

Being the Church: *Lumen Gentium* Book Study Session 5 Reflection Questions

Chapter VI: Religious

- Where did the evangelical counsels come from, and what fruit have they borne in the Church?
- What does it mean for liberty to be “strengthened by obedience” (*Lumen Gentium* 43)?
- What is the relationship of the religious to the clergy and to the laity?
- What is the mission of the religious?

Chapter VII: The Eschatological Nature of the Pilgrim Church and Its Union with the Church in Heaven

- What does it mean for the Church’s sanctity to be “real although imperfect” (*Lumen Gentium* 48)?
- What does the phrase “pilgrim Church” mean? What are some of its practical applications?
- What longstanding doctrine of the Church is presented in article 49?
- What are the benefits of cultivating devotion to the saints?
- What is the connection between the communion of saints and the liturgy?
- How does authentic devotion to the saints enhance our worship of God?
- What “abuses, excesses or defects” should the faithful avoid in their veneration of the saints? (See *Lumen Gentium* 51.)