**Luther Film Worksheet**

**Questions about the film:**

**1. Luther worries that God is “angry at us all our lives, threatening us with the fires of hell.” He asks, "Have you ever questioned if god were just?" Here, Luther questions the notion of god presented to him by the Church. Why is this significant?**

**2. Luther crumbles and discards the piece of paper (the indulgence) he received in Rome. What does this suggest/imply?**

**3. Luther’s mentor asks, “Have you read the New Testament?” and then goes on to tell Luther, “In Wittenberg you will…I'm sending you to the source the scriptures: Christ himself. Why is this significant? Hint: Luther hadn’t yet read the New Testament for himself.**

**4. When Luther arrives at Wittenberg, he is told that the townspeople think he is “coming for a collection. Each time a new priest comes they have to pay Rome.” What does this show about the nature of the religious system at that time**?

**5**. **Luther is told, “Do not bite the hand that feeds you...his relics pay for your chair.” What is being implied here? In other words, what is Luther being told he should not do?**

**6**. **What are the strengths of Tetzel’s speeches? In other words, do you find his speeches persuasive, and if so, why?**

**7. What does the character of the poor woman who sells sticks in exchange for fish show about the power of John Tetzel's rhetoric?**

**8. Why were Martin Luther’s books burned? Hint: someone shouts, "You can burn his books, but you can't burn his ideas."**

**9. The Pope put a bounty on Luther's head. Why?**

**10. Luther says, “That day you sent me out to change the world, did you really think there wouldn’t be a cost?” What was the cost of Luther’s efforts to change the world? (You may want to answer this once the film is complete)**

**11. Luther is told, “These books contain heresies against our holy church. Do you recant what you have written?” Why won’t Luther recant his writings?**

**12. When Luther is told that his translations are treasons, he questions this, asking,**

 **“[Is it treason] to have a New Testament in German, in words ordinary people can understand?” Luther is told in response that, “It’s the thing Rome fears most.” Why would “Rome” fear the translation of the bible into everyday language?**

**13. Why is it so difficult for Luther to translate the bible? Consider what Luther says about the word, “will.”**

**14. How are people misinterpreting Luther’s desires/hopes? Consider the following excerpt from the film, “He [Luther] feels the peasants have twisted his language. Luther abhors [hates] violence…”**

**15. Why does Charles want to outlaw the new bible?**