

1. How much do I have to believe to go to heaven? Will people who just believe go to heaven or what about good people who do not know Christ? Will Hindus, Buddhists, Protestants, etc. go to heaven?

Answer 1. *Will people who just believe go to heaven?* People who believe what, that is what you have to ask yourself. Those that believe that God exists aren't going to all be in Heaven. Satan believes in the existence of God. It's not simply believing in God or Jesus as the Messiah (Personal Lord and Savior), it the ascent of Faith. You must believe in the teachings of the Word of God, the Eternal Word, Jesus Christ. Jesus left us his teachings through the Apostles. They passed the teachings on and some of this teaching is compiled in the Bible. If we hold fast to the teachings of God and die in the **State of Grace**, we can be assured of Heaven.

Answer 2. *Will Hindus, Buddhists, Protestants, etc. go to heaven?* Catholics are given the **Fullness of Grace**, and thus have more means to Trust in God and His teachings. Non-Catholic Christians have been given Grace through Baptism and Matrimony. Non-Christians have been given Grace to respond to God's call for them to love Him. If those outside of the Church respond to the Grace that is given them and seek God, then the Church teaches that they have the hope of Salvation. If they, like us, die in a **State of Grace**, they can be assured Salvation. It's much more difficult to know if you are in a **State of Grace** if you are outside of the Church, but Catholics, after making a **Good Confession**, are in a **State of Grace**.

2. Should we read the 40 Days of Purpose?

Answer 1. This book was written by a Protestant for New Protestants. A Catholic book that would be a better option is The Drive Factor by Rick Sarkisian. Here is a review: *"People today are thirsting for knowing their life purpose and calling. **The Drive Factor** will satisfy that thirst by revealing how to find life's meaning, purpose and direction. The Drive Factor is an essential book for everyone who wants to achieve what really matters in life."* - **Steve Wood**, Author and EWTN host; President, Family Life Center, International

Answer 2. For a more devotional book, try Abandonment to Divine Providence by

3. Eucharist - Cannibalism, John 6:22, how can this be?

Answer 1.

4. Can we consider ourselves a good Catholic if we use birth control other than natural family planning?

5. Why do we genuflect?

Answer 1. One reason we genuflect is to acknowledge and reverence the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle. We genuflect in reverence to His presence upon entering and leaving church. A wonderful way to explain this ritual to children is by this comparison: When we go to someone's home for dinner, we don't rush through the door, sit down at the table and forget to greet our host. Nor do we leave without saying goodbye and thank you. So it is with the ritual of genuflection. We greet our Lord before the celebration of the Mass and reverence His presence before we go home.

6. What is the common ground between Catholics and Nazarene (they are big here and seem to take a step back when I tell them I'm Catholic)?

7. Why do we share the same cup for wine at Mass? It's gross.

Answer 1.

8. Why do we stand up then sit, then stand, then sit?

Answer 1.

9. Why do we ring the bells at certain points?

Answer 1.

10. Why do we make the sign of the cross on our forehead, mouth and chest?

Answer 1. We do it as a reminder of our faith to be attentive to the Word of God in our lives. St. John reminds us: "In the beginning was the Word . . . and the Word was God." The priest announces the gospel: "The Lord be with you." The assembly responds: "And also with you." The priest then says: "A reading from the holy gospel according to ..." The assembly responds: "Glory to you, O Lord." Then together the priest and the assembly make the sign of the cross and pray silently: First, on the forehead: "May your Word be in my thoughts..." Second, on the lips: "and on my lips..." Third, on the breast: "and in my heart."

11. Do we have to confess to a priest? Why can't we go straight to God?

12. My son's girlfriend is Jewish. She says it's the first church. Can we compare this to Catholic?



13. What's the church's position on Harry Potter? Some co-worker's church's claim it's promoting witchcraft. I read it and I see it as the story of an underdog.
14. Why do non-Catholics bash us for our tradition and on Non-Catholic radio bash us for our faith?
15. Do Catholics worship Mary? Why bow before a statue? Aren't you adoring or worshiping them?
16. How is the best way to respond to some one who has cynicism about the abuses that have occurred among the clergy (including things like the former St. Paul's priest who admitted to "misappropriating" church funds?
17. Any connection between God's forgiveness and judgment?
18. What is the church's standing on Medjorie?
19. What is the church's stance on in-vetro fertilization? Why?
- 20.