ST. PAUL’S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

CATECHISM CLASS WORKSHEET

Nov. 18, 2020

*Introducing The Orthodox Church*

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Chapter Thirteen

What We Believe About the Bible

1. What is one reason man does not want God around?

2. What is another reason?

3. In times past, how has God invited us into his presence?

4. How does he do so today?

5. How can God be incarnate in a written book?

6. God is more than a lawgiver; he is a what? How does that come to us?

7. When we read the Bible, we are hearing the voice of who?

8. In it, God is making a proposal to us for what? Does he expect a response? Would you?

9. How is the Bible like a cradle and a mirror?

10. Who is the central actor in the Bible? Is this true for the Old Testament also?

11. The purpose of the Bible is to reveal what to us? When is it inerrant and when is it not?

12. How would you explain to someone that the Bible picks up where science leaves off?

13. Who is the divine Author of the Bible?

14. What does it mean that the Bible is a record of the truth and not the truth itself and why is this important?

15. Nevertheless, the Bible remains the primary what of the Church?

16. The Orthodox emphasis is not on what the Bible says, but what?

17. Orthodoxy believes that the authority to interpret the Bible belongs not to individuals but to what?

18. What do we mean by “Sacred Tradition?”

19. Explain the relationship between Sacred Tradition and the Bible.

20. What item does an Orthodox priest venerate when he enters the holy Altar?

21. What does an Orthodox priest lift to begin a Divine Liturgy and what does he carry during the small entrance?

22. What unites all eleven Gospel lessons that are read during Matins?

23. What two items are kept on the holy Altar?

24. Describe the philosophy of relativism.

25. What did the poet Coleridge say about the Bible?

26. What does John 20:31 identify as its purpose?

27. Which of the quotes from the Church Fathers about the Bible spoke most powerfully to you?

28. What does Revelation 10:8-11 tell us to do with holy Scripture? What does that remind you of?

29. Venerating the Bible is praise-worthy, but what is more important? Why?

30. What is one way we can follow the admonition found in Col. 3:16?

31. What are the four stages of understanding the Word of God as outlined by Fr. Elchaninov?

32. How did St Mark the Monk elaborate on the final stage?

33. What does it mean that the Bible is a prepared book for a prepared people?

34. Where would you suggest someone begin with reading the Bible?

35. Why are the books of the Apocrypha included in the Orthodox Bible? How does the Orthodox Church consider them?

36. If your child were to come to you and ask you to “Speak a word,” what would you tell them?

37. The holy written Word of God demands what from us?