

Vocabulary for Unit 8

contemplation: A form of wordless prayer in which one is fully focused on the presence of God; sometimes defined as “resting in God.”

discernment: From a Latin word meaning “to separate or to distinguish between,” it is the practice of listening for God’s call in our lives and distinguishing between good and bad choices.

free will: The gift from God that allows human beings to choose from among various actions, for which we are held accountable. It is the basis for moral responsibility.

intellect: The divine gift that gives us the ability to see and understand the order of things that God places within creation and to know and understand God through the created order.

meditation: A form of prayer involving a variety of methods and techniques, in which one engages the mind, imagination, and emotions to focus on a particular truth, biblical theme, or other spiritual matter.

providence: The guidance, material goods, and care provided by God that is sufficient to meet our needs.

vocal prayer: A prayer that is spoken aloud or silently, such as the Lord’s Prayer.

