



MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS
DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE
2023 Diocesan Exam 10th Grade

Time: 90 Minutes

Maximum Score: 100 Points

SECTION 1: Multiple Choice - Circle the most appropriate response for the following question/statement (s) **(25 x 1 = 25 points)**

1. The Lord God placed human beings in the Garden of Eden to tend and care for it and he expected: **D (L1, P8)**
 - a. Good laborers
 - b. Good sacrifice
 - c. Good ownership
 - d. Good stewardship**
2. Jesus explains to Nicodemus that a person must be born of _____ & _____ to enter the Kingdom of God. **B (L13, P72)**
 - a. Fire & Water
 - b. Water & Spirit**
 - c. Fire & Spirit
 - d. Prayer & Generosity
3. Where did God send ravens to feed Elijah? **B (L2, P13)**
 - a. Mount Carmel
 - b. Kerith Ravine**
 - c. Gilead
 - d. Samaria
4. The main role of John the Baptist could best be described as: **C (L14, P78)**
 - a. Way-Farer
 - b. Prophet
 - c. Way-Maker**
 - d. Priest
5. How many stones did Elijah use to build the altar on Mount Carmel and what did they represent? **C (L2, P13)**
 - a. 10 representing the plagues of Egypt
 - b. 3 representing the Holy Trinity
 - c. 12 representing the twelve tribes of Israel**
 - d. 6 representing the days of creation
6. Paul refers to himself as the following when delivering the Gospel. **D (L15, P81)**
 - a. A messenger to the Lost

- b. A bulwark of Truth
 - c. A guiding Light
 - d. An ambassador in Chains**
7. Which of Job's friends empathizes with Job by acknowledging that he is the same as Job in God's eyes? **B (L5, P33)**
- a. Eliphaz
 - b. Elihu**
 - c. Bildad
 - d. Zophar
8. 2 Corinthians 5:17 states that you are a "_____ _____" when you decide to follow Christ. **C (L17, P94)**
- a. New person
 - b. New individual
 - c. New creation**
 - d. God's child
9. Who gave the following advice to Job – "Curse God, and die."? **B (L5, P31)**
- a. Bildad
 - b. Job's wife**
 - c. Elihu
 - d. Zophar
10. _____ voluntarily agreed to give away half of his wealth and pay back 4 times of what he cheated. **A (L17, P95)**
- a. Zacchaeus**
 - b. Nicodemus
 - c. Herod
 - d. The rich young man
11. Who said to whom: "This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night"? **D (L6, P35)**
- a. Joshua to the Israelites
 - b. God to Moses
 - c. Moses to Joshua
 - d. God to Joshua**
12. _____ is an important requirement when we seek repentance **B (L21, P116)**
- a. Wealth
 - b. Humility**
 - c. Empathy
 - d. Compassion
13. How many charges were laid against Shadrach, Mesach and Abednego? One of the charges was that _____. **D (L8, P45-47)**
- a. "they prayed three times a day"
 - b. "they did not eat the food given to them"

- c. "they do not do their duties"
 - d. **"they do not serve your gods"**
14. Who among the following were NOT eyewitnesses to the resurrection of Christ? **C (L22, P121)**
- a. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary
 - b. Two on the road to Emmaus
 - c. **Daniel**
 - d. Disciples
15. Which two Old Testament characters does James refer to in his discourse about faith demonstrated through works? **D (L9, P51)**
- a. Moses and Zipporah
 - b. David and Ruth
 - c. Noah and Esther
 - d. **Abraham and Rahab**
16. Which of the following is NOT an aspect of the early church? **C (L23, P127)**
- a. Sharing of resources among believers
 - b. Giving thanks to God always
 - c. **Worshipping Gods made of stone**
 - d. Fellowship with other believers
17. What is "Sanctification"? **B (L9, P52)**
- a. Demonstrated to be right
 - b. **Set apart to be holy**
 - c. Faith in what we do not see
 - d. Unmerited favor
18. What is Altruism? **A (L25, P140)**
- a. **Giving what we can to those in need**
 - b. Reading the Bible everyday
 - c. Attending Sunday School
 - d. Being a bully
19. What does the name Ezekiel mean? **C (L10, P56)**
- a. God provides
 - b. God remembers
 - c. **God empowers**
 - d. God heals
20. Which of the following is not a petition made by Jesus during His prayer? **D (L16, P90)**
- a. Unity
 - b. Salvation
 - c. Glorification
 - d. **Judgement**
21. The first group of exiles to return to Jerusalem were led by _____ and _____, the high priest? **D (L11, P63)**

- a. Haggai, Jehozadak
 - b. Moses, Aaron
 - c. Nehemiah, Amos
 - d. Zerubbabel, Joshua**
22. "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies, you anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows". Which characteristic of Jesus is portrayed through this verse. **A (L20, P112)**
- a. Provider**
 - b. Leader
 - c. Holy Spirit
 - d. Comforter
23. Who said, "Is it a time for you yourselves to live in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?" **C (L11, P60)**
- a. Zechariah
 - b. Ezekiel
 - c. Haggai**
 - d. Daniel
24. "Beloved, let us love one another, because love _____" **C (L19, P104)**
- a. isn't God
 - b. set apart by God
 - c. is from God**
 - d. none of the above
25. Paul uses the example of the Christians in this place when he writes to the Corinthians about generosity. **B (L25, P138)**
- a. Philippi
 - b. Macedonia**
 - c. Greece
 - d. India

Section 2: Short Answers - Answer **any four (4 out of 6)** of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point (**4 x 5pts = 20 points**)

1. In every aspect, Jesus humbled himself from birth to death. Describe 5 examples of Jesus' humility. **(L21, P116 & 117) (Students can give any 5 of the below examples – 1 pt each)**

- 1. Jesus was born in a manger in the midst of animals.**
- 2. He was born to a family where a mother was pregnant before marriage and the father was a carpenter.**
- 3. Jesus spent his life preaching, teaching and healing those in need.**

4. He did not limit Himself to preaching just to the rich, but to all people, especially those who were poor and marginalized. He would touch those who others considered untouchable.
5. Jesus willingly washed his disciples' feet.
6. He endured the worst possible death of that time by dying on the cross. This was an extremely painful death.
7. After His resurrection, He continued to appear to those who rejected Him, extending the gift of salvation.

2. Luke recounts the history of the early church in The Acts of the Apostles. Describe 2 characteristics of the early church which allowed them to thrive in society. (2.5 pts. each) **(L23, P127- 128)** (Students can give any 2 of the below characteristics – 2.5 pts each)

1. The early church was a devoted church. The Holy Spirit, the fellowship with other believers and the teachings of the apostles enabled them to devote themselves entirely to Christ.
2. The early church shared their resources amongst the believers. They were unified as they displayed a generous attitude by providing for those in need.
3. The early church spent a lot of time together giving thanks and in fellowship with one another. Their worship and their fellowship were not limited to once a week. Acts describes it as "day by day".
4. The importance of passing down the faith. The apostles and first believers is one that is worthy of being passed down from generation to generation
5. The importance of Tithing. We as believers are expected to give our time, talents and God-given abilities along with finances to support the glorification of His kingdom

3. Who was John the Baptist (1 pt.) Describe 2 main points of his message (2 pts each). What was his attitude towards Jesus (2 pts) **(L14, P78)**

Who was John the Baptist (1 pt.)

John the Baptist was the son of Zechariah the priest and Elizabeth. His was the older cousin of Jesus. He was the Way-Maker to Jesus Christ.

Main points of his message (any 2) 2 pts.

The message of John the Baptist was "Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is near"

He told the tax collectors not to collect from the people more than the amount they have to pay.

He told the soldiers not to extort money from anyone by threats or false accusations and to be satisfied with their wages.

He condemned the wealthy people for their luxurious lifestyle

He rebuked King Herod for his immoral activity

John's attitude towards Jesus (2 pts)

John the Baptist presented Jesus as the Son of God and Lamb of God. He projected Jesus as the Messiah and he presented himself only as the way maker of Jesus. He declares “After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me”. He also says “He (Jesus) must increase and I must decrease”.

4. What is a covenant? (1pt.) How is it different from a contract? (1pt.) What is the Palestinian Covenant also called? (1pt.) Give at least 2 key points of the Palestinian Covenant (2pts.) (L5, P20-222)

What is a covenant? (1pt.)

An agreement between two or more persons to do and/or not do something specific.

How is it different from a contract? (1pt.)

It is a mutual commitment, but not a conditional one.

What is the Palestinian Covenant also called? (1pt.)

The Palestinian Covenant is also called the Land Covenant

Give at least 2 key points of the Palestinian Covenant (2pts.)

- **To return to the Lord and obey him with all your heart and with all your soul (Deut. 30:2)**
- **Then the Lord will restore fortunes, gather the Israelites from wherever they are exiled or scattered and bring them into the land of their ancestors**
- **The covenant outlines a blessing and a curse and God gives the people to freedom to choose life (by obeying his commandments) or death (if their heart is led astray by other gods)**

5. What is Joshua’s primary character trait that led to his appointment as Moses’ successor? (1pt) Name and describe two instances when Joshua demonstrated this quality? (2pts each)(L6, P37)

What is Joshua’s primary character trait that led to his appointment as Moses’ successor? (1pt)

His strong/unwavering faith.

Name and describe two instances when Joshua demonstrated this quality? (2pts each)

- **Spying Canaan**
Joshua and Caleb were the only two spies (out of the twelve that were sent) who did not make doubt that they could defeat the natives and conquer the land because they had completed faith in the God who led them up to that point.
- **March on Jericho**
It was his unwavering faith in God that led him to execute a set of seemingly absurd instructions. He trusted God completely and followed His instructions without question.

6. What does Ezekiel see in the beginning of his vision in Chapter 37? (1pt.) What does it symbolize? (1pt.) What does God ask Ezekiel, and what can we learn of Ezekiel through his response? (3 pts) **(L10, P57)**

What does Ezekiel see in the beginning of his vision in Chapter 37? (1pt.)

A valley of dry bones

What does it symbolize? (1pt.)

The dry bones represent the current spiritual status of the exiled Israelites.

What does God ask Ezekiel, and what can we learn about Ezekiel through his response? (3 pts)

- **God asks Ezekiel “Mortal, can these bones live?” or to paraphrase whether these dry bones can live. (1pt.)**
- **Ezekiel responds by answering that God knows whether they can live - “O Lord God, you know”. = By his response, Ezekiel demonstrates: (1pt each)**
 - o **Hopefulness rooted in his faith in God – despite the destruction of Jerusalem and the hopeless state of Israel, Ezekiel trusted that God could bring them back i.e. make the dry bones live**
 - o **Humility – he did not presume to know God’s plan and impose his will on God. Rather, he left the final decision to God – “O Lord God, you know”.**

SECTION 3: Memory Verse - Complete any five (5 out of 7) of the following in the sheet provided. (5 x 5 = 25 points)

1. Do nothing from _____ than yourselves. (Philippians 2:3)

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves (L21 P118)

2. Jesus said to him “ _____ through me” (John 14:6)

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (L20, P113)

3. But strive first _____ given to you as well. (Matthew 6:33)

But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (L17 P96)

4. Give, and it will be _____ measure you get back. (Luke 6:38)
Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back. (L25, P140)
5. I will put my _____ and will act, says the Lord. (Ezekiel 37:14)
I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord. (L10, P59)
6. If a brother or sister is naked and _____ is dead. (James 2:15-17)
If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So, faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. (L9, P54)
7. The earth is the Lord's _____ it on the rivers. (Psalms 24:1-2)
The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who lie in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. (L1, P10)

SECTION 4: MTC Foundation & Vision Multiple Choices - Circle the most appropriate response for the following question/statement (s). (10 x 1 pt. = 10 pts. Total)

1. Servant ministry is also known as _____. **P217**(MTFV L1)
 a. **Diakonial ministry**
 b. centripetal ministry
 c. ministry of the church
 d. koinonia ministry
2. _____ was considered as the great spiritual leader who led a simple life.
P223(MTFV L2)
 a. Thomas Mar Athanasius
 b. **Alexander Mar Thoma Metropolitan**
 c. Philipose Mar Chrysostom Mar Thoma Metropolitan
 d. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan
3. _____ is a Greek word for communion and fellowship refers to the attitude of the early church. **P217** (MTFV L1)
 a. Agape
 b. **Koinonia**
 c. Ecumenism
 d. Diskolos

4. _____ was called by Time Magazine as the World's Greatest Missionary in 1938. **P227** (MTFV L3)
- a. Rt. Rev. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma
 - b. Mother Teresa
 - c. Dr. E. Stanley Jones**
 - d. Pope John XXIII C
5. What is the name of the book that Dr. Stanley Jones wrote? **P228** (MTFV L3)
- a. The Christ of the Indian Roads**
 - b. How to be like Jesus
 - c. Missionary: God's Calling
 - d. Heaven is for Real
6. What was the name of the original church bulletin? **P224** (MTFV L2)
- a. Sabha Tharaka**
 - b. Christia Jeevithum
 - c. The Mar Thoma
 - d. Mar Thoma Messenger
7. Who laid the foundation of the Mar Thoma Church in North America? **P221** (MTFV L2)
- a. Dr. **Thomas Mar Athanasius**
 - b. Dr. Mathews Mar Athanasius
 - c. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Metropolitan
 - d. Dr. Theodosius Mar Thoma Metropolitan
8. _____ is the official mission wing of the Mar Thoma Church **P243** (MTFV L5)
- a. Sunday school
 - b. Mar Thoma Evangelistic Assoc.**
 - c. Suvishesha Sevika Sanghom
 - d. Edavaka Mission
9. _____ is known to have said that, "Every child is precious; every child is a gift from God." **P231** (MTFV L3)
- a. Rt. Rev. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma
 - b. Mother Teresa**
 - c. Dr. E. Stanley Jones
 - d. Pope John XXIII
10. Sharing the gospel through preaching, teaching and community services became the threefold emphasis of the _____. **P242** (MTFV L5)
- a. Edavaka Mission
 - b. Adult literacy movement
 - c. Ashram movement**
 - d. Sunday school

SECTION 5: MTC FV Short Answers - Answer any two (2 out of 3) of the following questions. Answers shall be brief and to the point. (2 x 5 pts. = 10 pts. Total)

1. There are over 38 organizations and institutions devoted to the growing needs of the “less fortunate ones” in society. List five out of seven various categories these organizations are listed under. (MTFV L4) Any 5, 1 pt. each **P235-237**
 - a. Rehabilitation and Development for the Mentally Challenged**
 - b. Rehabilitation Centers for Physically Challenged**
 - c. Guidance and Counseling Centers**
 - d. Homes for Boys and Girls**
 - e. Shelter for the Destitute and Homeless**
 - f. Old Age (Nursing) Homes and Hospice Center**
 - g. Medical Centers**

2. What is mission? What is Ministry? (MTFV L1) 2.5 pts each **P217**

a. Mission of the church is centrifugal – reaching out and bringing people into the fellowship of the church. The goal of mission is to bring back the creation, man and his ecosystem, to be perfect harmony with God. The mission of the church is the mission of God based on the teaching of the Holy Bible.

b. Ministry is centripetal – taking care of the people’s total needs. Also called Servant ministry or diakonial mission of Christ to serve the total needs of the people. Involvement of both priests and laity. Church follows the “Feed my Lamb” commission taking care of the total (educational, economic, social and spiritual) needs of the Christian community.

3. Name any two major contributions of the late Most Rev. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma? (MTFV L2) Any 2, 2.5 each **P224**

a. He had passion and zeal for mission. He called to send missionaries throughout India and started new mission fields in remote villages. He challenged members to strengthen their spiritual life through parish mission, prayer groups, and intensive study of the scripture

b. He had a prophetic mission. He fulfilled his prophetic role of the priest and continuously challenged social evils that weaken the spiritual life of members of the church and community. He fought for abolition of liquor, exhorted people to end corruption, and fight injustice and inequalities within society and the church.

c. His concern for the poor. He was not pleased with the material progress of the Church that left behind the economically weaker members of the church. He wanted the Church to be more inclusive of the less fortunate among members and in society without regard for creed, religion, or caste. Recognition was granted to the congregations of the Mar Thoma Dalits as independent parishes giving representation in the Sabha Padhinidhi Mandalam.

SECTION 6: Essay - Choose one of the following two topics (1 out of 2) to write an essay in 150 to 250 words. (10 pts. Total)

1. Paul uses the image of a soldier to convey the preparation needed by a Christian for spiritual warfare. He says that as Christians we need to wear the "Armour of God". Describe the 5 pieces of the armor of God. (2 pts each). **L15-P84-85**

The 5 pieces of the "Armor of God" as described by Paul are:

1. **Belt of Truth – Truth is sincerity in action and character. A Christian is required to be truthful in every aspect of their life. A belt is something that holds everything together. In the same way truth (God's truth) is the foundation of our character.**
2. **Breastplate of Righteousness – Righteousness is the quality of being morally right or justifiable before God. A breastplate covers a soldier's torso and vital organs from attack. In the same way being morally right and justifiable before God will enable us to remain upright and unscathed by the advances of the world.**
3. **Shield of Faith – Christian faith is having complete trust and confidence in God. Jesus stated that faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains. A soldier raises his shield to defend himself. In the same way our faith is a powerful shield against every assault on us and our work.**
4. **Helmet of Salvation – Salvation is deliverance from sin and its consequences, brought about by the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. Salvation becomes the basis of our victory against the enemy. It is the reason for our perseverance.**
5. **Sword of the Spirit (Word of God) – The Bible and the Word of God is our sole instrument to defend ourselves from the attack of the enemy. Jesus' temptation in the desert shows us how even Jesus used the "sword of the Spirit" which is the word of God to defend Himself and drive away the enemy. The study of the word of God is very crucial for every Christian.**

2. Describe Job's suffering. (2 pts) What was the response of his friends and family to his suffering? (2) What was Job's response? (2) Compare Job's suffering to that of Jesus. (2) What do we learn about suffering that we can apply to our lives? (2) **(L5, P30-33)**

Describe Job's suffering. (2pts for any 2)

- **Lost all his wealth (oxen, donkeys and camel were stolen and sheep were burned with a fire from heaven, servants were all killed)**
- **Lost his children (house collapsed on them while they were drinking and eating)**
- **Lost his health – Satan inflicted painful sores all over his body**

What was the response of his friends and family to his suffering? (2 pts)

- **Job's wife told him to "Curse God, and die" (1pt.)**

- Four friends came to visit him. Three of them responded in similar ways – misunderstanding the nature of his tribulations and attributing it to his past misdeeds (1pt.)

What was Job's response? (2pts)

- Despite the drastic change in his circumstances – from immense wealth and happiness to losing it all, not to mention the sudden death of his children – he never questioned or cursed God.
 - o Even when his wife told him to curse God, Job responded “Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?”
 - o Even more powerful, he praises God in the midst of his suffering “Naked I came from my mother's wombblessed be the name of the Lord”.

Compare Job's suffering to that of Jesus. (2pts)

- Like Job, Jesus also experienced suffering for something he didn't do i.e suffering had nothing to do with his character or past deeds (1 pt)
- And just as in Job's case, suffering produced a blessing. Job was blessed with twice of what he had before and Jesus' crucifixion resulted in salvation for all humanity (1pt.)

What do we learn about suffering that we can apply to our lives? (2 pts)

Too often, when we go through difficult times, we tend to look back and see how we have fallen short or ask God “What did we do to deserve this?”. We think that if we live good lives by doing good deeds and loving our neighbour, then we shouldn't encounter any problems/trials/suffering. This is an Old Testament way of thinking – obey commandments and you will prosper.

But Jesus teaches us that to be his followers means that we have to suffer like him and that in fact we should “rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope”. Through suffering, God might be trying to build us up, make us tougher or in some way fulfill his greater purpose. Thus, we shouldn't view suffering in a negative light, but rather embrace it and see it as a means to become stronger Christians.