

Guided Reading

Rome and the Rise of Christianity

Lesson 4 *The Early Church*

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

- *How do religions develop?*

Christianity and the Empire

Listing What are some of the factors that helped Christianity spread throughout the Roman Empire? Write your answers in the chart.

Factors That Helped the Spread of Christianity
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

6. Identifying Why did Romans treat Christians badly?

Guided Reading *Cont.*

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True or False Use your textbook to decide if each statement is true or false. Write *T* or *F* in the blank text next to the statement. If the statement is false, rewrite it to make it true.

- _____ **7.** The emperor Nero confessed to starting a fire that burned down most of Rome.

- _____ **8.** The emperor Diocletian made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.

- _____ **9.** When Constantine became emperor, he did everything in his power to destroy Christianity.

- _____ **10.** The Edict of Milan gave all religious groups, including Christians, freedom to practice their religions.

- _____ **11.** The emperor Theodosius built Christian churches in Rome and Jerusalem with the help of his mother, Helena.

- _____ **12.** Christianity spread to Africa and became the official religion of the city-state of Axum.

Guided Reading *Cont.*

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Organizing the Church

Categorizing Use the diagram and words below to identify the organization of early Christian clergy from most powerful to least powerful. List the major responsibilities for each group. Tip: The group with the most power should be placed at the top of the diagram.

Hierarchy of the Early Christian Church

13.



14.



15.



16.

Types of Christian Clergy

- Priests
- Archbishops
- Patriarchs
- Bishops

Guided Reading *Cont.*

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17. Classifying List the main writings that make up the Old and New Testament.

18. Analyzing According to Christian belief, something out of the ordinary happened to the emperor Constantine that made him believe in the Christian God. Write two to three sentences that describe his experience.

19. Explaining What was a major difference between many Roman Catholic Christians and many Eastern Orthodox Christians?
