

Lesson 5

Please read paragraphs 232-278 and then answer the following questions:

1. Why is it difficult to discuss the doctrine of the Trinity with non-believers? (# 237)
2. Some people want to eliminate the use of the title "*Father*" for God. Why is the image of God as Father important, normative and necessary? (#'s 238-239)
3. If someone grew up in a home where their earthly father was unkind and abusive, could they still relate to God as Father? What advice would you give to such a person? (# 239)
4. In Mt 23:9 Jesus says, "Do not call anyone on earth your father." Now read the final line of # 239. How does this line from the Catechism help us to interpret Mt. 23: 9 properly?
5. Jehovah's Witnesses and others will say that the Church invented the dogma of the divinity of Christ in the 4th century at the Council of Nicaea. What does the Catechism have to say on this point? (#'s 241-242; see also #250)
6. Was the Holy Spirit present in Old Testament times? How? (# 243)
7. Jesus told his disciples that the Holy Spirit would guide them "*into all the truth.*" (# 243) When he said these words, what was the Lord promising his Church?
8. Certain terms used by the Church in speaking of the Trinity are not biblical. Why? (# 251)
9. When we speak of the Trinity, what are some of the errors we have to avoid?
10. How is God's omnipotence revealed? What about the presence of evil in the world? Is it still valid to say that God is the Almighty One, when we see such terrible evil all around us? (#'s 268-274)