



TEAM TALK 10 - *Becoming Who We Were Created to Be*

God gave us certain abilities and aptitudes that we are responsible for developing, - just as we are responsible for our own salvation. Even though we are helped and sometimes hindered by other influences, we are the chief architects for our eventual success or failure.

God's plan for us is to develop ourselves through personal effort and responsible activity. This will prepare us for the important work God has for us to do, and for most of us this will be as a husband and father.

QUESTIONS

1. Why is a man with wings used to symbolize the Gospel of St. Matthew?

The invisible truth that this Gospel symbol makes visible is that man has a unique ability to discover and know the truth through the gifts of Reason and Faith.

2. Why is truth important to us?

The truth is important to us because we all want to know how things really are. To see things as they are-not results in many harmful outcomes. Truth unites us and makes it possible to live together; without truth we slip back into the barbarism we discussed in Team Talk 7.

3. Why do you think we can know something about God by looking at nature?

We can know something about God through nature because it first existed in the mind of God, and God does everything for a purpose.

4. Which is a better indicator of a person's true quality: the way he looks or the way he acts?

A person's behavior is a better indicator of his quality because it is something he chooses for himself. Beauty is a gift from God that we cannot take credit for.

5. Why is *forming* your conscience important?

Forming our conscience is important because it allows us to make true judgments. Read the Catechism of the Catholic Church, sections 1783-1785 below for more about this topic.

II. THE FORMATION OF CONSCIENCE

CCC 1783 Conscience must be informed and moral judgment enlightened. A well-formed conscience is upright and truthful. It formulates its judgments according to reason, in conformity with the true good willed by the wisdom of the Creator. The education of conscience is indispensable for human beings who are subjected to negative influences and tempted by sin to prefer their own judgment and to reject authoritative teachings.

CCC 1784 The education of the conscience is a lifelong task. From the earliest years, it awakens the child to the knowledge and practice of the interior law recognized by conscience. Prudent education teaches virtue; it prevents or cures fear, selfishness and pride, resentment arising from guilt, and feelings of complacency, born of human weakness and faults. The education of the conscience guarantees freedom and engenders peace of heart.

CCC 1785 In the formation of conscience the Word of God is the light for our path, we must assimilate it in faith and prayer and put it into practice. We must also examine our conscience before the Lord's Cross. We are assisted by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, aided by the witness or advice of others and guided by the authoritative teaching of the Church.

ACTIVITY

Create your own coat of arms using symbols to represent the qualities of character you aspire to, you may use symbols from nature, the Bible, the Sacraments, Gifts of the Holy Spirit, etc. Be prepared to explain their meaning.

Use a printable template that can be found on the internet for a guide. Search "Personal Coat of Arms Template" for suggestions.

SACRED SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:3-12:

*Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are they who mourn,
for they will be comforted.*

*Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the land.*

*Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be satisfied.*

*Blessed are the merciful
for they shall be shown mercy.*

*Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they will see God.*

*Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called the children of God.*

*Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil
against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great
in heaven. Thus the persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

Matthew 1:1-16:

The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez was the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram. Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon. Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse. Jesse was the father of David the king.

David was the father of Solomon by Bathsheba who had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa. Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah. Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah. Josiah became the father of Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

After the deportation to Babylon: Jeconiah became the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel was the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor. Azor was the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud. Eliud was the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob. Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.

Matthew 28:19-20:

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

Matthew 4:16:

‘The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, light has arisen.’