

2020: SEEING THE DEVIL CLEARLY

PART I: PARTICIPANT HANDOUT

QUESTIONS FOR CLASS DISCUSSION

Chapter I: Introduction: *Father Guckin mentions that he does not recall teaching a lesson specifically on the devil in his years of teaching high school. Why do you think the topic of the devil (under his various titles) is sometimes avoided in the teaching of the faith?*

Chapter II: The Objection of the Modern World

Father Guckin implies that the modern world labels belief in the devil as “primitive or superstitious.”

Do you agree with this statement and why?

The recent Pew Foundation cites that many young people by Jr. High age are attracted to secularism and see religion as mythical or a nice story much in the vein of Professor Zuckerman’s quote. From your experience as a teacher of the faith, have you witnessed this movement from faith among young people? How?

Chapter III: Our Belief in the Visible and Invisible

Father Guckin’s description of an angel, that is one of God’s creations with an intellect and will, but without a physical body, is often misunderstood. Give an example.

Chapter IV: The Biblical Basis for the Devil

The devil and other demons were, indeed, created naturally good by God, but became evil by their own doing. After listening to Father Guckin’s progression of teaching, how do you have a better understanding about angels and fallen angels.

Chapter V: St. Michael the Archangel and Review

Father Guckin gives a great juxtaposition of St. Michael’s humility of protecting us against false gods vs. Satan’s pride that he is God. How can this example be applied to our own spiritual lives?

Chapter VI: Roundtable Panel Discussion

During the round table discussion, personal encounters of the devil were shared. Have you ever had such an encounter?

Chapter VII: Roundtable Panel Discussion

Father Guckin believes that the attack of one’s God-given gifts by the devil is his most subtle way to lead a person away from God; to make oneself a type of false god. Explain.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT:

- *If you believe in a Spiritual World, Why? That is, if you had to defend your belief to win a soul for Jesus Christ. What would you say?*
- *How would you define the word “evil”? Rather than simply naming things such as racism or domestic violence- how would you define evil? What is it?*
- *What does evil do? That is, what are the consequences of evil?*

"Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen."