

GOD, COUNTRY, NOTRE DAME: THE STORY OF FATHER TED HESBURGH, CSC

AFTER VIEWING THE FILM, USE ANY/ ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION.

1. Where did Fr. Hesburgh's vocation begin? Why do you suppose his mother would not let him go to the seminary when he was in the 8th grade? When did he enter the seminary and where did he study for the priesthood? In what congregation? What is a parish mission?
2. Why does Fr. Hesburgh want the word "Priest" on his tomb stone?
3. What did Fr. Hesburgh consider to be the most helpful prayer? Why do you think he said this?
4. According to Fr. Hesburgh, what is the greatest thing a priest can do? What are some other things that priests do? How do you see the priesthood lived out in the Catholic Church today?
5. The Eucharist was important to Fr. Hesburgh. He made it a point to celebrate Mass every day. Because of this, he found himself celebrating Mass in many different places. Can you name some of these places?
6. President Eisenhower appointed Fr. Hesburgh to the Civil Rights Commission in 1957. This part of the United States history created a "second founding." What was involved in this second founding? Are we still living the results of this in our lives today?
7. Fr. Hesburgh said "I can't think of a president before Lyndon Johnson or after Lyndon Johnson who could have pulled off the signing of the Omnibus Civil Rights Act of 1964." Why do you think he made this statement? What is the Omnibus Civil Rights Act of 1964?
8. In 1963 Pope Paul VI invited Fr. Hesburgh to head a permanent ecumenical institute in Jerusalem. Because of this, Pope Paul VI's dream lives on. What was his dream?
9. Why do you think President Bush would say that Fr. Hesburgh is a true man of peace?
10. During the 60's, universities were spinning out of control. What action did Fr. Hesburgh take on the campus of Notre Dame to address the needs of the students?
11. What was the one thing that Fr. Hesburgh wanted to do in life that President Carter helped him to achieve? Why was this important to him?
12. When Fr. Hesburgh received the Congressional Gold Medal from President Clinton, he said to Fr. Hesburgh, "Many people have hung many things around your neck, but what you have around your neck in that little white collar is probably what you treasure most of all." Name some of the reasons why this statement was made.
13. In 1974 President Ford established the Presidential Clemency Board and appointed Fr. Hesburgh to it. Why was Fr. Hesburgh an excellent appointee to this board? What was the main objective of the board?
14. What President played The Gipper in the movie "Knut Rockne, All American"?
15. What made Fr. Hesburgh one of the greatest American educators of the 20th century?
16. Why was it important to Fr. Hesburgh that the University of Notre Dame become co-ed after being an all male university for so long? When did the university admit women and what is the ratio of men and women today?
17. What made Fr. Hesburgh and Fr. Joyce so effective as President and Vice-President for 35 years?
18. "God is everywhere, and Father Ted is everywhere except Notre Dame." Explain why this statement became so popular among Notre Dame students.
19. What do you think Father Hesburgh's legacy is to Notre Dame? Why do you think that legacy is still so powerful today?
20. In 20 words or less, why do you think this video was called, "God, Country and Notre Dame"?