

What we really believe!

Week 3

Salvation, Heaven, Angels

Reminder

Week 1

Trinity

Grace

Incarnation

Week 2

Baptism

Eucharist

Reconciliation

Questions & Comments

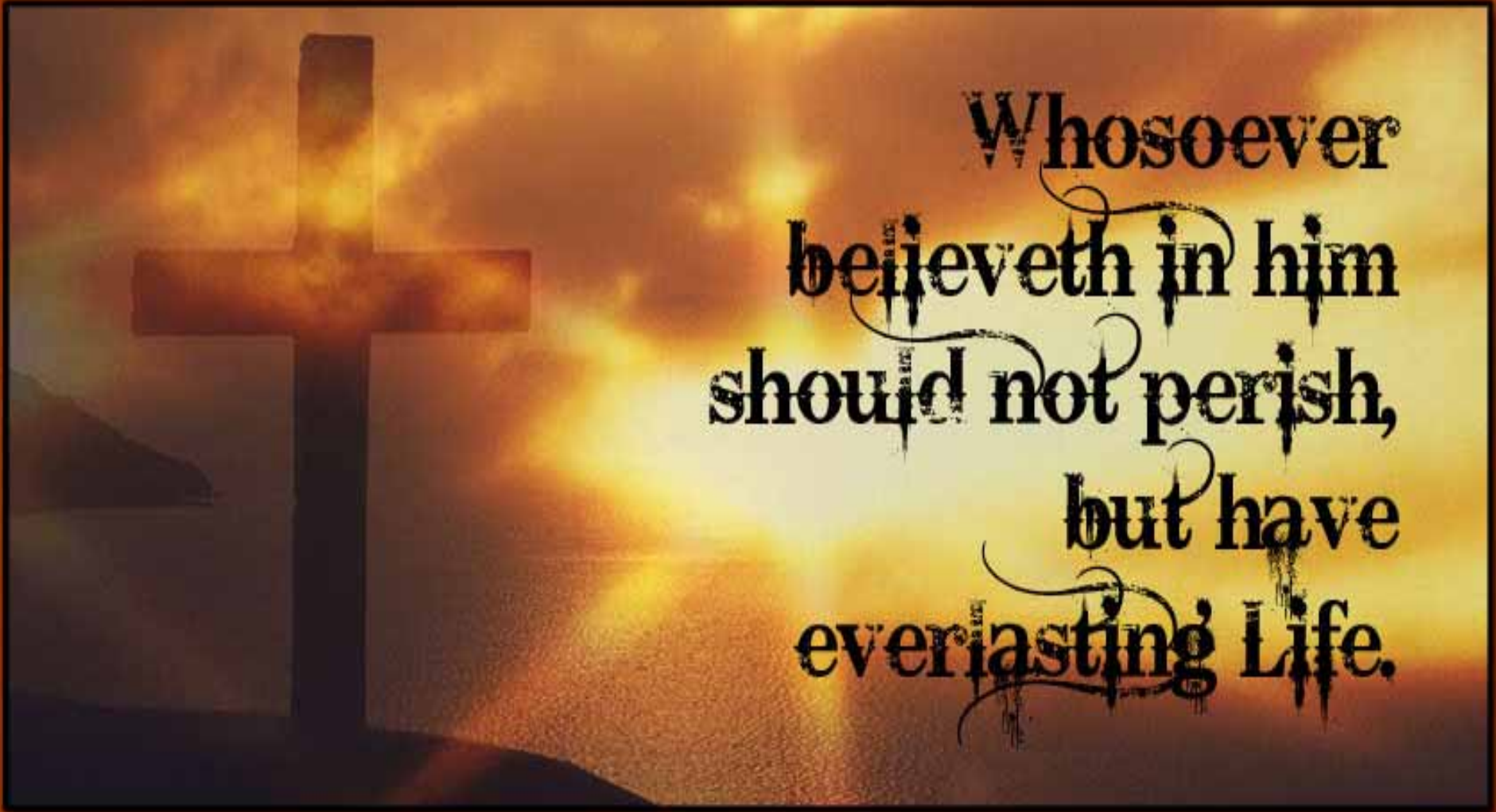
* Homework Readings:

* BAPTISM

* EUCHARIST

* RECONCILIATION

Prayer



Whosoever
believeth in him
should not perish,
but have
everlasting Life.

SALVATION

- *How are we saved?
- *Who is saved?

How are we saved?

Apostolic Tradition and Scripture say:

It is only by **GOD'S GRACE** - completely unmerited by works - that one is saved.

(Salvation is from God alone. ccc169)

"For God is the one who, for his good purpose, works in you both to desire and to work." Philippians 2:13

"So also faith itself, if it does not have works, is dead." James 2:17

"...so also faith without works is dead." James 2:26

We do not "work" our way to heaven!

Faith, Justification, Salvation

Divisive, varied terms in salvation!

1. God's Grace accepted by faith.

2. We are commanded to do good works.

All agree!! (Protestant & Catholic)

Relationship? Response?



Judgment

* We think it means Judge like we judge:

Report Card or Score Card (N0)

Your good enough and sorry your not good enough.

(atheist complaint)

* We should see it as the **light of truth**.

Do you love me? (freedom)

Is there truly a loving relationship? (Narrow path)

(truth and Justice)

Who is saved?

“Outside the Church there is no salvation”

All salvation comes from Christ the Head through the Church which is his body.
(ccc846)

Wow!!

Strong statements....what does it all mean?

Fullness of means of salvation

1. Faith in Christ

2. Baptism

3. Cleansed of Sin

4. Unity & Peace of the Church

From God, Thru the community
of faith and love to the people.

Some say they know:

- *If you do this or that you will burn in hell or go to heaven.
- *Those people in that church are going to hell or going to heaven.

We must be careful: Presumption & Despair

We can say: these are actions and choices consistent with Christ's command to love God and love our neighbor.

Christ came for all!

What about:

-other non-Catholic Christians?

-other religions?

-those that do not know Christ?

-Martyrs? Infants? Catechumens?

Desire, Blood, Seek truth, Do the will of God?

Remember:

We are not God. It is not our job to judge others.

Our job is to be in a truly loving relationship with God and others.

To respond with love to the Grace of God freely offered to us in Baptism.

Don't judge
someone just
because they sin
differently than you!

* Hate the sin, love the sinner!

Heaven and Angels

HEAVEN: God, Angels, Saints, the Saved

God's own dwelling. Pure spirit place of spirit beings.

- Life forever with God.

- Where we see Him as He is.

Supreme, definitive happiness the human heart longs for!

We retain our true identity. ccc1032

Angel?



ANGEL: Created, Spirit Being

- Mind and Spirit: Intelligence and will
 - Surpass us in perfection, Immortal creatures
 - Servants and messengers of God
 - Watchful, caring and interceding
- Serving God and the mission of salvation

Hell

We cannot be united with God unless we freely choose to love him. He who does not love remains in death. This state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed is called "hell." ccc1033

The narrow gate! Matthew 7:13

Call to conversion!!

Mercy and Justice: Truth!

Will you join the party?

*Fr. Barron

Comments on Hell

Video

Note:

*Purgatory

- Is a yes
- Purification
- More a process than a place

Even though pure and good, are our souls ready to be united to God?

Demon?



What about demons?

DEMON: Created, Spirit being

- mind, will, intelligence
- choose to reject God and his reign
- eternally fallen

Satan: finite, created, spirit being, leader, deceiver, liar, works against God's will...

Questions to ponder:

1. How do we proclaim the vital truth of the Catholic Church and its importance in salvation without demeaning other faiths?
2. What are your thoughts on the “narrow gate” and that few will truly choose to love? Who will go to heaven?
3. Why is “Hell and the Devil” not taken as real in our culture today?

The Mystery of Faith

Please read:

Chapter 4: Salvation

Chapter 5: Church

Chapter 10: Tradition

Please bring any questions or comments
you may have to our next meeting.

Prayer

