1,2,3)</p> <p>Explains how Jesus revealed Himself to His disciples to be truly and physically risen, not merely a ghost. (S2.A.1,2,3)</p> <p>Explains from Acts 3:19 that all who repent will experience times of refreshing (forgiveness). (S2.B.3)</p> <p>Distinguishes Jesus' words of Peace be with you as a transcendent peace that isn't dependent on physical and temporal circumstances but is rich in purpose and identify as a child of God. (S2.A.1,2,3; D, E, F)</p> <p>Defines true repentance using Psalm 32:5, Psalm 51:17, and Matthew 3:8. (S2.B.1,2,3)</p> <p>Interprets lambs to mean all of Jesus' children (all people) and explains that it is Jesus' will that we feed them by nurturing their faith, loving them, and caring for them. (S2.C, F; S3.A, D, E)</p> <p>Analyzes the events of Jesus' interaction with Peter and with the other disciples on the beach and list reasons for each interaction, including to reinstate Peter, reassure them of his physical resurrection, and to revisit the fishers of men command. (S2.B.1,2,3)</p> <p>Summarizes the commands Jesus gave His disciples before He was taken up into heaven. (S2.A.2; C, F)</p> <p>Explains the promise I am with you always as a promise to us, as well, that Jesus remains with us through His Holy Spirit because of our adoption into His family through Baptism. (S2.E.G; S3.A, E)</p>
	<p>II. Standard 2: God as my Redeemer</p> <p>A. Explain the centrality of Jesus of Nazareth within the Christian faith.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify Jesus as true God and true man. 2. Articulate the story of Jesus' life and ministry. 3. Identify the importance of Jesus' death and resurrection within God's work of salvation. <p>B. Distinguish between a works-based approach to God and a Gospel-centered approach to God.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distinguish between the two central teachings of the scriptures: Law and Gospel 2. Articulate the fruits of a Gospel-centered life (Galatians 5:22-25) 3. Explain the importance of daily repentance within a Gospel-centered life <p>C. Living from the Gospel</p> <p>D. Daily repentance</p> <p>E. Means of Grace</p> <p>F. My Identity: I am a redeemed child of God.</p>	<p>What promises did He give them and us?</p>	
<p>III. Standard 3: God as my Sanctifier</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Putting God's Word into practice B. Daily repentance C. Personal Bible Study / Devotions D. Service to others E. Witness & Disciple Making F. Worship G. Articulate the story of the Early Church 			

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What part of Peter’s words to the crowd was the law?</p> <p>What part of Peter’s words to the crowd was the Gospel?</p> <p>What evidence is there of the Holy Spirit’s blessing upon the people through Peter’s words?</p> <p>What evidence is there of the Holy Spirit’s blessing upon you through the Gospel? What was the true healing that came to the lame man through Peter and John?</p> <p>Summarize Peter’s sermon on Solomon’s Porch at the temple.</p> <p>Describe a way that you can both glorify Jesus and bring the Gospel to someone. What was the sin of Ananias and Sapphira?</p> <p>How does the giving of Barnabas compare to the giving of Ananias and Sapphira?</p> <p>What did God teach the Church by immediately punishing this sin so severely?</p> <p>What guidance for problem-solving is found in the way the Early Church dealt with the problem of feeding widows?</p> <p>How did God help Stephen throughout his accusation and execution? How does Stephen’s prayer while he was being stoned compare to Jesus’ prayer on the cross?</p> <p>What may the Ethiopian have been reading from the prophet Isaiah? What was the cause of joy for the Ethiopian after his encounter with Philip? What was Saul’s purpose for going to Damascus?</p> <p>What things did God do to change Saul’s life?</p> <p>What was the message God wanted Saul to teach and the mission He gave to him?</p> <p>What was the message that God gave the Church by using a sheet filled with all kinds of animals?</p> <p>What did Peter do that showed he understood God’s message?</p> <p>What was Peter’s message to Cornelius and his family and to those who had gone along with him from Joppa?</p> <p>In Acts 12, why were Christians hiding, and why was Herod trying to kill Christians?</p> <p>How did God rescue Peter from prison?</p> <p>According to Psalm 103:20-21, what are some things God’s angels do? Why did Paul and Barnabas set out on their first missionary journey?</p> <p>Wherever they went, what was the message of Paul and Barnabas?</p> <p>What major challenges did Paul and Barnabas face in each town and what were their outcomes?</p> <p>What blessings did God give Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey?</p>	<p>Summarizes the events of Pentecost. (S3.E)</p> <p>Identifies the words <i>this Jesus whom you crucified</i> as Peter’s words of law to the people. (S2.B.1)</p> <p>Identifies the words <i>repent and be baptized, everyone one of you, for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit</i> as Peter’s words of Gospel to the people. (S2.B.1)</p> <p>Explains that the fact that 3,000 people were baptized on that single day as evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit. (S3.E)</p> <p>Articulates a testimony of the work of the Holy Spirit in his/her life. (S3.E)</p> <p>Identifies the forgiveness of sins, more than the physically healing of the lame man, as the true and better healing that God provided him through Peter and John. (S2.B.3)</p> <p>Summarizes Peter’s words following the healing of the lame man, and how five thousand came to faith through his preaching. (S3.E)</p> <p>Creates an action plan for service and witness which brings glory to Jesus and witnesses to others. (S3.D, E)</p> <p>Explains the circumstances surrounding the sins of Ananias and Sapphira. (S3.G)</p> <p>Contrasts the authentic giving and generosity of Barnabas with that of Ananias and Sapphira, which was deceptive and dishonest. (S1.D.3.a.b)</p> <p>Hypothesizes the reasons for God’s severe punishment of Ananias and Sapphira as setting an example for others about making a show of living your Christian faith. (S3.A, G)</p> <p>Analyzes the decisions made and the organization set up by the early church leaders and see it as a way of providing for both the physical and spiritual needs of Christians. (S3.D, G)</p> <p>Provides examples in the event of Stephen’s trial and stoning of God’s presence and power in Stephen. (S3.E, G)</p> <p>Compares Stephen’s prayer to Jesus’ prayer and identifies the similarity of both asking for the forgiveness of their persecutors. (S2.A.2; S3.A, E, G)</p> <p>Identifies prophecies concerning the Messiah from the book of Isaiah, especially Isaiah 53 and Isaiah 9. (S2.A.3)</p> <p>Using Acts 16:34, explains the reasons for joy in the knowledge of forgiveness and redemption. (S2.C)</p> <p>Explains Paul’s reason for going to Damascus as his determination to round up Christians for trial in Jerusalem. (S3.G)</p> <p>Identifies the changes that took place in Saul’s life following his encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus. (S3.G)</p> <p>Summarizes the content and focus of Saul’s message and describes the specific ministry that God commissioned Saul to undertake. (S3.G)</p> <p>Explains the message God was sending the church with Peter’s vision of the sheet from heaven filled with all kinds of unclean animals – as the freedom God has given his children to eat what God has now declared clean food. (S2.C; S3.G)</p> <p>Identifies Peter’s willingness to welcome Gentile messengers of Cornelius into his house as a faithful response to the vision God had given him. (S1.C, D)</p> <p>Summarizes Peter’s message to Cornelius and his family as an understanding that God desires all people – including Gentiles – to know and believe the message of Jesus’ death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sins. (S3.E, G)</p> <p>Connects the popularity among the Jews of James’ execution with Herod’s decision to expand the persecution of the Church, including the imprisonment of Peter. (S3.G)</p> <p>Recounts the events that led to Peter’s release from prison through the angels God sent him in response to the prayers of the Church. (S3.G)</p> <p>Lists the actions God’s angels do in his presence based on Psalm 103:20-21. (S3.C)</p> <p>Explains the direct and specific instructions Paul and Barnabas received from the Holy Spirit in sending them into the Gentile world. (S3.A, G)</p> <p>Articulates the message of Paul and Barnabas first to the Jews, then to the Gentiles that there is a living God, not worthless idols made from the hands of man. (S2.A.3; S3.E, G)</p> <p>Charts the major challenges Paul and Barnabas faced at each stop on their first missionary journey and their respective outcomes. (S3.G)</p> <p>Explains how Paul and Barnabas saw the hardships they faced as evidence that they were fulfilling God’s will; and how they were able to plant churches and appoint leaders in several places. (S3.A, E, G)</p>

		<p>Why did some Jews from Judea object to the teachings of Paul and Barnabas?</p> <p>How did the Jerusalem Council arrive at its decision to reject the Judaizers?</p> <p>What lessons about problem solving can we learn from the Early Church?</p> <p>What challenges did Paul face as he tried to bring the Gospel to people during his second missionary journey?</p> <p>How did Paul answer the jailer’s question, “What must I do to be saved?”</p> <p>What was Paul’s purpose in visiting the churches in Asia and Greece on his third missionary journey?</p> <p>Why were the silversmiths concerned about Paul’s teaching?</p> <p>Why did some Jews in Jerusalem want Paul put to death?</p> <p>What was Paul’s defense against their accusations? Why wasn’t Paul given his freedom?</p>	<p>Explains the teaching from the “Judaizers” as false and contrary to the true Gospel because of the insistence that faith must be accompanied by circumcision and observance of the Old Testament ceremonial laws. (S2.B.1, S3.G)</p> <p>Explains James’ decision based on Amos 9 which references The Lord’s desire for Gentiles to call upon His name. (S1.C; S3.G)</p> <p>Gives examples of how difficult decisions from the Early Church were made based on Scripture, conversation, compromise, and prayer. (S3.G)</p> <p>Lists the challenges faced by Paul during his second missionary journey, including opposition from Judaizers, anger from those profiting from a girl with a demon in Philippi and mocking from Greeks over the resurrection. (S3.A, G)</p> <p>Recalls Paul’s response to the jailer as to <i>believe on the Lord Jesus Christ</i>. (S3.G)</p> <p>Explains Paul’s purpose in visiting the churches in Asia and Greece as to provide encouragement and teaching. (S3.G)</p> <p>Explains that the silversmiths’ anger toward Paul was based on their business of making and selling idols being taken away as people were being taught about the one true God by Paul. (S3.G)</p> <p>Explains that Paul was falsely accused by some Jews of teaching against the Law of God and inviting Gentiles into the temple and desecrating the holy place. (S1.C; S3.G)</p> <p>Lists aspects of Paul’s arguments against his accusers, including a denial of their assertions that he brought Gentiles into the temple, that they had no proof that he incited people, that he worships the God of his fathers and believes everything written in the Law and the Prophets, and that he believes in the resurrection of the dead. (S3.G)</p> <p>Explains that Paul, as God promised him, was to testify before the highest authorities in Rome, including Caesar. (S3.E, G)</p>
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