8th Theology I Date: Section:

Mrs. Carrie Lambert Name:

*God Reveals: An Introduction to the Bible*

Chapter 1: God Wants to Be Known

Directed Reading Worksheet

**Directions.** Read through the chapter and fill in the missing information. All the questions run sequential to the chapter. If a true/false statement is false, correct it. Enter the missing word or words for the fill-in-the-blank questions.

# Introduction: Discovering God

1. Briefly differentiate the following terms:

Monotheism belief in one God

Atheism not believing in a God

Polytheism belief in many Gods

Pantheism belief that God and nature are the same thing

Theology the study of God

True or False ? Abraham is previewed in the Old Testament and shared in the Gospels.

True or False? Christian faith is not a “religion of the Word of God” but a “religion of the book.”

1. Because \_\_God \_\_\_\_\_\_ continues to guide the Church’s \_magisterium \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in every generation, the \_church\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ herself determined the complete \_\_list\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the writings included in the Bible called the “canon.” For non-Catholic Christians, every \_\_important \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ concern can be answered in the pages of Scripture itself, but \_\_catholic\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Christians accept, honor, and reverence both Sacred Scripture and Sacred \_\_tradition \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

# Section 1: Our Built-In Desire for God

True or False? According to Maslow’s hierarchy of human needs, the need to satisfy hunger, thirst, and sleep supersedes the need to know, explore, and achieve.

1. St. \_\_Augustine of \_Hippo\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ famously wrote, “our hearts are \_restless\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ until they rest in God.” The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (*CCC*) is likeminded, stating that because the desire for God is written on the \_\_\_human heart\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, only in God will we find \_\_happiness \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and truth. We are \_\_created\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by God and for God. As a result, we can never stop \_\_searching\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for God.
2. According to Pope Benedict XVI, what two aspects of the desire for God remain even for those who will not acknowledge that desire?

(a) to discover or rediscover the taste of an authentic joy of life.

(b)

What does our desire for *perfection* in the areas of knowledge and truth, love, justice and goodness, beauty, and home and being collectively say about them?

Our desire for perfection in these areas is what is spiritual about them.

True or False? Fr. Robert Spitzer, SJ, says that the human desire to answer the “Why?” questions of life never leave us; even adults crave perfect knowledge, truth, love, justice, goodness, and beauty.

# Section 2: God Is Revealed through Human Reason

True or False? A person can know that God exists by deducing evidence observed in nature through what is known as natural Revelation.

Briefly explain what influenced the renowned atheist philosopher Dr. Antony Flew, who came to acknowledge God at the end of his life?

Flew was influenced by Aristotelian arguments of God who has super characteristics of power and intelligence commonly called the teleological argum

What question remains even if one accepts Dr. Avi Loeb’s proposal that our universe was created in a laboratory by beings from a more advanced civilization?

Who created the laboratory and designer?

Below are brief descriptions for each of the “five ways” for God’s existence expressed by St. Thomas Aquinas. Write the appropriate name in the space provided.

1. Our senses observe that many things are in motion, including both time and space, which requires a “first mover” who started everything. First mover
2. There cannot be things that are more perfect or less perfect unless there is a perfect being which is the cause of perfections. Perfect being
3. Everything that exists is the result of something or someone that came before it. God is the first cause
4. The possibility of human life forming in the universe out of chance alone is staggeringly improbable. God is the grand designer

Nothing cannot create something. God is the Necessary Being

1. We can discover that God exists and identify some of his \_attributes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ using our senses and \_reasons\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This truth is revealed in the Book of wisdom\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which calls those who cannot determine God from his creation “\_fools \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” St. \_Paul\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, too, asserts that the invisible attributes of God can be understood in what he has \_made\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

According to the text, why is an intimate relationship with God important in discovering God’s existence?

It is important because sin can lead you to persuade yourself that one of Gods revealed truths is actually false.