

NAME _____

Confirmation Independent Study/Make-up Lesson

Martin Luther (1) / History and Background to the Lutheran Church

This make-up work requires internet access to view three videos of experts talking about Martin Luther. The makeup work consists of watching all the videos while using this viewer guide to make sure you have listened and understood the material. Then answer the reflection questions at the end.

1. Before you begin viewing, match the words to their correct definitions. Use a dictionary or online search to help you if needed.

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| ___ 1. Reformation | a. a routine of confessing sins to a Roman Catholic priest and then being assigned certain activities to make up for the wrong done to God and/or another person. |
| ___ 2. heretic | b. a building or campus where a community of religious persons (monks or nuns) live, worship, pray, and work. |
| ___ 3. penance | c. a movement that began in 16th-century with efforts to correct abuses in the Roman Catholic Church but ended up in the establishment of the Lutheran, Reformed and other breakaway churches. |
| ___ 4. monastery | d. a person who made vows to live totally for God under the direction of a spiritual leader, with others of the same sex, without getting married, without working a normal job in the world, or getting caught up in other worldly things. |
| ___ 5. monk or nun | e. a person who teaches things that go against the official beliefs and practices of their religion. |

2. Watch the following videos and answer the questions to make sure you are paying attention; each question has the approximate time in the video where the answer is given.

[Session 1: Luther's World](https://vimeo.com/134133637) (https://vimeo.com/134133637)

- a. Fill in the blank: 500 years ago the _____
_____ was a powerful religious empire in Western Europe, controlling almost every aspect of a person's life. (00:56)
- b. True or False: It was easy for everyone to understand what was happening in church services during the Middle Ages because people were more religious back then. (01:32)
- c. True or False: When Martin Luther was a boy he would often go to church to read the Bible because that is where they kept Bibles. (01:50)

- d. True or False: Martin Luther was born on November 10, 1483, and his parents had him baptized the very next day because they believed a person had to be baptized to be saved from hell and it was not uncommon for babies to die suddenly. (02:19)
- e. True or False: Hans Luther, Martin's father, was a miner and wanted his son to follow in his footsteps to become a supervisor of the mine. (03:24)
- f. True or False: All of Martin Luther's classes were taught in Latin even though he spoke German at home and in the streets. (03:31)
- g. True or False: Back in the Middle Ages parents were less strict than today and kids got off easy when they did wrong, but Martin Luther's father was an exception to the rule because he was so strict. (04:00)
- h. True or False: In Martin Luther's day people were taught to do the best they could, but if they messed up then they could go confess their sins to a priest, do penance; and then everything would be okay. (05:30)
- i. True or False: In Martin Luther's day people were taught that if they were to die before they had done enough penance for the sins they had committed, then their soul would rest in peace in a place called purgatory until enough prayers were said for them to go on to heaven. (16:10)
- j. True or False: At the University of Erfurt, where Martin Luther attended college, there were just three higher level degree programs -- Medicine, Law, and Theology. (07:15)
- k. True or False: The printing press *not yet* been invented during Martin Luther's lifetime, so Bibles were very rare. (08:08)
- l. True or False: In 1503 (as a twenty year old) Martin Luther was injured by a sword and it bled so badly that he was afraid he might die. (08:53)
- m. True or False: In 1505 Martin Luther decided to change from being a Law student to go into the monastery because he had made a deal with St. Ann during a thunderstorm. (10:34)
- n. True or False: When Martin Luther went into the monastery he chose the Augustinian order because it wasn't as strict or hard as some of the others. (11:08)

[Session 2: Life in a Monastery](https://vimeo.com/134135263) (https://vimeo.com/134135263)

- a. True or False: As a monk Martin Luther's day began with wake-up call at 5:45 a.m., morning worship at 6:00 a.m. and breakfast at 6:30 a.m. (00:42)

- b. True or False: In the monastery Martin Luther found peace for his soul because it helped him feel closer to God, and would remember that time as one of the best times of his life. (01:20)
- c. True or False: Martin Luther made it his goal to confess every sin he committed every day to his supervisor. (02:00)
- d. True or False: Back in Martin Luther's day not all monks were priests; in order for a monk to become a priest he would have to become ordained. (03:07)
- e. True or False: When he was ordained into the priesthood in 1507, Martin Luther was really excited and happy about being able to consecrate Holy Communion because he believed the power to transform ordinary bread into the body of Christ had been given to him. (03:22)
- f. True or False: At first, when Martin Luther began to study the Bible, it made him upset because he kept thinking of God as a harsh judge who demanded perfection. (05:50)
- g. True or False: In 1510 Martin Luther made a trip from Germany to Rome, Italy, and it gave him some relief from his perfectionistic tendencies since he saw how the Italian monks could be more relaxed about their religious observances. (07:15)
- h. True or False: Eventually Luther admitted to his confessor, Staupitz, that all of his efforts to try to please God had made him almost hate God. (09:36)
- i. Fill in the blank to tell about the insights Martin Luther learned about repentance:
 - i. The love of God is the _____ of repentance, not the _____. (10:30)
 - ii. The original, Greek word "metanoia," repentance means _____, not _____. (11:50)
 - iii. Repentance is not about me _____ to God, but about God _____ to me. (13:27)
 - iv. Repentance is about me honestly confessing to God and then about me hearing from God "you're forgiven."
 - v. Repentance is receiving through faith the righteousness of God as a _____, not what we ourselves must _____ for God. (14:40)

[Session 3: False Beliefs and the Turning Point](https://vimeo.com/134137654) (https://vimeo.com/134137654)

- a. True or False: The Doctrine of Purgatory is clearly taught in the Bible and thus has been the official teaching of the church since the beginning. (00:13)

- b. True or False: Throughout the centuries the Roman Catholic Church continued to faithfully hold to the pure biblical truth that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross covers or removes *both* the guilt *and* the punishment for our sins. (00:50)
 - c. What is the name of the place where people believed that the punishment for sins was worked out after death? _____ (01:24)
 - d. True or False: Church politics were very complicated in the 16th century and involved bribes or similar pay offs for people who wanted to become bishops in the Church. (03:00)
 - e. True or False: In Martin Luther's day people believed the pope had the keys to a "treasury of merits," containing the extra merits of the Virgin Mary, Christ, and the other saints. (03:46)
 - f. True or False: An indulgence was a piece of paper, like a certificate of the forgiveness of sins, which could assure a person they would not go to eternal damnation after they died. (04:30)
 - g. True or False: In Martin Luther's time hardly anyone would purchase indulgences because they knew from the Bible that Christ Jesus their Savior had taken away all their sins by his sacrifice on the cross. (08:50)
 - h. True or False: Martin Luther believed it was wrong for people to have to pay money for God's mercy, and that's what motivated him to speak out. (09:30)
 - i. True or False The Ninety Five Theses were Martin Luther's invitation to have a formal debate with whomever would care to debate about the sale of indulgences. (09:50)
 - j. True or False When Martin Luther nailed the Ninety Five Theses on the door of the church in Wittenberg he was wearing a ghost costume because it was October 31. (10:10)
 - k. True or False When Luther posted the Ninety Five Theses he knew he was about to start a church that would be named after himself. (11:31)
3. Describe the difference in attitudes toward sin between the society in which Martin Luther lived 500 years ago, and in this society today: _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

4. What do you admire about Martin Luther? _____

5. What do you not understand about Martin Luther? _____
