

Revelation, Sacred Scripture, and Sacred Tradition

Chapter 1 Summary

Chapter Learning Objectives

- The participants will explore how God reveals himself to us, particularly through Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.
- The participants will become familiar with the sections of the Bible.

Content Summary

1. God makes himself known to us through the signs of creation around us, through the voice of the Church, and through the voices of our conscience speaking from within us.
2. What God has made known about himself is called *Revelation*. It is communicated to the world in two main ways: through Sacred Scripture and through Sacred Tradition.
3. God fully revealed himself in Jesus Christ.
4. The responsibility of teaching about Jesus Christ, through Scripture and Tradition, belongs to the Apostles and their successors, the Pope and the bishops.
5. The seventy-three inspired books and letters we recognize as the Word of God comprise Sacred Scripture. The Bible is another name for Sacred Scripture.
6. God is the ultimate author of the Bible, for the Holy Spirit inspired the human authors to communicate, without error, what God wants us to know for our salvation. This guidance of the Holy Spirit is called inspiration.
7. Four special books in the New Testament are called the Gospels. The Gospels tell us about the life, teachings, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.
8. The word *tradition* means “to hand on.” *Sacred Tradition* means both the central content of the Catholic faith and the way that content has been handed down through the centuries under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
9. We cannot totally grasp God, because God is greater than anything we can understand. God is the ultimate mystery.

(All summary points are taken from *The Catholic Connections Handbook for Middle Schoolers, Second Edition*. Copyright © 2014 by Saint Mary's Press. All rights reserved.)

