

LUTHER THE LEADER

High School Study Guide

Name: _____

CHAPTER 1 SCHOOLDAYS FOR MARTIN

1. Give at least two details regarding Martin Luther's early days as a student.

CHAPTER 2 THE FLASH FROM HEAVEN

2. Choose two events leading up to Luther's decision to quit his law studies to become a monk instead.

CHAPTER 3 STRUGGLES IN THE MONASTERY

3. How does Luther punish himself to try to work his way into heaven?
4. *Reflection:* Do people today still try to earn salvation? Explain.
5. Provide a scripture reference which addresses the idea of earning salvation.
6. What realization frees Luther from his incessant attempts to rid himself of his sins?

CHAPTER 4 A VISIT TO ROME

7. A German prince, Frederick the Elector, completed a new church. The church housed a display of "five thousand relics of the saints". What bothers Luther about this display?
8. Describe Luther's experiences in the Italian monasteries during his trip to Rome.
9. Record the words that flashed through Luther's mind when he was on his knees, halfway up the staircase said to be the very one that Jesus descended on his way to be crucified.
10. How does Pope Leo X plan to raise \$ to build St. Peter's Basilica?

11. Summarize the story of John Tetzel's attempt to raise money to build St. Peter's Basilica by selling pardons and indulgences in Germany. Use evidence from the text to support the claim that the story is a great example of *situational irony*.

CHAPTER 5 THE SOUND OF HAMMER BLOWS

12. What is Luther doing on All Saints Day morning?

13. In light of Luther's 95 ~~Theses~~, why is the Pope personally angry?

14. Why does Luther not go to Rome to answer the charges laid against him by the Pope?

15. What does Cardinal Cajetan tell Luther in regard to the pope and the meaning of scripture?

16. What effect does Luther's 95 theses have on the sale of indulgences in Germany during the winter after he meets with Cardinal Cajetan?

17. *In your opinion*, should the leaders of the church oversee defining "truth", or do the scriptures themselves do that job? In other words, what is the *source* of God's will for mankind: church leadership or the Bible? Why or why not? Include a *scripture reference* to support your stance.

18. At the end of *Chapter 6*, what does Luther burn outside Wittenburg?

CHAPTER 6 SUMMONED BY THE EMPEROR

19. Copy *one* of Luther's responses to the warnings not to go to the Diet of Worms.

20. Describe how Luther spends his last night before his appearance before the Diet of Worms.

CHAPTER 7 “HERE I STAND”

21. Copy *one* of Luther’s friends’ encouraging messages to him before the Diet of Worms.
22. The first time the Diet commands Luther to recant all of his writings, Luther asks for time to consider his answer. How much time does the Diet give Luther to think over the charges against him?
23. What are the three classes of books Luther has written to which the Diet refers?
24. Record Luther’s final answer (now famous words) to the Diet of Worms after his time to reconsider/recant his books.

CHAPTER 8 WHERE IS LUTHER?

25. Describe why and how Luther is taken to Wartburg Castle.
26. What alias is Luther given when he is in hiding?
27. Describe how Luther spends his time at Wartburg Castle.

CHAPTER 9 LUTHER RIDES OUT

28. Describe at least two effects of Luther’s writings translated into French, Flemish, English and Spanish.
29. Describe at least two effects of Luther’s works in Germany. How does it change the way people live and worship?
30. What famous hymn does Luther write in 1529 just before the council at Spires?
31. Finish the response of the Lutheran princes to the Catholic princes at Spires: “In matters pertaining to the heart and conscience, we cannot obey the laws of the emperor. _____.”
32. What are Lutherans called after the council at Spires?

33. What does the Augsburg Confession of Faith achieve?

CHAPTER 10 WEDDING BELLS

34. Describe how Luther rescues eight nuns who are forbidden to leave their convent but who, like many monks, want to leave the Catholic way of life, get married, and lead useful lives.

35. Explain how Katherine von Bora becomes Martin Luther's wife.

CHAPTER 11 MARTIN LUTHER GOES HOME

36. How does Luther spend his time during his final years?

POST-READING APPLICATION QUESTIONS

37. Because most people during the middle ages could not read the Word of God for themselves, the church began to subject its people to unscriptural traditions and practices. List as many instances of this fact from the book as you can.

38. **Reflection** (3 sentence minimum): Though people today have the Word of God in their own language, many are too busy or just uninterested in reading it for themselves. Because of this, are people today as much danger of being led into harmful traditions and false doctrines as people were in Luther's time? Explain your answer using examples, analogies, observations, or personal experience.

39. **Reflection** (3 sentence minimum): Read the following stanza from the hymn "Rock of Ages" and discuss how it relates to the life and work of Martin Luther. Use examples from his life.

*Not the labor of my hands
Can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All could never sin erase,
Thou must save, and save by grace.*