1. Who is Pliny writing to?

Emperor Trajan

1. What does the opening line suggest about their relationship?

Plinius looks up to Trajan

1. What **three things** is Pliny uncertain about, when it comes to dealing with Christians?
   1. Are young and old equally punishable?
   2. If they deny, then should they be freed?
   3. Is it a crime to be a Christian?
2. What current method is he using to deal with the Christians? What **three steps** are involved?
   1. First, interrogate the Christians
   2. If they defended their faith, give them 3 chances
   3. If they stay true to their faith, then arrest them (Those who aren’t roman citizens). Those who were citizens were sent to rome
3. How are Christians who are Roman citizens dealt with differently? What accounts for the difference, in your opinion?

Those who are roman citizens are given a roman trial while the non-citizens are arrested on the spot

1. What does Pliny make people who claim not to be Christians do?

He makes them curse Christ and worship the roman gods.

1. Really!? That’s weird. Why do you think he does that?

Because true Christians would not curse Christ or worship any other god.

1. What does Christian worship at this time (~100 A.D.) look like, according to the people Pliny has been 'interrogating’?

They meet, begin by singing, then talk about not sinning and stuff, then they meet together and share communion.

1. Who told him this? Why precisely does he believe them?

Two slave girls that were tortured told him that. He believes them because he thinks that they are saying that to get others to join.

1. What is Pliny’s conclusion about Christianity, according to his final line?

He thinks that anything positive said about the religion is simply superstition to get others to join.

1. The Romans are known for being generally tolerant of the religions and customs of the people they conquered. Christians and Jews were, famously, the exceptions. What do you think led the Romans to use such gruesome tactics against the Christians, who at the time were a very tiny and utterly powerless sect? (I recommend thinking about questions 6, 7, and 10 in particular.)

It’s likely that the romans disliked the Christians and Jews because it is in their religion to not worship any other gods.