

Christian Life, Faith, and Ministry Foster Study Questions

Sept. 9:

Chapter 1: Imitatio: The Divine Paradigm

1. Foster asserts that Jesus' temptations in the wilderness correspond to what three prominent social institutions?
2. How does Foster define a *charism*?
3. What does Foster say were the social ramifications of Jesus' proclamation, of a "perpetual Jubilee in the Spirit" in Luke 4:18-19?

Sept. 30:

Ch. 3: Holiness tradition

1. What people does Foster point to as examples of the holiness tradition?
2. What tragedy led to the deepening of Phoebe Palmer's faith?
3. What is "altar theology"?
4. Foster writes that the book of James is not about action but about:
5. A central theme of Bonhoeffer's *Cost of Discipleship* is:
6. What three things demonstrate Bonhoeffer conviction that faith must be lived out in contemporary society?
7. How does Foster define "holiness"?
8. What are some strengths of the holiness tradition?
9. What are some perils of the holiness tradition?
10. To counter the perils of the holiness tradition, what does Foster suggest we replace them with?

11. How can we move forward in the holiness tradition

Oct. 7:

Ch. 6: Evangelical Tradition

1. What people does Foster point to as examples of the evangelical tradition?
2. Foster believes the evangelical tradition is at its best when it functions with which other tradition?
3. What was the significant intellectual hurdle for Aurelius (Augustine) in accepting Christianity?
4. What two famous works did Augustine write?
5. What contributions has Billy Graham made to the evangelical tradition?
6. What three themes comprise the evangelical tradition according to Foster?
7. Foster notes that the gospel is not exclusively or primarily about getting into heaven but also about..."
8. What are strengths of the evangelical tradition?
9. What are potential perils of the evangelical tradition?
10. What principle does Foster suggest for distinguishing essentials and non-essentials?
11. Foster writes that the Bible is authoritative because:
12. What suggestions does Foster make to enter into the evangelical tradition?

Oct. 14:

Ch. 2: Contemplative tradition

1. What people does Foster point to as examples of the contemplative tradition?
2. Antonius (St. Antony) understood the demons he struggled against as symbolizing what inner demons?
3. What organization did St. Antony found?
4. What three events in the gospels did only the inner circle of Peter, James, and John witness?
5. What is a major theme of John's writings?
6. What transformative experience aided Frank Laubach in learning to love the Moros people of the Philippines?
7. What were some of the elements included in Frank Laubach's spiritual exercises?
8. What was the theme of Frank Laubach's literacy movement?
9. What is the *Deus Absconditus*?
10. What are some strengths of the contemplative tradition?
11. What are potential perils of the contemplative tradition?
12. What suggestions does Foster offer for entering into the contemplative tradition?

Oct. 28:

Ch. 4: Charismatic tradition

1. What people does Foster point to as examples of the charismatic tradition?
2. How does Foster define/describe the charismatic tradition?
3. What miracles is St. Francis known for?

4. What tradition does Foster say needs to be tied to the charismatic tradition? Why?
5. What is mentioned frequently and intentionally at the start of each of Paul's missionary journeys?
6. William Seymour was the leader of what significant religious event which celebrated its 100th anniversary this year?
7. What arrangement had to be made for Wm. Seymour to attend Parham's Bible school?
8. What factors, in addition to the gracious work of the Spirit, contributed to Seymour's extraordinary impact?
9. What did Seymour say was the primary evidence of the Holy Spirit?
10. What factor caused a split in the Azusa St. movement following Parham's involvement?
11. What three categories does Foster suggest for the spiritual gifts found in the NT?
12. What does Foster suggest is the purpose of the ecstatic gifts?
13. What principles does Foster draw from 1 Cor. 12 for exercising spiritual gifts?
14. What are some strengths of the charismatic movement?
15. What are some potential perils of the charismatic tradition?
16. What suggestions does Foster give for fostering charismatic living?
17. What do you think of Foster's suggestions? Do you agree or disagree?

Nov. 4:

Ch. 5: Social justice tradition

1. What people does Foster point to as examples of the social justice tradition?
2. Why does Foster say John Woolman is a good example of the social justice tradition?
3. What products did John Woolman refuse to use?
4. What powerful document did John Woolman write?
5. What was unique about the way the Quakers freed their slaves?
6. Why was Amos an unlikely choice for a prophet?
7. What common theme can be found in the injustices Amos decried?
8. In Amos' third vision, God showed him the basis for Israel's judgment through the use of a:
9. What organization did Dorothy Day initiate with Peter Mauris?
10. What did the headline of *The Catholic Worker* read following the attack on Pearl Harbor?
11. What three Hebrew words sum up the social justice movement?
12. What three arenas and corresponding weapons of the Spirit does Foster suggest for the work of social justice?
13. What are some strengths of the social justice tradition?
14. What are potential perils of the social justice tradition?
15. Do you see examples of this in the contemporary political debate?
16. What are Foster's suggestions for entering into the social justice tradition?

Nov. 11:

Ch. 7: Incarnational Tradition

1. What people does Foster point to as examples of the incarnational tradition?
2. How does Foster describe the focus of the incarnational tradition?
3. How did Susanna Wesley respond to her husband's request to disband her kitchen service?
4. Why is Bezalel a good example of the incarnational tradition?
5. What qualities of Bezalel does Foster mention?
6. What is the name of Dag Hammarskjold's famous work?
7. Dag Hammarskjold wrote that "in our era the road to holiness necessarily passes through_____"
8. What one word sums up the difference in Dag Hammarskjold's perspective following his transition out of his "dark night of the soul" on New Year's Day 1953?
9. What does Foster say re: the relationship between the physical and the spiritual?
10. How does Foster define sacraments?
11. What three places does Foster identify where we can experience incarnational living in everyday life?
12. What are the strengths of the incarnational tradition?
13. What are some potential perils of the incarnational tradition?
14. What actions does Foster suggest in practicing the incarnational tradition?
15. What are some essentials of a Christian spirituality of work?