

OUR GOAL AND OUR GUIDES

Our Quest for Happiness
High School Religion, Book 1

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INTRODUCTION:

Our Goal and Our Guides is the first book of the high school religion series, *Our Quest for Happiness*, republished by Lepanto Press. The series focuses on the study and pursuit of that perfect happiness which St. Augustine describes as the union of our soul with Almighty God. That great Doctor of the Church responded to a request for guidance on how to teach religion by writing *De Catechizandis Rudibus*, a detailed and comprehensive work on the matter and content of teaching religion. His so-called "historical method," focusing on charity, is employed in designing and writing this series.

EXPLANATORY NOTES:

Our Quest for Happiness was written during the 1940s and 50s. As a result the text does not reflect and discuss some issues that have come to the fore since the social and ecclesiastical upheaval of the 1960s. Of particular note is the treatment of the theory of evolution, discussed on pp. 248-250. Half a century after the writing of these textbooks, a fully developed theory of evolution, mostly atheistic and treated as fact while having very little logical or factual proof, is forced upon most schoolchildren, while the creationist view is treated as childish and ridiculous.

The writers of the text could not guess that this was the intellectual trend of the day, so they offer considerable good will to evolutionists. We now know that proponents of evolutionary theory are often not good-willed at all, but seem to work actively to undermine the teachings of the Catholic Church. The strength of the text, however, lies in its refusal to compromise Catholic teaching without evidence to the contrary. In a summary of evolution found on p. 250, the writers declare that "The good Catholic...believes that Adam's soul was created directly by God. He will also believe that Adam's body was created directly by God until such a time as unshakable scientific evidence proves that God allowed it to develop gradually." The Church has always embraced this balanced approach to scientific theories, only allowing them to affect theological teaching once definitive scientific proof is available. It seems unlikely that definitive proof of evolution will ever be found, so we can hold fast to the creationist view of the world without doubt or fear.

For those wishing further clarification of this matter, we are providing information on how to find Pius XII's thoughts on the role of modern science which are referenced in the text:

Address of Pope Pius XII to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, November 22, 1951:

<http://www.papalencyclicals.net/Pius12/P12EXIST.HTM>

Humani Generis (On Human Origin) August 12, 1950:

<http://www.papalencyclicals.net/Pius12/P12HUMAN.HTM>.

ASSIGNMENTS, TESTS & GRADING:

Assignments will consist of reading from the text, as well as both written and oral responses to selected review questions. Even though not all questions are assigned, students must ensure that they understand all the material. Some graded assigned questions will be sent to the school, as indicated in this Lesson Plan, so that the students' tutors can review their performance and provide helpful feedback.

The *Answer Key* provided for the textbook contains far more detailed responses than the students' need be, since the key must cover all possible information a student might provide, rather than just the basic answer. As long as the student's response agrees substantially with the Answer Key, it can be graded favorably.

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Our Lady of Victory School
Theology I Lesson Plans

The student will also be asked to write either paragraphs or short papers on various topics covered in the textbook. If asked to write a paragraph, the length should be a **minimum of 75 words**; a short paper should be a **minimum of 200 words**, but not more than 300. If possible, these assignments should be typed and double spaced; if that is not an option, the student may hand-write the assignment, using their neatest handwriting and double spacing.

When instructed to write a paper covering several questions in the textbook, the student should not provide separate answers to each question, but should organize the information into a single essay, showing the logical progression of ideas.

Exams on the material covered in the course will be given at the end of each quarter. The first quarter, mid-term, and third-quarter exams cover material from those respective quarters only, while the final test is comprehensive. It is highly recommended that students save all written assignments and tests for use as study aides for the exams. The Unit Reviews in the textbook are an excellent preparation for the quarter exams. You will also find study guides included in the Lesson Plan.

All papers submitted to the school for review and/or grading will be returned at the end of each quarter.

THEOLOGY I

Student Name _____ Gr. Level _____

G&G – *Our Goal & Our Guides, Our Quest for Happiness: Book I*, Msgr. Clarence E. Elwell, et al.

Week 1

Grade _____

G&G Read and study pp. 9-22.

Answer questions p. 20,* #1-5, orally.

Answer questions p. 22, #4-6, in a 200 word essay using examples as necessary.
Do not separate into the individual questions; combine the answers in a logical manner to make a fluid paper.

Send UNGRADED assignment to school.

Time _____

Week 2

G&G Read and study pp. 27-41

Answer questions p. 41, #1-10, in writing.

Send GRADED assignment to school.

Answer questions p. 41, #11-13, orally.

Time _____

*Note: the back end sheets were not printed in the OLVS edition. Students should answer the questions from what they know about their Catholic Faith, using the answers given in the Answer Key as a study guide.

Comment _____

For use by OLVS tutor only – Theology I: Week 1 _____ Week 2 _____

THEOLOGY I

Student Name _____

Gr. Level _____

G&G – *Our Goal & Our Guides, Our Quest for Happiness: Book I*, Msgr. Clarence E. Elwell, et al.

Week 3

Grade _____

G&G Read and study pp. 43-61.

Answer questions p. 51, #1-5, orally.

Write a 200 word paper answering question #6, found on p. 51. Choose three characters and combine your answer into a single paper

Send UNGRADED assignment to school.

Time _____

Week 4

G&G Read and study pp. 62-78.

Answer questions p. 65 #1-8, orally

Answer questions p. 69 #1-4, in writing, #5 orally.

Choose one question from pp. 78-79, #3-7, to answer in a well-formed paragraph.

Send GRADED assignment to school.

Time _____

Comment _____

For use by OLVS tutor only – Theology I: Week 3 _____ Week 4 _____