

Lesson 10

Please read paragraphs 535-570 and then answer the following questions:

1. How are Satan's attacks of Jesus in the desert similar to the temptations of Adam in Paradise and of Israel in the desert? (# 538)
2. What do the victories of Jesus over Satan in the desert and on the Cross mean for us today as the Lord's disciples? (#'s 539-540)
3. *"The kingdom belongs to the poor and lowly."* (# 544) *"[Jesus] invites [sinners] to that conversion without which one cannot enter the kingdom . . ."* (# 545) *"To gain the kingdom, one must give up everything. Words are not enough; deeds are required."* (# 546) How do these lines challenge us?
4. In Mark 1:14-15, Jesus says *"The kingdom of God is at hand."* (see # 541) And yet, in the Lord's Prayer we say "thy kingdom come". How can both statements be true?
5. The Catechism speaks of the Church as *"the family of God"*. Would you say that most Catholics have a deep understanding and appreciation of this truth? Or do most Catholics see the Church as an impersonal organization?
What, in your opinion, should be done to help more Catholics experience the Church as "God's family"?
6. The Catechism speaks of the *"signs"* of the kingdom of God present in the earthly ministry of our Lord. (# 547-550) In the midst of the darkness of the world today, what signs of the kingdom do you see present?
7. Some people say, "I will believe in Jesus when I see a miracle." After reading # 548, how would you respond to a statement like this?
8. Some people look to Jesus only for healing. Why is this a serious mistake? (# 549-550)
9. "Why do you Catholics believe in the authority of the Pope? There's nothing in the Bible that supports what the Catholic Church teaches about the so-called 'Successor of Peter'." How would you respond to this statement, after reading #'s 551-553?
10. What does the Transfiguration of Jesus tell us about our own lives on this earth? (#'s 554-556)