

140. How must a Catholic form a right conscience?

A Catholic must form a right conscience by obeying the teaching authority of God's Church.

We do not always know whether our conscience is right. But we can train our conscience by listening to the Word of God in the gospels and in the Church and by being attentive to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit within us.

141. What does obedience to the Holy Spirit include?

Obedience to the Holy Spirit includes a faithful observance of (1) the commandments of God, (2) the laws of the Church, (3) and just civil laws.

We should let the Holy Spirit have his way with us. He will bend our wills and touch our hearts if we will let him. We ought to pray each day for the strength to say yes to what the Spirit wants to do in us. Obedience to him includes a faithful observance of (1) the commandments of God, (2) the laws of the Church, (3) and just civil laws.

Teacher reference: Principal Elements, no. 103

A. FILL IN THE BLANKS

- If we are to answer God's love we must (1) (2) and (135)
- Christian morality teaches us worthy of and of, that we may grow in given to us through (136)
- Christian morality is supported and guided by(137)
- Conscience is that something is because of (138)
- Each person must have a..... conscience andit. (139)
- A Catholic forms a right conscience by(140)
- Obedience to the Holy Spirit includes a faithful observance of (1), (2) the laws of, (3) and(141)

B. BIBLE READING

Matthew 28:16-20

The Last Instruction of Jesus

Forty days after the Resurrection, the followers of Jesus met on a mountain in Galilee. More than five hundred people were gathered at this time; and there Jesus showed himself to them all. He said to his apostles, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the world."

Then Jesus led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he departed from them and was taken up to heaven. They worshiped him and then returned to Jerusalem filled with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God.



"You are to be my witnesses even to the ends of the earth."

Discussion:

1. Where did Jesus meet his followers on this occasion?
2. What did Jesus say to his apostles?
3. When he told them to carry out everything he had commanded them, what did he mean?
4. What did Jesus mean when he said that he would be with them always?
5. What did Jesus do after he gave his last instructions?
6. What did the Apostles do after Jesus was taken up to heaven?

C. PRACTICE

1. The kind of happiness which Jesus Christ promises in this life comes from loving God and being loved by God, and from the hope of eternal happiness in heaven. Jesus did not promise us pleasure or wealth. But he tells us that it is only through suffering and self-sacrifice that we can have joy and peace of soul in this life. He has not only told us how to live, but has shown us by his example. What is more, he gives us all the help we need to follow his example. We should, therefore, learn to know and love Jesus Christ. We can do so by frequently reading the gospels and studying the teaching of the Church about what we must believe and how we must observe what Jesus has commanded.
2. If we love Christ and try to follow his example we shall receive the strength he promised especially in the sacrament of the Eucharist and in prayer.

JESUS SPEAKS:

“I give you a new commandment: love one another. Just as I have loved you, so you should also love one another. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples: your love for one another.”

(Jn 13:34, 35)

“The command I give you is this, love one another.”

(Jn 15:17)