



LIVE JESUS MINISTRIES

LJM TOP TWELVE (TT3) Why Do I Need The Catholic Church?

PRAY

Start by utilizing the **PRAY** step of your mentor training.

CONNECT

Check In: Peaks, Pits & Prayer Intentions

Go around the group and ask:

- What's one **Peak** (high/victory) and one **Pit** (low/struggle) since we last met? (or a similar type question)
- What's something you want us to **pray for** today? (Write down intentions to pray for at the end)

Encourage honesty and vulnerability. After everyone shares, affirm and thank them for sharing.

DISCUSS

Content References

- **1 Cor 12:27** Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is part of it.
 - **CCC 805** The Church is the body of Christ; we are its members and all the members are bound together as one body, with Christ as the head.
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Discussion Questions

Q1: What are the most impactful ways that you experience God's presence in the world around you?

- Is it better to be spiritual without being religious?
 - What are the potential pitfalls of being just spiritual and not religious?
-  *Mentor Tip: This highlights the common distrust of institutions, lazy agnosticism, and moral therapeutic deism.*
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Q2: How important is it for you to be a part of a community of believers? Do you need the Catholic Church?

- What could you receive and/or give by being part of a church community?
 - How might members of a faith community help you stay connected to your faith?
 - What are some ways that the Catholic Church can help you grow as a disciple of Jesus?
-  *Mentor Tip: Highlight the truth that this small group is really just an extension of the Church.*
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Q3: Do you think it is important to have a reliable source for understanding the truths about life, love, God?

- What sources do you trust in finding these truths?
-  *Mentor Tip: This highlights the reality that, for many, truth does not exist. But it is impossible to live in a world without truth. There is either an elephant in this room or there is not. Something is true!*
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Q4: Why do you think Catholics see receiving the sacraments as essential for spiritual growth?

- How does receiving the Eucharist change or strengthen you in your faith journey?
-  *Mentor Tip: Highlight that the Church did not make up the sacraments. Jesus gave us the sacraments as spiritual fuel.*
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Cornerstone Statement

The Church provides order, truth, and structure in a world that is broken. It provides something bigger than ourselves because it is led by God, not man.

COMMIT

- We have some beautiful Catholic Churches in our diocese. Pick one to visit this week and pray in the church for a few minutes.

Close in prayer. (Pray for the intentions spoken earlier. Have each person pray for the person next to them, etc)