

Chapter 17

Answer Key for Double-Check Questions

1. *What did Saint Jerome mean when he said, “Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ”?*

When Saint Jerome taught that “ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ,” he meant that the whole Bible leads us to the fullness of God’s Revelation in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. If we are going to know Jesus, we must know and understand the Bible.

2. *List at least three ways to deepen your relationship with Sacred Scripture.*

Ways to deepen our relationship with Sacred Scripture include using the Bible for daily prayer and reflection, going over the upcoming readings for Sunday Mass, paying close attention to the homily, joining a Bible study, and becoming a lector.

3. *What is the Liturgy of the Hours? What part of Scripture is its main focus?*

The Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office, is the official public, daily prayer of the Catholic Church. The Divine Office provides standard prayers, Scripture readings, and reflections at regular hours throughout the day. The Divine Office’s main Scripture focus is the Psalms.

4. *What role does Sacred Scripture play in the celebration of the Mass?*

There are two main parts to the Mass: Liturgy of the Word and Liturgy of the Eucharist. The Liturgy of the Word usually includes readings from the Old Testament, the Psalms, the Gospels, and the New Testament letters. Sacred Scripture plays an integral role in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Many of the words spoken by the priest in the Eucharistic Prayer are taken from the Bible. They recall the covenant God established with Abraham and fulfilled in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The words of consecration in the Eucharistic Prayer are taken directly from the biblical accounts of the Last Supper.

5. *Why is the Lord’s Prayer so important?*

The Lord’s Prayer is the prayer that Jesus taught us. Its petitions summarize the key elements of living as a follower of Jesus. It is also the prayer that we share with all Christian faiths.

6. *How does reading Scripture help us come to know what is morally good?*

Teachings such as the Ten Commandments, the Sermon on the Mount, and the Beatitudes offer clear moral guidance on discerning good and evil. Jesus maintains that the rule of love is the highest moral law, identifying the love of God and love of neighbor as the greatest moral commandment.

7. *Why is listening to God an important element in prayer?*

Prayer is a dialogue between God and us. Sometimes we are caught up in talking to God and forget that prayer is two-way communication. Listening to God is a necessity in order to follow his will.

8. *What are the four stages of lectio divina?*

The four stages of *lectio divina* are *lectio* (reading), *meditatio* (meditation), *oratio* (prayer), and *contemplatio* (contemplation).

9. *What are devotional prayers? Name two examples.*

Devotional prayers are personalized prayers that have developed outside of, but should lead to, the Liturgy of the Church. Two examples include the Stations of the Cross and the Rosary.

