

SEEKING GOD
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1. The goal of Seeking God is _____ and growing in a
_____ relationship with God.

Renewal is the stirring up of elements and aspects of the Church's nature such as love of God, love of people, forgiveness, worship, courage, passion and living with and using Holy Spirit power.

2. The Catholic Church is constantly calling as does the Scripture to a renewal of
_____ Christian Life.
3. This period we enter into today is called Seeking God has as its goal the
renewal of our _____ with God.
4. A person without renewal is a person whose _____

Matthew 5:16 (NRSV)

¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

5. The goal of renewal is not to start again but rather to 'make like new.'

6. Renewal is something we can do for _____ even if others do not do it.

By the power of the Gospel He makes the Church keep the freshness of youth. Constantly He renews it and leads it to perfect union with (Jesus) its Spouse.

4 Lumen Gentium - Vatican II Documents.

These weeks of Seeking God is about this renewal in our hearts and that of our Church community.

Every renewal of the Church (that is God's people) is essentially grounded in an increase of fidelity to her own calling.

6 Decree on Ecumenism: Vatican II Documents.

The Church, the people of God needs renewal for this reason;

For although the Catholic Church has been endowed with all divinely revealed truth and with all means of grace, yet its members fail to live by them with all the fervor that they should, so that the radiance of the Church's image is less clear in the eyes of our separated brethren and of the world at large, and the growth of God's kingdom is delayed.

All Catholics must therefore aim at Christian perfection and, each according to his station, play his part that the Church may daily be more purified and renewed.

Decree on Ecumenism: Vatican II Documents.

7. Holiness does not mean that there are certain religious actions that we must undertake but a _____ to that call you are experiencing from God right now to go deeper.

Jesus did not want half hearted responses he wanted everything.

Matthew 5:48 (NRSV)

48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 10:38 (NRSV)

38 and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

St Paul encourages a wholehearted living of our life in Christ he does not water it down.

1 Timothy 6:11–12 (NRSV)

The Good Fight of Faith

11 But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

2 Timothy 1:6–7 (NRSV)

6 For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; 7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Striving for holiness should be normal for every Christian. It is not an extra or should be unusual.

This ideal of perfection must not be misunderstood as if it involved some kind of extraordinary existence, possible only for a few "uncommon heroes" of holiness. The ways of holiness are many, according to the vocation of each individual.

It is also clear however that the paths to holiness are personal and call for a genuine "training in holiness", adapted to people's needs.

NOVO MILLENNIO INEUNTE - Pope John Paul II

8. Renewal demands a _____ to God.

Every notable renewal came about through particular individuals and groups

9. Renewal requires _____

10. Renewal requires two major ingredients.

11. Renewal is a decision to be _____ in our lives.

Repentance means to acknowledge one's weakness and one failure to live according to God's will.

12. Repentance prepares the ground for _____

There is no renewal possible without the pursuit of growing in holiness in our lives and holiness does not occur without repentance from sin and a heartfelt commitment to not sin again by God's grace.

