

RCIA
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God; Grace & Faith, Revelation

Irene Haefele
featoo@cox.net

Resources:

USCCB Catholic Catechism for Adults (aka "text) Chapters 2, 3, 4.
New Catholic Answer Bible p. xiii-xxiii on Origin and History,
p. xxv on Catholic Perspective
p. i Dei Verbum
G-1, N-1, N-2

What is the meaning of life? Why are we here?

Our purpose, meaning of life, is to be in relationship with God. Not just to know of God but to love God.

GRACE

God's constant invitation to relationship.

FAITH

Faith is our response to God's grace.

Revelation - Self disclosure of the living God. (Text p.13)

Hebrew people saw God's presence in creation.

The Hebrew people also saw God's presence in the events of life, their history.

The Bible: Inspired by God, understanding of God in the lives of the Hebrew people.

Text p. 14

covenant

faith

revelation as complete

(text p. 23-25)

TRADITION God is revealed in the Church

See also N-2 in NCAB.

God is revealed in TRADITION and SCRIPTURE.

Old Testament/New Testament

COMPILATION OF BIBLE in New Catholic Answer Bible p. ix

Pentateuch (Five Books; Torah)

History

Short Novels

Wisdom books

Prophets

NEW TESTAMENT

Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

Letters (Epistles) Most written by Paul, but not all.

Catholic Letters (directed to the universal church)

We read from the Bible at every Mass.

Dei Verbum handout.

- Revelation (§2-6)
- Tradition & Scripture (§7-10)
- without error teaches Truth (§11)
- uses variety of literary forms (§12) (literalism text p.29-30 & p. 61)
- Scripture is presence of God just as Holy Communion (§21)
- Scripture should be accessible (21)
- Scripture nourishes, enlightens, strengthens, and nurtures love. (23)
- Scripture reading should be accompanied by prayer. (25)

CHALLENGE QUESTIONS

1. Building relationships requires listening and communicating. How does the Bible facilitate listening and communicating between God and humankind?
2. The Bible is classic in that it remains relevant despite the passage of time. How is it that a verse/story may seem unimportant at one time, then becomes so relevant at a later time?
3. What can we learn from history? What can we learn from ancestry? How does this knowledge impact our actions? Our identity? What does the Bible reveal about our identity? What does the Bible reveal about God?