

UNTOLD BLESSING: THREE PATHS TO HOLINESS

EPISODE 1

FINDING THE CENTER, PART I:

QUESTIONS FOR UNDERSTANDING

Read the CCC paragraphs 399-400. How does the Church describe the effects of falling out of harmony with God? How do we see those effects played out today?

Read Ephesians 4:17-24. How does Paul describe human life apart from Christ? What does he tell his Christian disciples about the way to escape this way of life?

Read Matthew 9:2-8. What does this story suggest about the gift of wholeness? Read 1 Corinthians 12. How does Paul understand harmony?

Read Exodus 3, John 8:58 and Mark 14:61-63. By what Name does God reveal Himself to Moses? By what Name does Jesus reveal Himself? What does this tell you about the nature of the Trinity?

Read Mark 4:35-41. According to Fr. Barron, what are the two ways in which Augustine reads the calming of the storm at sea? How can both exist in one person's journey of faith?

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Think about some examples in your own life or from contemporary culture that show a "lack of Christ at the center." What can take Christ's place on the throne one's heart, and what are the effects of this kind of "idol worship"?

Jesus said that if you first seek His kingdom and His righteousness, all the other things you need will be given to you as well. Have you ever had an experience in which you were afraid to obey God and trust Him for your earthly needs? Or, have you ever been in a situation where you disobeyed God and put your earthly wants first? What did you learn from these experiences?

Father Barron retells the story of Martha and Mary (Luke 10:38-42). What are some of the scattering demons at work in the "Marthas" of the world today? What are some disciplines we might undertake to help us imitate Mary and put Christ at the center of our lives?