Chapter 3 Exercises: The Religious Rituals of the Family

Across
6. Wedding cake served to guests
7. The strictest form of marriage
10. Material from which a bride's wedding tunic was made
12. The most common type of marriage among plebeians
13. Attaining adulthood
15. Sad, slow, mournful song
17. A necklace of rattles and ornaments
18. Burning the dead body until it turned to ash
19. The practice of burying the dead in the ground
20. The February festival in honor of the ancestors

Down
1. Marriage by 'purchasing' a wife
2. The yellow-orange wedding veil
3. An amulet or charm given to an infant by the paterfamilias
4. The patron of marriage and childbirth
5. He carried the sacred objects used in animal sacrifice
8. Congratulations!
9. Ceremonies that mark human transitions
11. A leading cause of death among women in ancient Rome
14. A legal contract setting down the terms of marriage
16. The Roman equivalent to a Matron-of-Honor
SHORT ANSWERS

Answer the following questions in the space provided.

1. Who was the god who protected infant boys? Who was the goddess who protected infant girls?

2. How were the bulla and the crepundia similar?

3. When did a girl's coming-of-age ceremony take place?

4. On the day of his coming-of-age ceremony, where did the boy and his family go? What did he do there?

5. Rank the three types of Roman marriages according to their restrictiveness, beginning with the least restrictive.

6. During the marriage ceremony, a Roman bride repeated the sentence, "Ubi tu Gaius, ego Gaia." What is the significance of this declaration?

7. In what two ways did the Romans dispose of the dead bodies of their loved ones?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Immediately after the birth of a child, three men, impersonating gods, swept the doorway of the house and beat on the door with a pestle and an axe in an effort to ward off the evil influences of an uncivilized world. Discuss what aspects of civilized society a broom, a pestle, and an axe might symbolize. What objects might our society use to symbolize these same three aspects?

2. The bulla was a protective charm. What charms do people today use for protection from harm?

3. What sorts of coming-of-age ceremonies do people in America practice? In other countries and cultures?

4. Think about a modern American marriage ceremony. What customs can you think of that are similar to Roman customs? What about marriage customs in other countries and cultures?

5. Why do you think Romans buried their dead outside the city limits?