

Divine Providence

By Divine Providence we mean more than God's plan. **Providence** according to the student book is "the guidance, material goods, and care provided by God that is sufficient to meet our needs." In other words, God is present to us in each and every moment of our lives, loving us and encouraging us to follow the path of our deepest longings. What God gives us is sufficient for us to fulfill our ultimate purpose.

Reflect on the following questions and write a response to each. They may help you to get a better sense of God's Providence in your life.

Where and when were you born? What do you know about your birth and early infancy?

How did you first begin discovering your own identity as a person who is distinct from your parents and siblings?

Have you ever experienced a serious illness, a serious accident, or a close brush with death? Did you or anyone near you experience the presence or power of God at this time?

What are your greatest gifts or talents, and when and how did you realize that you possessed these? Who helped you to recognize these gifts?



Describe one of the greatest opportunities that you have received in your life.

What role has a Christian community played in helping you to understand your self-identity?

Which people in your life have shaped your views the most, and which of “life’s lessons” means the most to you so far?

Have you ever experienced God’s presence in your life in a powerful way? If so, describe this experience.

Do you believe that your life has been a chain of random events, or do you sense that your life has an important direction and purpose? Explain.

