

Tradition & Scripture

VIDEO LINK

<http://youtu.be/roum4zbJ8ZQ>

GOAL SUMMARY

The goal of this session is to help students understand that the Church is a gift from God and that in His plan, He has bestowed upon us all the gifts necessary to live the Christian life. Two of the most important gifts He has given us are Scripture and Tradition: Scripture, the Bible, the written Word of God, as well as Apostolic Tradition, the teaching of the apostles.

VIDEO SUMMARY

Fr. Robert Barron explains how the Catholic Church has received all the gifts Christ wants to give people: Scripture, interpretive theological tradition, the Liturgy and Eucharist, the sacraments, Mary, apostolic authority (structure that is our source of order and direction). While there are other Christian churches that have some of these gifts, the Catholic Church has all of them.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How is Scripture an essential gift to our life as Catholics?
2. How are Tradition and the authority of the Church a gift? What would the Church look like if everyone could interpret Scripture in their own way?
3. What is the difference between saying the Catholic Church has the fullness of all of the gifts Jesus wants us to have vs. only the Catholic Church has these gifts?
4. What are some benefits to being in the Church that receives all the gifts Christ wants to give the Church instead of belonging to a Church that receives some of those gifts? How are some of the ways you have been influenced by these gifts?
5. G.K. Chesterton wrote "Tradition means giving votes to the most obscure of all classes, our ancestors. It is the democracy of the dead. Tradition refuses to submit to the small and arrogant oligarchy of those who merely happen to be walking about." What are some benefits of Tradition instead of just believing in the Bible alone?

SEND

Pray the following prayer together for the Church and her members:

Heavenly Father, look upon our community of faith which is the Church of your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to witness to his love by loving all our fellow creatures without exception. Under the leadership of the Holy Father and the Bishops keep us faithful to Christ's mission of calling all men and women to your service so that there may be "one fold and one shepherd." We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.