

## ***Nostra Aetate* Analysis Questions**

*The Catholic Church rejects nothing that is true and holy in these religions. She regards with sincere reverence those ways of conduct and of life, those precepts and teachings which, though differing in many aspects from the ones she holds and sets forth, nonetheless often reflect a ray of that Truth which enlightens all men. Indeed, she proclaims, and ever must proclaim Christ "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6), in whom men may find the fullness of religious life, in whom God has reconciled all things to Himself.(4)*

*The Church, therefore, exhorts her sons, that through dialogue and collaboration with the followers of other religions, carried out with prudence and love and in witness to the Christian faith and life, they recognize, preserve and promote the good things, spiritual and moral, as well as the socio-cultural values found among these men.*

*[As] the Church has always held and holds now, Christ underwent His passion and death freely, because of the sins of men and out of infinite love, in order that all may reach salvation. It is, therefore, the burden of the Church's preaching to proclaim the cross of Christ as the sign of God's all-embracing love and as the fountain from which every grace flows.*

(Excerpts from *Nostra aetate*: Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions by Pope Paul VI 1965)

1. According to this document, does the Catholic Church teach that there is truth to be found in other world religions? If so, what types of teachings are considered worthy of acceptance by Catholics?

2. If there is truth in other religions, how does this truth compare to the truth taught by the Catholic Church?

3. Why is the Catholic Church still concerned with bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all the people of the world if other religions have truth in them?