

Chapter 9 The Church

Start by reading the prayer on pg. 215 in your workbook

Watch the video Counter Cultural (Season 9: Episode 1)

Our culture is a bit of a mess. But we're so used to it that sometimes we don't even notice it. Learn how to recognize the mess and discover simple ways to do something about it.

1. What is the one idea in this short film that you found most helpful?
2. What will be your counter cultural beach front?

Watch the video The first Christians & The Early Church (Season 9: Episode 2)

1. What is your image of the church?
2. What is Agape Love?
3. Reads Romans 12:1-8, What gifts has God given you to contribute to the rest of the body/ church? How do you need the rest of the Church to help you grow?
4. Read "Who was John Paul II?" on pg. 229 of your workbook. How hard do you think it was for John Paul II to forgive his shooter? How is God asking us to forgive?
5. Why did God make you?
6. Answer the 3 questions on pg. 219 in your workbook,

Before watching the next video Pray the Creed (Nicene) aloud.

Watch the video One, Holy, Catholic, & Apostolic (Season 9: Episode 3)

There are four distinct qualities of the Catholic church. Discover what they mean and why they matter.

The first mark of the church is "one"?

1. Read Corinthians 12:4-11, What are your gifts? How is God calling you to use them for the common good?

2. What is God's vision for the church?

3. Read John 17:13, What does Jesus pray for us?

4. Read John 17:20-21, What is Jesus asking God the Father on behalf for us?

Read handout A Prayer for Friends

5. Why should we stay Catholic?

The second mark of the church is "Holy".

1. What does it mean that the church is "Holy"?

2. What is the reason God created the church?

3. Finish this sentence: The church is holy _____ !

The third mark is "catholic".

1. What is the difference between "catholic" and "Catholic"?

The fourth mark is "apostolic".

1. What does it mean that the church is "apostolic"?

2. Who was our first pope?

3. Answer the 3 questions on pg. 225 in your workbook.

Watch the video The Good, The Bad, The Ugly, & The Lies (Season 9: Episode 4)

The church isn't perfect. But throughout history, it has fed more people, clothed more people, visited more imprisoned, cared for more sick people, and educated more people than any other institution on the planet!!!

1. What are some of the good things the Catholic Church has done for many people?

2. When Matthew Kelly investigated the lowest moments in Church history , what did he find out about the people?

3. What are some of the lies about the Catholic Church?

4. Finish this sentence: Our story is _____, _____!

5. Answer the 3 questions on pg. 232 in your workbook.

Watch the video Ten Great Reasons to be Catholic (Season 9: Episode 5)

Explore 10 great reasons to be Catholic and discover how to make the faith your own!!!

1. Which one of the top ten reasons did you like the most ? And why?

2. Answer the 3 questions on pg. 236 in your workbook.

Watch the video Decision Point (Season 9: Episode 6) Many people turn their backs on Catholicism because they think its old. They don't realize its beauty and all its worth. Decide whether you'll throw out Catholicism or seek its treasures!!!

1. Answer the 3 questions on pg. 239 in your workbook.

End with reading aloud Psalm 16 with the handout.



A Prayer for Friends

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for my true friends. They accept me for who I am.

With them, I don't have to pretend to be someone else. They

support me when I feel that the world is crumbling around me.

They are honest with me even if what they say is not what I want

to hear. They offer their sense of humor so that we can laugh

together.

Spirit of Jesus, watch over these friends just as You watch over

me. Show them Your loving acceptance and support. Help

them to honestly look at themselves and the decisions they are making.

If they experience pain, frustration, or failure, give them strength to

lean on You. Fill their days with laughter and love. Protect

them and keep them safe all the days of their lives.

Amen.



Psalm 16

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: "You are my God.
My happiness lies in You alone."

He has put into my heart a marvelous love
for the faithful ones who dwell in His land.
Those who choose other gods increase
their sorrows.
Never will I offer their offerings of blood.
Never will I take their name upon my lips.

O Lord, it is You who are my portion and cup;
it is You Yourself who are my prize.
The lot marked out for me is my delight:
welcome indeed the heritage that falls to me!

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since He is at my right hand, I shall
stand firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For You will not leave my soul
among the dead,
nor let Your beloved know decay.

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in Your presence,
at Your right hand happiness for ever.