

Study Questions for Dominican Laity Inquirers

November

Catechism of the Catholic Church #2623-2649 (Forms of Prayer)

Dominican Spirituality: Principles and Practices (William A Hinnebusch, O.P.), Chapter 3: “Dominican Life is Contemplative”

The Nine Ways of Prayer of St. Dominic

“The Pillars of Dominican Life: Dominican Spirituality for the Laity,” V: Personal Prayer

Rule and Directory, Southern Province, Appendix A

Dominicana: A Guidebook for Inquirers, 2nd Edition pp. 151

1. How would you characterize the relationship between contemplation and the apostolate in Dominican life? (Hinnebusch)
2. How can we avoid the extremes of activism and “contemplative selfishness” that St. Thomas Aquinas warns us about? (Hinnebusch)
3. What are some challenges you face in living a life of prayer? What are some things that you could do that might help? (Hinnebusch)
4. What are some ways I can live the Order’s practice of contemplative prayer/study/apostolic life? (Hinnebusch)
5. What areas of my life are in need of greater balance? (Hinnebusch)

6. What is prayer? Briefly define the following: (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*)

- ❖ adoration
- ❖ petition
- ❖ intercession
- ❖ thanksgiving
- ❖ praise

7. What does the reading on the Nine Ways of Prayer of St. Dominic reveal about St. Dominic and Dominican prayer? (*The Nine Ways of Prayer of St. Dominic*)

8. What are some important principles to keep in mind about personal prayer? (*The Pillars of Dominican Life*)

9. As Dominicans, must we pray exactly as Dominic did? How do we best imitate his prayer? (*The Pillars of Dominican Life*)

10. How do you see the Dominican charism reflected in the life of St. Catherine of Siena? What virtues did she share in common with St. Dominic? (*Dominicana*)

11. Do you have any other thoughts or questions you would like to share with the group?