

CONFUCIUS BIOGRAPHY NOTES (# _____)

- 1) **Setting:** China, _____ years before Christ. (2:45) In 6th century BC, China was going through a major transition.
- 2) Although he later taught peace, Confucius was **the son of** China's most fearsome _____. (4:12)
- 3) Confucius was _____ **out of wedlock** to a 16-year-old **concubine** (prostitute). (5:20)
- 4) "One thing very distinctive about him was his incredible _____ for _____." (10:10)
- 5) Confucius read about Chinese history, and poetry... "He said there is no time to stop **learning**, only after you close the lid on the _____ can you say you stopped learning." (11:58)
- 6) In Ancient China _____ was used as _____. (16:32).
- 7) At the age of _____, Confucius married and had a son and at least one daughter (17:00).
- 8) Confucius said, "I am a human being among other human beings" so he made a choice to be committed to the world, here and now. And that kind of engagement is what made him an _____ (18:20).
- 9) He had a "Shocking, radical idea" – "**When people are educated, the distinction between classes disappears**" – Confucius. For Confucius, education wasn't something you did up to a certain point. Education was the meaning of _____. He believed people become _____ by being educated. He wasn't interested in class, the difference between someone who had no money and someone who was very wealthy. (19:00).
- 10) Confucius started a school, which accepted disciples from every social class, including those who were not of the nobility. That was a very innovative measure, nobody before him had done so, for that reason, he's considered the greatest _____ that all of East Asia has produced. (20:10)
- 11) He forged new bonds from a shared yearning for **justice**, and **truth**. With a burning conviction forged in his own hard youth, he urged his students to become what he called " _____ Men," an aristocracy of noble *character*, not noble *birth* (20:40).
- 12) As the years passed, his fame grew... he became a man obsessed with his mission, growing farther apart from his family and more **devoted** to his _____. (21:50).

13) By 501 BCE, he was _____ years old. (22:45).

14) He put forth the idea of humanity and kind-heartedness: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto _____." (25:00).

15) In 497 BCE, Confucius' enemies forced him into exile at _____ years old. (28:05).

16) "An **oppressive government** is much worse than a man-eating _____" (30:00).

17) First you get the ruler to implement your ideals, then the chief ministers, then the **ordinary** _____, you catch virtue like catching a cold." (31:00)

18) During his travels, he met another philosopher, the mystic **Lao Tzu**, the founder of **Taoism** who warned him about speaking his mind. Your intelligence allows you to evaluate people critically, but when you do that you bring _____ upon yourself" (33:00).

19) In 484 BCE, an electrifying message reached him: he was invited home... hoping for one last change to fulfill his vision for a just and peaceful _____ (35:05).

20) When asked "How do you find honest officials?" His reply was painfully blunt, "Be honest, _____." The rulers of Lu didn't offer him a position in their government. (36:00).

21) In his old age, his students were his true family, and his heart's delight. The chronicles claimed he had 3,000 disciples, but only _____ were his truly devoted followers. (37:15)

22) In 479 BCE, at the age of 73, the greatest thinker in Chinese History died. His last words were a bitter plea: "Will no one come forward to take me as his _____?" (40:20)

23) He died believing himself to be a failure, which is paradoxical because Confucianism has become the dominant mode of thought and philosophy of China and the surrounding regions for so many centuries. (40:35).

24) "His legacy is the importance of the human being...because the human being can improve himself for himself – we can make ourselves, we can create ourselves, our _____ (42:40).

25) When I was 15, I set my heart on _____. At 40, I knew exactly where I was going. At 60, I could bow to immovable truth. At 70, I could follow my heart's desires, and never transgress what is _____ (43:15).