

MAR THOMA SUNDAY SCHOOLS
DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE
DIOCESAN EXAMINATION 2010
SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2010

Grade: 9

Registration Number _____

Please do not write your name or the name of the Sunday School. Your Registration number will be verified under the responsibility of the Proctor

Time: 90 Minutes

Maximum Points: 100

A: Select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Circle the alphabet of the correct response. (25x1=25 points)

- 1) Who gave all his material possessions shortly after Pentecost for the advancement of the early church?
 - A Ananias
 - B Barnabas**
 - C Sapphira
 - D Peter

- 2) The second part of Psalm 19 is about
 - A the Laws of God**
 - B the glory of God
 - C the prediction of the coming of Jesus
 - D the salvation of God

- 3) Before the 10 commandments, the first commandment that God gave to man was to _____.
 - A. Take care of nature**
 - B. Love one another
 - C. Be Good
 - D. Not worry, be happy

- 4) **All the statements are true about Elijah except**
 - A Elijah was a prophet who came from Tishbe in Gilead.
 - B His name means “carrier or burden-bearer”**
 - C He is also known as the prophet of reformation and performed mighty deeds while proclaiming that the Lord is God.
 - D He took a bold stand for God and confronted King Ahab for his sins

- 5) Who wrote “train a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”
 - A Moses
 - B Job
 - C King Solomon**
 - D Paul

- 6) **The Nicene Creed was formulated in**
 A **325 AD**
 B 313 AD
 C 327 AD
 D 323 AD
- 7) Who is Jay Haizlip?
 A. **A rich and famous Skateboarder who almost committed suicide but later gave his life to God and experienced true salvation and satisfaction.**
 B. A rich and famous athlete who was addicted to drugs, but turned his life around after experiencing the presence of God.
 C. A successful business man who didn't know what to do with his life until he began working for God's will
 D. A musician who struggled to make it big, but found success through worshipping God through his music
- 8) **The Apostolic Creed is a summary of the teachings of the apostles found in**
 A. Acts. 26: 3-7
 B. Acts. 1: 8-10
 C. Acts. 7. 3-7
 D. **Acts. 2: 14-42**
- 9) **Other than the Red Sea, what else was dried up by God for the Israelites to reach their promised land?**
 A. The Sea of Galilee
 B. **The River Jordan**
 C. The Dead Sea
 D. The River Euphratese
- 10) There is a record of the instance in King David's life when his own son rebelled against him and toppled him from the throne.
 A) **the 15th chapter of second Samuel**
 B) the 1st chapter of second Kings
 C) the 18th chapter of first Kings
 D) the 17th chapter of first Kings
- 11) **The city of Jericho is situated**
 A) about 7 miles south of Nazareth
 B) about 7 miles north of Mount Carmel
 C) **in the desert of Judah, some 656 feet below the sea level**
 D) in the desert of Judah, some 1656 feet above the sea level
- 12) All the following are true about apostle Paul **except**
 A Paul wrote the letter to the Romans
 B Paul was a highly trained Jew with clear understanding of the Law, traditions and Israel's history
 C His teachings were based on righteousness through faith
 D **His teachings were based on works of the Law**
- 13) What was Mary's reaction to the angel's message?
 A) Happy, frightened, but understanding
 B) Sad, desperate, but patient

- C) Angry, confused, but condescending
D) **Scared, doubtful, but obedient**
- 14) Paul wrote in his letter to Corinthians the hardships he suffered for Christ. For Christ's sake believers may be called to endure:
- A. Purity, Love, Truthful Speech, Discernment
B. Peril, Pain, Perseverance, Hardship
C. Suffering, Selfishness, Sorrow, Commitment
D. **Persecution, Death, Renounce worldly comfort, loss or reputation**
- 15) What does Paul warn Timothy, his partner in ministry, about?
- A That all who live a godly life in Christ will be persecuted**
B That he must turn away from his sinful ways to find Christ
C That he must leave his home and lead a true Christian life
D That he should stop worrying and begin believing
- 16) **Acceptable form of worship as per Jesus is**
- A With superficial expression of emotions
B **Worshipping in spirit and in truth**
C Having a polished appearance
D Wearing phylacteries on your foreheads
- 17) **What is not a fruit of the Spirit?**
- A Joy
B Peace
C Patience
D **Prophecy**
- 18) **On arch 16, 2002, Archbishop _____ was assassinated for his stand against the corrupt political system in Colombia as narrated in the lesson on John the Baptist**
- A Tutu
B **Cansino**
C Rene
D Padoa
- 19) Micah delivered his messages to:
- A. Jerusalem and Samaria.** B. Babylon and Susa
C. Caesarea and Judah D. Cyprus and Nineveh
- 20) The Sacrament of Anointing the Sick with oil gives :
- A mental uplifting and feeling of peace with God
B mental, and spiritual uplifting and feeling of peace
C mental, and physical uplifting and feeling of peace with the world
D **mental, physical and spiritual uplifting and feeling of peace with God and the world.**
- 21) Timothy joined Paul's missionary group during Paul's _____ missionary trip
- A. first
B. third
C. fourth
D. **second**

22) About whom did Jesus say that there has not risen anyone greater among those born of women?

- A Moses
- B Elijah
- C King Solomon
- D **John the Baptist**

23) The ancient site of Nineveh is part of

- A **Mosul, the second largest city in modern Iraq**
- B Bagdad, the capital of modern Irad
- C Modern Syria
- D Istanbul, the famous city of modern Turkey

24) Which of the following Psalms portrays God as the one who continues to bless the earth, and in the blessings we receive from God every day.

- A Psalm 8
- B **Psalm 104**
- C Psalm 19
- D **Psalm 65**

25) Which of the following ladies labored so much with Paul as recorded in Romans 16: 6 in preaching the Gospel (Philippians 4:2-3)

- A Priscilla
- B **Mary**
- C Tryphena
- D Phoebe

SHORT ANSWER

B. ANSWER ANY FIVE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. Answers should be to the point. If you answer all six, only the first 5 will be credited (5x5=25 points)

- 1) What are the personal lessons we learn from the life of Jonah?
 - a) God has a definite plan for our life. Disobeying God means inviting trouble and perils in our life
 - b) We must set apart a time and place for daily prayer and that will help us to discern his will
 - c) We do not need an appointment to pray, we can pray at any time and any place
 - d) We can look to God even if we have been disobedient as He is a God of mercy & forgiveness
 - e) We must seek God's grace and providence to fulfill His will in our lives.

- 2) How did God protect Elijah and the widow during the time of drought?

Elijah asks the widow, Zarapheth, for food and even though she only had a meager supply for herself and her son she willingly shared the food with Elijah with no resistance. Her willing spirit brought forth blessings from God, her dough and oil never ran out throughout the drought and they had sufficient to eat.

3) What is the need for corporate worship?

Worship makes us closer to God just as Jesus showed us. The depth of worship deepened His Commitment and made Him more committed to the Community. This is the reason why Jesus regularly attended corporate worship. Worship is expressing or assuring our faithfulness to God's faithfulness. These are community related responsibilities and hence must be done in a Community

4) In the book of Joel, what was the warning that God gave for the people of Palestine and the punishment for disobeying the will of God? What did God ask the people to escape?

In the book of Joel we read the Lord's message to Joel about an environmental catastrophe that had never happened before in their time or the time of their fathers. When the people of Palestine opposed the will of God, he punished them by sending an invasion of locusts and a devastating drought. Swarm of locusts devoured their crops, and destroyed their grapevines and chewed up their fig trees. Fields became bare and corns were destroyed, olive trees were withered. Pastures and trees were dried up. The cattle bellowed in distress. The wild animals cried as the streams became dry. (Joel: 1-3) God tells the people of Palestine to order for a fast and call an assembly and repent. He warns them to turn back to the Lord. We read in the later chapters of God's promise to bless the people

5) Explain the greatest characteristics of Christ's lifestyle according to St. Paul

The greatest characteristics of Christ's lifestyle were humility, obedience and self-renunciation. Christ's lifestyle was not of Lordship but of a servant. Jesus was the epitome of true humility (Philippians 2: 7-8). The glory of divinity that Jesus shared was given up willingly in order to become a man.

6) Discuss three forms of ordained ministry in the Mar Thoma Church.

The Marthoma Church has three forms of ordained ministry – i.e. **Deacon, Priest and Bishop**. Bishop, Metran and Episcopa are parallel terms. The Metropolitan in the Mar Thoma Church is the Metran (head) of the Church. He is not supreme to other Bishops, but primus inter pares (first among equals) and represents the church in ecclesial matters. When

a bishop is consecrated, a new name is usually given to him of a known church father. Before the new name, "Mar" is used as an honorific. Bishops are the spiritual fathers of the church. They are placed at the head of the community to lead, guide and oversee the coordination of the kingdom of God experiences of the church. Our Bishops are Monks who have submitted their whole life to the Lord. As a sign of total submission, they wear on their head, a hood (Masnapsa) embroidered with twelve crosses representing twelve Apostles.

C. MEMORY VERSES. Complete any Five (5) of the following memory verses. Only the first five will be corrected for full credits. (**5x5=25 points**)

1) He answered: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'^[a]; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself. (Luke 10:27)

2) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8)

3) I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the Lord (Psalms 104:33-34)

4) Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, (Psalm 127:1)

5) All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. (Acts4:32)

6) And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8 b)

D. THE MAR THOMA CHURCH-(Our Foundation and Vision) Choose the most appropriate response for the following. (**10x1=10 points**)

- 1) The _____ in 1599 forced the Indian church to accept the Roman doctrine and practices. However in 1653 the Malabar church asserted its freedom and regained its autonomous nature.
- Council of Constantine
 - Reign of St. Augustine.
 - Synod of Diamper**
 - Council of Caesarea

- 2) What is not true about Dr M.M.Thomas?
- A. **He was the principal of Mar Thoma Theological seminary**
 - B. He was the moderator of the central committee of World Council of Churches
 - C. He was the governor of Nagaland, a state in India
 - D. He was a world renowned theologian
- 3) The Mar Thoma Church finds its place among the family of churches called the _____.
- A Eastern European Churches
 - B Greek Orthodox Churches
 - C **Lesser Eastern Churches**
 - D Evangelical Churches
- 4) The Royal court decision of 1889 resulted in
- A. Crooked cross oath
 - B. Separation of the Indian Church from the Catholic Church
 - C. **Formation of Jacobite Church under the patriarch of Antioch and the MarThoma Church**
 - D. connection with the Anglican Church
- 5) The Sabha Prathinidhi Mandalam consists of:
- A 50 % lay members from the parish, 50% clergy including bishops.
 - B 35% elected lay members from the parish, 65% clergy including bishops.
 - C 75% elected clergy including bishops, 25% elected lay members from the parish.
 - D **65% elected lay members from the parishes and 35 % clergy including the bishops.**
- 6) The _____ is the President of both the Executive committee of a Church and the General Body of the parish.
- A Metropolitan
 - B Sabha Council Leader
 - C **Vicar**
 - D Barack Obama
- 7) The term Laity is derived from the Greek word 'Laos' which means _____.
- A The Altar of God
 - B The Light of the Word
 - C **People**
 - D Sacrament
- 8) Because of a growing need from laity in US. The first full-time achen in the U.S.A. was assigned only in _____ for all congregations in New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia.
- A 1846
 - B 1968
 - C **1979**
 - D 1954

- 9) In the Intercessory prayers in the Holy Qurbana, we refer to the following councils except
- Nicaea
 - Alexandria**
 - Constantinople
 - Ephesus
- 10) The executive committee of the Mar Thoma Church is called _____.
- Sabha Pradhini Mandalam
 - Sabha Council**
 - Diocesan Council
 - Diocesan Assembly

WRITE AN ESSAY in about 200 words on **Any One** of the following topics. Essay should have an introduction, body, and a conclusion. **(1x15=15 points)**

- Why is Jesus to be a model for us in humility, obedience and self-renunciation? How can we apply as Christians, the humility and self-sacrifice of Jesus? How should we make the right choices in our lives? What should we value in our friendships the most?
- What were Paul's two meanings to the word righteousness? What are the seven special features with regards to God's righteousness? Discuss in essay format.

1) Why is Jesus to be a model for us in humility, obedience and self-renunciation? How can we apply as Christians, the humility and self-sacrifice of Jesus? How should we make the right choices in our lives? What should we value in our friendships the most?

Humility of Christ: Christ's lifestyle was not of Lordship, but of a servant. Jesus was the true epitome of true humility from birth to death. Jesus set aside his special rights as God's Son, giving up the glory of divinity and willingly became man, accepted public humiliation and obeyed God to the extent of accepting death on the cross. As the Son of God, he did not hold on to his right, instead took the form of a servant and lived as man among men.

Obedience of Christ: Jesus humbled himself and took the form of flesh as a servant and lived as man among men. He then became obedient unto death, even the humiliating death on the cross. Death on the cross was a shameful and cursed death yet Jesus bore it. He made the cross through his death as a symbol of holiness. Humility enabled Jesus to accept the cross obediently. He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."

Self-renunciation and exaltation of Christ: because of Christ's obedience to his father, every living creature on earth, heaven and hell will kneel, bow down and worship him. This is out of love for his sacrificial love and our worship is hence grounded in love and not in fear. So God gave Jesus a name above every name which is the title "Lord", that is he is the king of kings and lord of lords. Hence at the sight of Jesus, every knee shall bend and tongue shall confess that Jesus is Lord. In the same way Jesus has promised us to exalt us

also to his same position if we are true followers of Christ in humility, obedience and self-renunciation.

Christians must have the mind of Christ. We should have the same attitudes that of Christ who humbled himself even to his death for us. This means that we are to embrace suffering or even death if that is the price for our Christian witnessing. He emptied himself and took the form of a servant. Selfishness, self-glory & self-promotion destroy our likeness to Christ and our fellowship to one another. True humility and self-sacrifice is possible only when we value others as persons of worth, as deserving to be appreciated and loved, and as deserving to be treated with the utmost respect. St. Paul says "Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than ourselves. As Christians, we are to follow the example of Jesus on the way to the cross. We need to empty ourselves of our positions of authority, pride, self-righteousness and become true followers of the lifestyle of Jesus in humility and obedience to the will of God. We should be willing to trust God, believing whatever God prepares for us is for the best and to take risks and live through un-chartered ways by being obedient to God's will.

We should pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to make the right choices in our life and overcome temptations. We can communicate with God through personal prayer and meditation and seek his divine guidance in our lives to deal with tough choices in our lives.

Instead of good looks and material possessions, we should value our friends as persons of worth, as deserving to be appreciated and loved, and as deserving to be treated with utmost respect.

- 2) What were Paul's two meanings to the word righteousness? What are the seven special features with regards to God's righteousness? Discuss in essay format.

Paul explains righteousness:

- 1. To be considered innocent and**
- 2. To be made free**

Man is indebted to God, so no man can stand righteous before God because God showed his love to us even though we are sinners. All good acts should be done to please God, and not to gain favor with Him. The seven special features of God's righteousness:

- 1. God's righteousness revealed**
- 2. It is given to every one who believes**
- 3. The Law of Moses and the Prophets are witnesses to it**
- 4. We are in need of this righteousness, since all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God**
- 5. It is freely given**
- 6. It is proclaimed by God**
- 7. It sanctifies all those who believe in Jesus Christ**