

**St. Therese Adult Study Series**  
**The Religion of the Day with Father Andrie**

Reflection Questions for Chapter 4

For the next session on April 16<sup>th</sup>, please read Chapter 4, pages 67-80 (#1-5) in *The Religion of the Day* book. Begin with this or another prayer of your choice:

*"Lord God, give me the faith I need to know your will, the hope I need to accept your will, and the love I need to do your will, even when I don't understand it, knowing that your way is better. I ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen."* <https://www.aleteia.org> Your reflections will be shared **April 16<sup>th</sup>** in your small group. Your group may not get to all the questions. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you to those questions most important for your group.

**1. The Church is the dwelling place of God, the "light of the world" (Mt 5:14) How would you explain to someone why there is so much darkness in it or why there is so much moral evil even among Church leaders?**

**2. As Christians, we are not simply a close-knit group of like-minded individuals. The author reminds us that "the Church really is Christ's body; he is mysteriously present now in the Church, communally, and in its individual members." (p. 72) What does this mean to you? How does this give you strength to go out into the world and share your faith?**

**3. On pages 73-75, the author gives us many ways we might describe the Church if we saw it how the angels do. Which of these especially spoke to you, surprised you, or perhaps you disagreed with? Why?**

**What would you add to this list?**

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**4. On page 75 the author asks the question, "The way things are going, will the Church be able to survive?" How would you answer the question?**

**5. "Faith looks for the signs, hears the voice of God in the Scriptures, hungers for the bread of life in the Eucharist, and knows that Christ himself is present." (p. 78) Why is this important when looking at the fate of the Church?**

**6. The author quotes St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Catherine of Siena, and St. Paul when discussing faith healing the mind's eye. Which of these did you connect with and open your eyes? How would you use this to explain to others that which we cannot see?**

**What else stood out for you in this chapter?**

**For your personal reflection:**

This section closes talking of the "rescue mission with all the powers of heaven." He says, "Jesus can be seen truly only with enlightened eyes, with eyes healed of their cataracts and astigmatism, with eyes that have had the logs taken out of them, with eyes of faith." I know I physically have all these *and* floaters affecting my eyesight. Take some time to focus on those powerful, significant things going on around us that you can see with faith-filled eyes.

**Closing thought from Pope Francis:** *"Let us ask the grace to be surprised every day by God's gifts and to see the various circumstances of life, even the most difficult to accept, as occasions to do good, as Jesus did with the blind man. May Our Lady help us in this, together with Saint Joseph, the just and faithful man."*