

Study and Discussion Questions
For
Pastoral Constitutions on the Church in the Modern World (Gaudium et Spes)

Part One Chapters II, III, and IV

GS – Gaudium et Spes

(#) – paragraph number

Ch. II “The Community of Mankind”

- “Man's social nature makes it evident that the progress of the human person and the advance of society itself hinge on one another.” Explain how man and society are interdependent. (25)

- Define the meaning of common good. (26)

- How did Christ establish solidarity? (32)

Ch. III “Man’s Activity in the Universe”

- Describe “Rightful Autonomy of Earthly Affairs” in GS. (36)

 - Explain how our human activity is a fulfillment in the Paschal Mystery. (38)
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Ch. IV “Role of the Church in the Modern World”

- GS states, “Christ, to be sure, gave His Church no proper mission in the political, economic or social order. The purpose which He set before her is a religious one.” Explain how the Church’s religious mission impacts the political, economic and social order of society. (42)

- What is the gravest error of our time and how can we as Christians guard against this error? (43)

- Describe the role of the Laity in the world. (43)

- How has the Church benefited from the modern world? (44)

- What is the sole purpose of the Church? (45)