

Name _____
Period _____
Date _____

Our Catholic Faith: Living What We Believe
Directed Reading Guide
Chapter 1 *Our Loving God*

Directions: Read carefully through Chapter 1 and then use the text as a reference to locate answers for the questions. All questions in this *Directed Reading Worksheet* are taken in sequential order from the chapter – first questions from the early sections of the chapter; last questions from the end of the chapter, etc. Answer **True or False** questions by circling the word True or False at the beginning of the question. **Fill-in-the-Blank** questions must often be answered with one than one word per blank. (Refer to your text often!) Write your own **Short Answers** for other questions.

Page 22 *One True God*

1. This chapter discusses the _____ of God as a _____ Father and _____ of all that exists. All other aspects of our _____ faith flow from our belief in the _____, true God whom we profess in the _____ Creed.

Pages 23-28 *Beliefs about God*

2. Few questions are more important than the question of _____. Through history, the _____ of people have worshipped some kind of _____. Today more than _____ percent of the world's population _____ in God's existence. The number of people who belong to the world's _____ attests to this. Christianity, Judaism, and Christianity together claim more than _____ percent of the world's population.
3. Explain the difference between a monotheistic religion and a polytheistic religion.
4. Explain what a deist believes and does not believe.
5. A recent study showed that less than _____ percent of Americans claim to be _____; that is, people who does not believe in the existence of _____, supernatural beings, or _____. Many atheists are _____, who claim that the _____ can operate without any _____. Instead, they make the human person and human _____ the center of the universe.
6. Related to atheists are _____, people who hold that God's existence cannot be _____. Agnostics answer "_____" when asked if they believe in God and usually act as if God does not _____. Less than _____ percent of Americans claim to be agnostics. Separated from religion, some atheists and agnostics live a _____ life where the pursuit of _____ acts as their god.
7. What are four common elements typically found in religion?
8. Does the existence of such a variety of religious beliefs and doctrines disprove God's existence? Explain.
9. If there is no ironclad way to prove God's existence, how can human beings know God?

10. Some of the signs for God's existence appeal to the _____, while other signs appeal to the _____ or _____.

Match the St. Thomas Aquinas' proofs for God's existence with the description. Write the title next to each.

11. _____ Since nothing comes into existence by itself, ultimately there had to be an Uncaused Cause which was eternal.
12. _____ The power and beauty of the universe are governed by laws which were implanted by God.
13. _____ There must be a perfect being, otherwise we could not speak of different degrees of qualities by which we can make comparisons.
14. _____ Since whatever is in motion must be moved by something else, we must conclude there was a "First Mover."
15. _____ There must have been one necessary, eternal Being who brought other things into existence.

16. What three points can help to prove the existence of a Mystery at the heart of the universe?

17. According to the CCC (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*), the _____ for God is written in the human _____, because man is created by God and for _____. We can observe this deep _____ for God in many ways.

18. What are the four ways we see the human yearning for God?

19. What might explain the human experience of frustration in the seeking of happiness?

20. When human beings experience profound _____ in the presence of some awesome experience, or when we encounter _____ and it seems so perfectly _____, we are getting a taste of God's _____ and truth.

21. Human beings can sense God's _____ teaching us that we must always do _____. We sense there must be an absolute _____ --- God --- that teaches us the _____ of human behavior. We have a fundamental feeling that there is a _____ that will right all wrongs.

22. Explain the insight of the quote from the French philosopher, Blaise Pascal, "If you win, you win everything."

23. Explain the difference between God's transcendence and God's immanence.

Pages 28-31 *Divine Revelation*

24. True or False. Although human reason cannot discover that God exists, left to itself it can get a true picture of who God really is --- a mystery.

25. God _____ chose to “reveal” himself to human beings --- from whence we get the term _____ which means “unveiling.” God is beyond human _____ yet he freely chose to step into _____, speaks to us through the _____ and prophets, and invites us into a deeper relationship by sending his only divine Son, _____.

26. Explain the relation between divine revelation and salvation history.

27. Salvation history begins with the _____ of the first humans and the _____ we live in. But _____ disobeyed God and committed the _____, falling out of friendship with God. But God did not abandon his _____, rather he established a series of _____ with mankind.

28. What is a covenant. What were the Old testament promises?

29. Briefly explain the four most important covenants in the Bible.

30. God reveals himself through a single “_____” of faith which Christ entrusted to the _____. Inspired by the _____, they handed it on through their _____ and _____ to the Church. This single deposit is found in Sacred _____ and the Sacred _____ of the Church.

31. What do the seven passages summarized from the Old Testament real about God?

32. _____ is the living transmission or “handing on” of the Church’s _____ which is found in the Church’s _____, life and worship. The _____ were the first to receive the gift of _____ and they in turn entrusted it to their successors --- the _____ --- to “faithfully preserve, expound, and spread ... by their preaching.

33. Explain the relation between the Magisterium and dogma.

34. _____ is the theological virtue that enable us to _____ and all he has revealed to us and all that the _____ regarding our faith. Through it we can _____ our whole lives to God and say “_____” to the gift of _____ given to us in Christ.

Pages 31-33 *Who Is God?*

35. If a name expresses a person’s inner identity, how should we understand the name of “Yahweh?”

36. The name Yahweh acknowledges God's _____. His _____ and eternal nature is beyond human _____. Yahweh reveals himself to be the _____ in our midst whose only motive for revealing himself is his totally free gift of _____. This love is _____.

37. What does it mean to call God omnipotent?

38. Briefly describe the nine attributes of God explained by St. Thomas Aquinas?

39. God the _____ is the first person of the _____. God has revealed himself as a _____ of persons. _____ addressed God as Father and God the Father named him as his _____. Jesus revealed that the Father would send the _____ in his name.

40. The Blessed Trinity is the central _____ of faith and _____ of all other mysteries. This mystery reveals that Jesus is the _____ the Father and that the Holy Spirit is sent _____ in the name of the _____. The work of the one true God reveals, reconciles, and _____ himself to us.

41. Jesus taught us pray to God as "_____, " a child's word in Aramaic meaning something like "_____. " God is Father in _____ relationship with his only Son, who in turn is eternally in _____ to his Father. Jesus is the _____ of God who is with the Father from all time.

42. How might we respond to those who say that it is improper to call God "Father?" Why do Catholics continue to address God as Father?

43. The book of _____ includes two stories of creation. These stories are interested in the "_____" of creation, not a description of "_____" the world began because it is not a _____ textbook. The Biblical authors were interested in _____ such as how God is the source of all that is.

Pages 33-37 *Creator of the Heavens*

44. List eight truths taught by divine revelation.

45. What was Adam and Eve's original sin, and what were the consequences of their sin?

46. True or False. Old Testament stories like Cain's murder of Able and the failures of the Chosen People show how sin affected all humans.

47. What have we inherited through original sin?

48. Only _____ has the power to free us from sin. _____ gives us Christ's life, erases original sin, and _____ our relationship with God. Because human nature remains weak we need the help of the _____ to fight temptation and choose God's will.

49. What was the high point of God's loving concern for the Chosen People?

50. The reward for those who believe in the one true God is manifested in three ways. What are these?

51. Summarize the difference between moral evil and physical evil. What evil did Jesus conquer?

52. True or False. God's knowledge of what will happen does not destroy our freedom.