

THREE MIRACLES OF
HAPPINESS
COACH GERRY FAUST

DVD
STUDY GUIDE

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Questions
&
Answer Key

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Coach Gerry Faust's Three Miracles of Happiness STUDY GUIDE.

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Introduction

What

Nineveh's Crossing Study Guides are created with the hope that the discussion questions and suggested answers they provide will help to develop young and old minds alike, and ground them securely in the Faith and Reason of natural law as illustrated in the lives of contemporary role models, the saints in Heaven, the Bible, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

This particular study guide was designed for use with Coach Gerry Faust's DVD *Three Miracles of Happiness*. Gerry Faust had an amazing career as one of America's winningest football coaches. From 18 years at Cincinnati's Moeller High School (174-17-1), he went on to fulfill one of his personal dreams as head football coach at The University of Notre Dame, followed by eight years at Akron University. A devoted husband and father, Coach Faust has become a popular inspirational speaker who weaves the dramatic story of his own life into lessons for every life, always placing faith in God in the center of the huddle! *Three Miracles of Happiness* was recorded before the Catholic Men's Fellowship Conference in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Uses

The DVD presentation and this study guide can be used together in a variety of religious educational settings. It is designed for use in schools of any level, discussion and Bible study groups, youth or adult social gatherings, and home schooling.

Facilitator Notes

If you are an instructor or facilitator, to prepare, all you'll need is a DVD player, a television, or projector and sound system suitable for everyone participating to see and hear clearly.

You may assign selected questions to students as a writing and research assignment, or you can lead a discussion using the questions in this guide.

Students can view the DVD before or during class. If class periods are slightly less than 1-hour, the 45-minute presentation by Coach Faust can be shown during one class period and then the discussion can take place the next. Or questions can be given out for research and writing assignments that can be reported out or handed in at a future date.

In any case, it will be helpful for each student to have a copy of the Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

How to Use

The best kind of question that any teacher can ask are those that force the learner to think critically and make wise decisions based on understanding. A critical step in that learning process is learning to verbalize or write out answers, which reveal to the instructor: (a) the learner's source of information, (b) the process of understanding how

that information is categorized, and (c) the process of discernment upon which a decision is made. Fill-in-the blank, multiple-choice and matching questions do none of that. Open-ended discussion and essay questions, facilitated by a well-prepared instructor, do that.

The questions in this guide are structured in three ways:

1. Questions are provided for each major *section* of the program; times of the program are provided beneath each section's title. In a personal or discussion format, one section of the DVD or Audio-CD can be played and then stopped for discussion. It is best, however, if the entire DVD is watched without stopping, and then the questions are asked. By watching the program all the way through without stopping, the learner is able to understand the synthesis (or gestalt) of Coach Faust's stories and comments and arrive at more accurate conclusions.
2. In each section there are discussion questions for three *age* groups: children, teenagers, and adults. It is difficult to write questions for these three groups because the intellectual, experiential, and verbal development of persons varies. The amount of religious education or catechesis an individual has is also a factor as to how well an individual can answer these questions. It is hoped, therefore, that the questions provided in this study guide will do two things. First, we hope that the questions will prompt learners to open up their Bible and Catechism and study, not just "grab a proof-text and run." Second, especially in learning situations with children and teens, we hope that the facilitator, instructor, or parent will modify the questions to the needs and understandings of the particular students. Your suggestions are always welcome.
3. In each age group there are three *questions*. The first question asks something specific about the *presentation* and foreshadows the next two questions. The second question relates the program to the *Bible*. The third relates the topic to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.



1. Acknowledging Others

(Program Time: 0:00 - 2:31)

Questions for Children

1. Why is Coach Faust someone we can learn from?

2. Give several examples of people in the Bible that had friends, and what these friends did for each other?

(Book of Ruth in the Bible, 1 Samuel 19:1-7, Luke 10:38-42, John 11:1-46)

3. How do we know that God is our friend?

(CCC 55, 277, 374) (Romans 8:28)

Questions for Teenagers

4. Coach Faust introduced four people in the audience that were his friends. What have they done that caused Coach Faust to acknowledge them?

5. In the Bible, when David was a young man, before he was King of Israel, who was one of his best friends, and what did his friend do that saved David's life?

(1 Samuel 19:1-7)

6. How does the Catechism relate friendship and chastity?

(CCC 2347, CCC 2331-2350 ff)

Questions for Adults

7. Why did Coach Faust introduce these people to the audience? What common virtues did these men likely have?

8. How did the friendship of Jonathan and David affect Jonathan's crippled child, Meribbaal?

(2 Samuel 9)

9. Friendship is a virtue, but in what situations does the Catechism say friendship should not be used as an excuse to help another person?

(CCC 2480)



2. Lessons on Prayer

(Program Time: 2:32 - 13:45)

Questions for Children

10. When Coach Faust was growing up, why did he start to ask his mother for things instead of his dad?

11. What does the Bible say about praying for others?

(Eph 6:18; Col 4:2-3)

12. Do we have friends in heaven that can pray for us? Who are they?

(CCC 956, 2683)

Questions for Teens

13. When Coach Faust was coaching football at Moeller High School how often did he pray at the school's grotto, what three things did he pray for, and how were his prayers answered?

14. What does the Bible say about how often we should pray for things?

(Luke 11:5-8, 1 Thessalonians 5:17... Eph 5:20)

15. What does the Church teach us about how we should pray so our prayers are answered with a "yes?" Do you think Coach Faust fulfilled these requirements?

(CCC 2608, CCC 2609-2610, CCC 2611-2612, CCC 2613)

Questions for Adults

16. If the order of Coach Faust's first prayers at the Notre Dame grotto had anything to do with his priorities in life, what was at the top of his list, and what was at the bottom of his list? If the request at the bottom of his list was answered, what did the Coach promise to do?

17. Coach Faust gives this advice: "Don't ever hold anything against anybody. Life's too short." What does this parallel in Christ's teachings from the Sermon on the Mount?

(Matthew 6:14-15)

18. Jesus said, "If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it." (John 14:14) According to the Catholic Catechism, what does it mean to pray "in his name?"

(CCC 2614)

Transition Question

19. What were two of the low spots in Coach Faust's football coaching career, and how did he cope with those difficulties?



3. The Love of God - The First Blessing

(Program Time: 13:46 - 25:29)

Questions for Children

20. Coach Faust tells a story that includes six little children in wheelchairs. What did the children need that Coach Faust could not give them?

21. One time the Apostles tried to keep children from coming close to Jesus. What did Jesus tell his Apostles? What did Jesus want to give the children?

(Matthew 19:13-15)

22. What are some ways that children can give their love back to God for his blessings to them?

(CCC 2069, 1929-1933 1789, CCC 339-344, 2415-2418, CCC 1829, 1844, 2477-2487)

Questions for Teens

23. Coach Faust tells the story of an old man who died, with his head mysteriously resting on an empty chair besides his bed. Why did the old man put his head on the chair before he died?

24. Coach Faust met a man who was dying and who didn't care if he was healed or not, but instead wanted one of the little children in wheelchairs to be healed. What Biblical lesson did Coach learn about life from that conversation?

(Philippians 2:1-8)

25. What does the Church teach us about the relationship between loving God and loving our neighbor? What does the Church say about our service and care of those who are disadvantaged?

(CCC 1878, CCC 1932)

Questions for Adults

26. What did the Medjugorje¹ visionary, Vicka, tell Coach Faust to do to overcome temptation? What does Coach Faust do now when he's tempted?

¹ Medjugorje is a small village in Bosnia-Herzegovina (former Yugoslavia) where, since 1981 and years afterwards, the Blessed Virgin is reported to have appeared to six teenagers, Vicka being one of them. As of today, the Vatican does not accept the Virgin's apparitions at Medjugorje as valid, though many miracles have been reported, and thousands of pilgrims travel there every year to pray and pay homage to the mother of Christ.

27. What does the Bible say about how to resist temptation? And how did Jesus tell Satan to leave him?

(James 4:7-8, Matthew 4:1-11)

28. To avoid temptation, the Church teaches that just "saying" a prayer is not a magic cure, but that two other very important things must also be present. What are they?

(CCC 2611-2612)



4. Love of Family - The Second Blessing

(Program Time: 25:30 - 30:52)

Questions for Children

29. Everyday that Coach Faust sees his wife, his children, or his grandchildren, what does he tell them and do?

30. When does the Bible say we should kiss each other?

(Romans 16:16, 2 Corinthians 13:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:26; 1 Peter 5:14)

31. Where and from whom does the Church teach that children should first learn about God and the faith?

(CCC 2225)

Questions for Teens

32. What does Coach Faust do at least twice each year to express his love for his wife and his children?

33. Only one of the 10 Commandments offers a promise for its obedience. What is the commandment, and what is the promise?

(Exodus 10:12)

34. How can a child return the love of a mother for her "birth pangs," and to the father for his work, and to both parents for enabling the child to grow in stature, wisdom and grace?

(CCC 22215)

Questions for Adults

35. How long each day does Coach say he prays for his family and friends? And where each morning does he say a prayer of protection for each one of his children?

36. What does the Bible say about husbands loving their wives?

(Ephesians 5:1-33)

37. What does the Church teach about the responsibility of parents to educate their children in the faith?

(CCC 2222, CCC 2223, CCC 2226)



5. Love of Friends & Self - The Third Blessing

(Program Time: 30:53 - 45:23)

Questions for Children

38. Coach Faust was a good football coach but he experienced some sad days when his teams lost. Yet he says, "There was never a dark day...the sun was always gleaming off the golden dome on a dream no less golden." What does he mean by that?

39. What is the *Golden Rule*, and where is it found in the Bible?

(Matthew 7:12, Luke 6:31, Leviticus 19:18, Matthew 22:39, Mark 12:31)

40. Can we be friends with people we do not know?

(CCC 1939-1948)

Questions for Teens

41. Coach told a story about going hunting and shooting an old donkey that was dying of cancer. He was quick to tell his audience that the story was a joke and that it didn't really happen. But then he said the story gave us an important moral lesson about loyalty. How did the story illustrate loyalty?

42. When did the followers of Christ not understand what He was saying or doing and they disagreed with him, or were disloyal?

(Matthew 19:13-15, Matthew 15:21-28, John 6, Matthew 16:21-23, John 13:1-15, Matthew 26:47-56)

43. Describe two issues where Christians have not understood the decisions made by the Catholic Church and have disagreed with her and were disloyal?

(CCC 2370, 2399, CCC 1336)

Questions for Adults

44. How does Coach Faust suggest we love ourselves?

45. How can the Golden Rule apply to loving our selves?

(Galatians 5:16-26)

46. What does the Catechism tell us about self-love and chastity?

(CCC 2338-2345)

Extra Credit

47. When the Coach started to play CYO basketball, he learned the Memorare. Can you recite it?

Answer Key

1. Why is Coach Faust someone we can learn from?

Gerry Faust was a successful football coach who taught boys and young men how to work hard, stay focused, and play fair —principles to live by, and which develop productive citizens. He is quick to recognize other people in his life who were role models for him and are good at what they do. He is repeatedly asked to speak about the lessons he has learned in life to men's conferences across the country, and in so doing he has inspired thousands.

2. Give several examples of people in the Bible that had friends, and what these friends did for each other?

Naomi, an older woman, had the younger Ruth as a friend, and a daughter-in-law. When Naomi and Ruth's husbands both died, Ruth helped Naomi move back to her homeland, a long way away, and Naomi helped Ruth find a good husband. (Book of Ruth in the Bible) David had Jonathan as a friend; and Jonathan saved David's life from King Saul, who was Jonathan's father, who wanted to do kill David. (1 Samuel 19:1-7) The Apostles had Jesus as a friend, and they learned from Jesus how to teach, care for others, heal the sick, and start the Church. (The Gospels and The Acts of the Apostles) Jesus was also a friend with sisters Mary and Martha and their brother Lazarus; and when Lazarus died early, Jesus went to their village and raised Lazarus from the dead. (Luke 10:38-42, John 11:1-46)

3. How do we know that God is our friend?

God is good to us even when we sin, because we ask forgiveness and try our best to obey Him. (CCC 55, 277, 374) All things that happen to us, even if they seem bad at first, are for our eternal good, if we love God and obey his call to follow him. (Romans 8:28)

4. Coach Faust introduced four people in the audience that were his friends. What have they done that caused Coach Faust to acknowledge them?

One man, whom we don't see, played football at Notre Dame. Two elderly gentlemen were pilots that safely flew Coach Faust through bad weather to the meeting. Another man coached with Coach Faust at Akron University and today is the head football coach at Western Michigan University. With him was his son, who plays quarterback.

5. In the Bible, when David was a young man, before he was King of Israel, who was one of his best friends, and what did his friend do that saved David's life?

Read 1 Samuel 19:1-7. At this time, David was a very successful and loyal officer in King Saul's army. But King Saul feared that David would turn against him, so Saul sought to kill David. Saul's son, Jonathan, was a good friend of David, and persuaded his father, the King, that David was no threat, and in fact, was exceedingly loyal. Because of Jonathan's friendship David's life was spared, and David again served the King faithfully.

6. How does the Catechism relate friendship and chastity?

The better friends we are with a person the more chaste our relationship will be with him or her. (CCC 2347) Friendship is a form of charity, or love, toward others. When we show our friends charity we respect them as persons and will not use them in ways that will hurt them, or in ways that bring us selfish pleasure. (CCC 2331-2350 ff)

7. Why did Coach Faust introduce these people to the audience? What common virtues did these men likely have?

Each of these men had accomplished something significant with their lives. One played football at Notre Dame, two others were airplane pilots and one was a doctor, and the third was the head coach at a university. Each of these men had learned to learn from others, be a team player, and persist through hard times to be good at what they did, and be of service to others.

8. How did the friendship of Jonathan and David affect Jonathan's crippled child, Meribbaal?

Meribbaal, (aka Mephibosheth), was a crippled outcast in Israel without job or money, even though he was the son of Jonathan. After Jonathan died, and because of Jonathan's friendship with David, King David sought out Meribbaal, and gave all of King Saul's land to him, ordered Jonathan's servants to work the land for Meribbaal's benefit, and from then on Meribbaal daily ate at the King's table. (2 Samuel 9)

9. Friendship is a virtue, but in what situations does the Catechism say friendship should not be used as an excuse to help another person?

"Every word or attitude is forbidden which by flattery, adulation, or complaisance encourages and confirms another in malicious acts and perverse conduct. Adulation is a grave fault if it makes one an accomplice in another's vices or grave sins. Neither the desire to be of service nor friendship justifies duplicitous speech. Adulation is a venial sin when it only seeks to be agreeable, to avoid evil, to meet a need, or to obtain legitimate advantages." (CCC 2480)

10. When Coach Faust was growing up, why did he start to ask his mother for things instead of his dad?

Because his dad always said "no", but when Gerry asked his mother to ask his dad the answer came back "yes" 50% of the time. He decided that if that worked with his mom and dad here on Earth, then it would work for his heavenly mother and her son, and his father.

11. What does the Bible say about praying for others?

We should pray hard and long for the needs of others. (Eph 6:18; Col 4:2-3)

12. Do we have friends in heaven that can pray for us? Who are they?

The saints, including Mary the mother of Jesus, are alive in heaven, and are constantly praying for us to Jesus to ask God the Father to meet our needs. (CCC 956, 2683)

13. When Coach Faust was coaching football at Moeller High School how often did he pray at the school's grotto, what three things did he pray for, and how were his prayers answered?

Coach says he prayed twice everyday at the grotto: once in the morning, and once at night before he went home. He recalls that on the grotto was inscribed this motto: "The true secret of success is to interest the Blessed Virgin in it." Everyday he prayed for: (1) for Moeller High School to win football games; (2) that he'd meet the right Catholic girl to marry; and (3) that someday he'd be head football coach at Notre Dame. All of his prayers were answered with a "yes."

14. What does the Bible say about how often we should pray for things?

Jesus teaches us to ask often for what we need. (Luke 11:5-8) St. Paul writes, "Pray constantly...always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father." (1 Thessalonians 5:17... Eph 5:20)

15. What does the Church teach us about how we should pray so our prayers are answered with a "yes?" Do you think Coach Faust fulfilled these requirements?

- Our hearts need to be converted and made right with God and with others. (CCC 2608)
- Once our hearts are converted we need to pray in faith. (CCC 2609-2610)
- We should learn to ask only for things that are in God's will. (CCC 2611-2612)
- We should pray for needs, not wants; we should pray without ceasing, and we should pray humbly. (CCC 2613)

16. If the order of Coach Faust's first prayers at the Notre Dame grotto had anything to do with his priorities in life, what was at the top of his list, and what was at the bottom of his list? If the request at the bottom of his list was answered, what did the Coach promise to do?

The first time Coach Faust prayed at the Notre Dame grotto he lit a candle and prayed for the protection of his children, his wife, his mom, his dad, and his mother-in-law that lived with them. Then, finally, he prayed that someday he'd be head football coach at Notre Dame. He promised, that if he should ever be the head football coach at Notre Dame he'd pray at the grotto everyday he was in South Bend, Indiana; and since first becoming head football coach at Notre Dame he's kept that promise.

17. Coach Faust gives this advice: "Don't ever hold anything against anybody. Life's too short." What does this parallel in Christ's teachings from the Sermon on the Mount?

Right after teaching people what we call today the "Our Father" or "The Lord's Prayer" Jesus said: "If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions." (Matthew 6:14-15)

18. Jesus said, "If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it." (John 14:14) According to the Catholic Catechism, what does it mean to pray "in his name?"

The Church teaches that to be able to pray "in Jesus' name" is not the words we use but rather the life that we are living when we are making the request. To pray "in His name" means to literally be represented by Christ to God. God listens to and answers Jesus' prayers because of Jesus' faith, love and obedience to the Father. Likewise, when we pray "in Jesus' name" we need to be praying in faith, love, and obedience to Christ. God then hears our prayers because we are "in" Christ, and Christ is "in" us. (CCC 2614)

19. What were two of the low spots in Coach Faust's football coaching career, and how did he cope with those difficulties?

Coach Faust's career was not all gridiron success. He quit Notre Dame prematurely under the shadow of a less than stellar win-loss record, and years later, after taking Akron University to Division I, he was fired after a 1-10 season. He says he managed to cope with those disappointments because of three blessings in his life: (1) A love of God and His Church, (2) a love for his family, and (3) a love for friends and self.

20. Coach Faust tells a story that includes six little children in wheelchairs. What did the children need that Coach Faust could not give them?

The children, all under 6-years-old, needed a miracle of healing, and Coach felt bad that he could not give them a miracle so they could live healthy lives.

21. One time the Apostles tried to keep children from coming close to Jesus. What did Jesus tell his Apostles? What did Jesus want to give the children?

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Jesus then laid hands on them, blessing them, thus giving God's love to them. (Matthew 19:13-15)

22. What are some ways that children can give their love back to God for his blessings to them?

Children can be kind and respectful to their brothers, sisters and friends. They can help care for others who are sick, weak, or poor and thus show respect for people they don't know. (CCC 2069, 1929-1933 1789) Children can also show God that they love him by taking care of their pets, being kind to animals, and taking care of nature. This shows reverence for creation, which was given to us in love by God. (CCC 339-344, 2415-2418) Children should also try to say only nice things about others and never gossip or tells lies about others. (CCC 1829, 1844, 2477-2487)

23. Coach Faust tells the story of an old man who died, with his head mysteriously resting on an empty chair besides his bed. Why did the old man put his head on the chair before he died?

The old man always had trouble praying, until someone suggested he talk to an empty chair while he imagined Jesus sitting in it. So, for two hours a day, during the last years of his life, the old man got into the habit of praying to Jesus by talking to him in the chair. When he died, his final act was to rest his head on Jesus' lap.

24. Coach Faust met a man who was dying and who didn't care if he was healed or not, but instead wanted one of the little children in wheelchairs to be healed. What Biblical lesson did Coach learn about life from that conversation?

That God asks us to give of ourselves to others the best way we know how, through our talents, our time, and our money the way Jesus gave up his life for us. (Philippians 2:1-8)

25. What does the Church teach us about the relationship between loving God and loving our neighbor? What does the Church say about our service and care of those who are disadvantaged?

Our love for our neighbors should not be any different than our love for God; the two are inseparable. (CCC 1878) Christians have a special obligation to give to those who are disadvantaged; the Catechism describes this obligation that we should perform out of love for God, as "urgent." (CCC 1932)

26. What did the Medjugorje² visionary, Vicka, tell Coach Faust to do to overcome temptation? What does Coach Faust do now when he's tempted?

Vicka told coach to "Pray, pray, pray. The power of prayer is the only answer." Coach Faust says, "Now, every time I'm tempted I say a *Hail, Mary*. And BOOM! [The prayer] gets rid of [the temptation]."

27. What does the Bible say about how to resist temptation? And how did Jesus tell Satan to leave him?

"So submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you." (James 4:7-8) When Jesus was tempted by the devil's lies in the wilderness, Christ quoted Scripture that reinforced the truth of the situation. When the devil left Christ, angels came and ministered to him. This suggests that memorizing and quoting Scripture is a good way to draw near to God and to invite angels to replace the demons that influence our minds in times of trial. (Matthew 4:1-11)

² Medjugorje is a small village in Bosnia-Herzegovina (former Yugoslavia) where, since 1981 and years afterwards, the Blessed Virgin is reported to have appeared to six teenagers, Vicka being one of them. As of today, the Vatican does not accept the Virgin's apparitions at Medjugorje as valid, though many miracles have been reported, and thousands of pilgrims travel there every year to pray and pay honor to the Blessed Mother and her Son, Jesus the Christ.

28. To avoid temptation, the Church teaches that just "saying" a prayer is not a magic cure, but that two other very important things must also be present. What are they?

Present in us when we pray should be: (1) A disposition of heart to do the will of God, and (2) watchfulness in prayer against temptation. "The disciples' prayer is a battle; only by keeping watch in prayer can one avoid falling into temptation." (CCC 2611-2612)

29. Everyday that Coach Faust sees his wife, his children, or his grandchildren, what does he tell them and do?

He tells each of them that he loves them, and kisses them on the cheek.

30. When does the Bible say we should kiss each other?

Saints Paul and Peter say we should greet each other with holy and loving kisses. (Romans 16:16, 2 Corinthians 13:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:26; 1 Peter 5:14)

31. Where and from whom does the Church teach that children should first learn about God and the faith?

"Parents should initiate their children at an early age into the mysteries of the faith of which they are the "first heralds" for their children. They should associate them from their tenderest years with the life of the church." (CCC 2225)

32. What does Coach Faust do at least twice each year to express his love for his wife and his children?

He looks for something meaningful to say, and then he writes them a letter to express his love and appreciation for them. When his kids were living at home he always did something special with each of his kids. He'd take his daughter Julie out to dinner once a year, he'd take Jerry on recruiting trips, and he'd take Steve to early morning Mass and then out to breakfast.

33. Only one of the 10 Commandments offers a promise for its obedience. What is the commandment, and what is the promise?

The commandment is: "Honor your father and your mother." The promise follows immediately, "...that you may have a long life in the land which the Lord, your god, is giving you." (Exodus 10:12)

34. How can a child return the love of a mother for her "birth pangs," and to the father for his work, and to both parents for enabling the child to grow in stature, wisdom and grace?

A child has a duty to show respect, docility, and obedience to parents out of gratitude for the gift of life, love and being able to grow. The church challenges children "what can you give back to them that equals their gift to you?" (CCC 22215)

35. How long each day does Coach say he prays for his family and friends? And where each morning does he say a prayer of protection for each one of his children?

Coach says he prays an hour a day for his family and friends. Each morning he walks into the now vacant bedrooms of each of his three children where there are statues of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Blessed Mother, and St. Joseph, and he stops in each and prays for the protection of each child.

36. What does the Bible say about husbands loving their wives?

Husbands should love and cherish their wives so much that they can present their wives to Christ in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. Husbands must love their wives as they love themselves. Likewise, wives show respect to their husbands by being subordinate to them, even as we are subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ. (Ephesians 5:1-33)

37. What does the Church teach about the responsibility of parents to educate their children in the faith?

- Parents must show their children respect as human persons. (CCC 2222)
- Parents must create "a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and unselfish service are the rule." "Parents have a grave responsibility to give a good example to their children." (CCC 2223)
- Religious education by parents to children in the home should precede, accompany, and add to other forms of instruction about the faith. (CCC 2226)

38. Coach Faust was a good football coach but he experienced some sad days when his teams lost. Yet he says, "There was never a dark day...the sun was always gleaming off the golden dome on a dream no less golden." What does he mean by that?

Coach believes that "life is all about looking, not at the bad, but at the good." What's important to Coach Faust was not how many games he won or lost, but the friends he made that would last a lifetime. He says that, to this day, friends call up and talk, not about the games won or lost, but about the lasting impressions that coaches made upon their lives.

39. What is the *Golden Rule*, and where is it found in the Bible?

The *Golden Rule* is "Do to others what you would have them do to you." It is found several places in the Bible. The most common place is in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. (Matthew 7:12, Luke 6:31) But the *Golden Rule* is also part of the Old Testament when God told Moses to tell the Children of Israel, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Leviticus 19:18) And that is the verse that Jesus quotes when he includes this Golden Rule as one of the two great commandments of Loving God and our neighbor. (Matthew 22:39, Mark 12:31)

40. Can we be friends with people we do not know?

The church teaches that all human beings should be friends with each other, if for no other reason than Christ died on the cross for all people. Because we are supposed to be everyone's friends we need to help everyone that needs help, feed people that are hungry wherever they are, take care for the poor even if we don't know them, and try to get everyone a job so they can feel good about themselves and their contributions to society. This is the principle of human solidarity. (CCC 1939-1948)

41. Coach told a story about going hunting and shooting an old donkey that was dying of cancer. He was quick to tell his audience that the story was a joke and that it didn't really happen. But then he said the story gave us an important moral lesson about loyalty. How did the story illustrate loyalty?

In the story the head coach did something that didn't make sense to the assistant coach... shooting an old donkey. The assistant coach didn't know everything that the head coach did, and he objected to the head coach shooting the donkey. But when the assistant coach saw the head coach shoot the donkey, the assistant coach decided to be loyal...albeit to a fault... and he shot three cows.

The coach was trying to teach us that loyalty to a neighbor, to our work, to our country, and especially to our Church and to Christ does not require that we understand everything -- because we can't. We don't always know why neighbors, our boss, our leaders, our Church, or God do certain things. But if their past actions have been trustworthy and right, then until their current decisions prove untrustworthy and wrong, we need to be loyal and back them up and help in their cause.

42. When did the followers of Christ not understand what He was saying or doing and they disagreed with him, or were disloyal?

There were many times when the Apostles or the throngs of disciples were not loyal to Christ because he said or did things because they did not know everything that Christ knew. The Apostles tried to keep children from Jesus but Jesus wanted to bless them. (Matthew 19:13-15) The Canaanite Woman wanted Jesus to heal her tormented daughter, but the Apostles wanted to send her away. (Matthew 15:21-28) When Jesus fed the five thousand and preached that "unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you," many of his disciples no longer followed Him because they did not understand. (John 6) When Jesus revealed to the Apostles that he must be killed, Peter objected so much that Christ said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan!... You are not thinking as God does, but as human beings do." (Matthew 16:21-23) At the Last Supper, Peter, at first, refused to let Christ wash his feet. (John 13:1-15) When Jesus was arrested all of the Apostles ran away and Peter denied that he even knew Christ. (Matthew 26:47-56)

43. Describe two issues where Christians have not understood the decisions made by the Catholic Church and have disagreed with her and were disloyal?

On July 25, 1968 Pope Paul VI issued "Of Human Life" (*Humanae Vitae*). This encyclical letter affirmed the Church's historic teaching against artificial contraception and the use of the "pill" to regulate pregnancies and birth. At the time science wasn't sure how the contraceptive pill worked, and the Church's stance seemed irrational to many people, including many Catholics who left the church. But years later, it was discovered that, indeed, the pill can cause a fertilized egg (a human being) to be aborted and killed, and thus, the Church's position was affirmed as being morally infallible. (CCC 2370, 2399)

Today, many Christians still do not accept Christ's teaching in John 6 about His Real Presence in The Eucharist, just as many disciples at the time left Christ because they did not accept his teaching on eating his flesh and drinking his blood. Their disloyalty to Christ was only hours after he had taken five barley loaves and two fish, and in blessing them miraculously transformed them into a supernatural substance that fed five thousand men plus women and children... although to each man, woman, and child on the hillside the food appeared to be nothing more than just regular food. (CCC 1336)

44. How does Coach Faust suggest we love ourselves?

Coach has a number of suggestions that bring self-satisfaction and confidence.

- a. Be honest with yourself, know your handicaps and your weaknesses.
- b. Keep yourself out of situations that can be embarrassing or cause temptations.
- c. Be a real father and husband.
- d. Do things for people without them knowing it.
- e. Give to others, especially to the Church.
- f. Wear a smile on your face.

45. How can the Golden Rule apply to loving our selves?

While we cannot control everything that happens in our life, we do control most of what comes into our minds. Extending Coach Faust's suggestions, we can do things to and for ourselves that reject the works of the flesh which St. Paul lists as immorality, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy, outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness, dissensions, factions, occasions of envy, drinking bouts, orgies, and the like. And instead do those things that bring into our mind and deeds the fruits of the Spirit that are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5:16-26)

46. What does the Catechism tell us about self-love and chastity?

As men and women we should strive toward personal integrity. The term "integrity" comes from the idea of being integral, or one, whole, and unified. It means we are not divided, duplicitous, or fragmented in our goals, ideals or actions. To have integrity means that we have self-mastered our sexual passions and we have found that one thing in life that gives us meaning and purpose. Our dignity, reputation, and ultimately our happiness depends on knowing, like Coach says, our weaknesses and strengths, our obedience to God's moral commandments, the exercise of virtues, and fidelity in our prayers. (CCC 2338-2345)

47. When the Coach started to play CYO basketball, he learned the Memorare. Can you recite it?

THE MEMORARE: Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but, in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.

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