

WHY DO PEOPLE DISLIKE THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

MEETING GUIDE

ANSWER IN YOUR OWN WORDS:

#5: WHY DO PEOPLE DENY THAT GOD EXISTS, IF THEY CAN KNOW HIM BY REASON? To know the invisible God is a great challenge for the human mind. Many are scared off by it. Some do not want to know God is because they would then have to change their life.

YOU CAT

#13 CAN THE CHURCH ERR IN QUESTIONS OF FAITH? Just as the disciples believed Jesus with their whole heart, a Christian can rely completely on the Church when he asks about the way to life. Although individual members of the Church can err and even make serious mistakes, the Church as a whole can never fall away from God's truth.

#121 WHAT DOES "CHURCH" MEAN? The Greek word for Church is "ekklesia" = those who are called forth. All of us who are baptized and believe in God are called forth by the Lord. Together we are the Church. When we receive the sacraments and hear God's Word, Christ is in us and we are in him—that is the Church.. We will be upset by the mistakes in the Church, but we can never distance ourselves.

GOSPEL



ANSWERS

"YOU WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE GOVERNORS AND KINGS BECAUSE OF ME, AS A WITNESS BEFORE THEM. BUT THE GOSPEL MUST BE PREACHED TO ALL NATIONS. WHEN THEY HAND YOU OVER, DO NOT WORRY ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE TO SAY. FOR IT WILL NOT BE YOU WHO ARE SPEAKING BUT THE HOLY SPIRIT. BUT THE ONE WHO PERSEVERES WILL BE SAVED." MARK 13: 9-13

SAINTS & INSPIRATIONAL STORIES

BISHOP FRANCIS FORD



Bishop Francis is an example of how to live and deal with people who do not respect or understand your faith. He put himself at risk to stay and lead his community in their faith. He took seriously Jesus' task to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth.

ST MIGUEL PRO



St Miguel shows us what it means to live in time and place where you are not free to practice your faith. He gave his life to God as a priest knowing what he would have to face. His last words were: "May God have mercy on you! Lord, you know that I am innocent! With all my heart I forgive my enemies! Long live Christ the King!"

TEAM DISCUSSION

TALK ABOUT IT!

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT THESE WAYS OF DEALING WITH PEOPLE WHO DISLIKE THE CHURCH? WHY DO YOU THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO LISTEN TO THEM? WHY DO YOU THINK IT IS SMART TO TRY TO GET ANSWERS TO PEOPLE'S QUESTIONS?