

GROUP  
1

# CONSCIENCE, SIN, AND HOLINESS

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



Use the essays in your Parent's Guide to help answer these questions.

1. In what way does having free will reflect our being made in the image and likeness of God?
2. How does our having free will show us that God respects our dignity as human persons?
3. Our culture's definition of freedom to choose whatever we desire is very different from the real definition of freedom. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us that "freedom is a force for growth and maturity in truth and goodness; it attains perfection when directed toward God, our beatitude." How do these definitions compare to each other?
4. When we use our free will to choose sin, we become slaves. Slavery to sin leads to losing control to passions, addictions, and selfishness. What are some examples of this that you can see in the world around us? How is this experience of slavery different from other forms of slavery?

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2

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## *DISCUSSION QUESTIONS*



Use the essays in your Parent's Guide to help answer these questions.

5. Why can we say that conscience is a “gift” of God’s law?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Why is it our moral obligation to form our conscience? How do we do this? Have you done any of these things?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Our world is so noisy, and we are always “plugged in” and distracted by things like our cell phones or TV. How do you think the formation of our conscience suffers because of this? How do these distractions challenge you personally?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. The images we take in change who we are. What effect does the media we consume (programs and movies we watch, books and magazines we read, commercials and ads we see, and so forth) have on our conscience? What does this mean about our responsibility to monitor our children’s consumption of media?

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Use the essays in your Parent's Guide to help answer these questions.

9. How can we discern if an action is moral or immoral?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. What are some steps you can take as a parent to help your children become naturally attracted to things that are good, true, and beautiful?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
11. What is the definition of sin according to *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. What is the difference between a mortal sin and venial sin?

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4

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Use the essays in your Parent's Guide to help answer these questions.

13. How does sin affect our relationship with God? Have you ever had your relationship with God suffer because of sin?
  
14. Temptation to sin is very real and can be a challenge for everyone. Even Jesus was tempted. With Him as our example, what can we do to overcome temptation?
  
15. As always, God provides all the help we need on our journey toward Heaven. How do the precepts of the Church keep us on the right path as we work toward Heaven? Do you find any of them helpful? Do you find any of them challenging?
  
16. Think of Eve's choice in the Garden of Eden, and then Mary's choice at the Annunciation. How do they show us the choice between life and death?