

October 23, 2014

**The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything**  
**Chapter 2 study questions**

1. Fr. Martin speaks about the “healthy” independence of those on the faith journey he calls the path of independence. (P33) Are you able to accept his premise that this independence is a “healthy” thing?
2. Do you have any acquaintances who describe themselves as atheist? (P35) Have you ever had a discussion with them about their feelings?
3. As a parent, how would you answer your child’s question “Who is God?” (P36)
4. Do you ever have a difficult time of relating a bad thing that happens in your life with your faith in God? (P38)
5. Have you ever taken the time to explore other religious traditions? If so, what where they and what did you learn from the experience? (P41/42)

6. Are you able to understand and accept people who may be on a different path to belief from your own?
  
7. Consider the times in your life when you've nurtured your spiritual life within a community, and times when your spirituality may have been more of a solitary pursuit. How did your relationship to God change, or the spiritual insights you found differ? What does the community add? What does it make more difficult? (P49)
  
8. Fr. Martin writes: "... being spiritual and being religious are both part of being in a relationship with God. Neither can be fully realized without the other." (P50) Are you able to view your relationship with God from both these viewpoints?
  
9. Fr. Martin writes: "God can speak directly with people in astonishingly personal ways". (P51) Are there any personal ways God has spoken to you that you are able to share?
  
10. Fr. Martin writes: "The beginning of the path to finding God is awareness. Not simply awareness of the ways that you can find God, but awareness that God desires to find you." (P51) How have you experienced God trying to find you in your life? (Examples - gratitude, peace, joy, stress, doubt, sorrow, anger).
  
11. How do you find God? (P29)