



## Session 11 | Fifteenth Video of the Alpha Course

### What about the Church?

#### Why is the Alpha Course presented in a Catholic discipleship context?

The Alpha Course consists of eleven sessions with an Alpha Day Away or an Alpha Weekend Away between sessions seven and eight. With this, there are four videos (Alpha videos 8-11) that are designed for the Alpha Day Away or an Alpha Weekend Away. This is the reason why there are fifteen Alpha session videos and not eleven. Although the Alpha videos have a kerygmatic basis (e.g. proclamation of the Gospel), it is the eleventh session of the Alpha course, “What About the Church?” that the Diocese of Green Bay prefers that parishes use a video or presentation with a Catholic ecclesiological context (e.g. life of the Church). Listed in chronological order are the Alpha sessions with their session titles and videos:

**Session 1** Is There More to Life Than This? (Alpha Video #1)

**Session 2** Who is Jesus? (Alpha Video #2)

**Session 3** Why Did Jesus Die? (Alpha Video #3)

**Session 4** How Can I Have Faith? (Alpha Video #4)

**Session 5** Why and How Do I Pray? (Alpha Video #5)

**Session 6** Why and How Should I Read the Bible? (Alpha Video #6)

**Session 7** How Does God Guide Us? (Alpha Video #7)

Weekend/Day Away:

*Session W1* Who is the Holy Spirit? (Alpha Video #8)

*Session W2* What Does the Holy Spirit Do? (Alpha Video #9)

*Session W3* How Can I Be Filled with the Holy Spirit? (Alpha Video #10)

*Session W4* How Can I Make the Most of the Rest of My Life? (Alpha Video #11)

**Session 8** How Can I Resist Evil? (Alpha Video #12)

**Session 9** Why and How Should I Tell Others? (Alpha Video #13)

**Session 10** Does God Heal Today? (Alpha Video #14)

**Session 11** What about the Church? (Substitute Alpha video #15 with the recommendations detailed below)

### **Substituting the Eleventh Session Video**

During the Alpha trainings for parish leaders, a few options are given for parish leaders and Catholic school personnel in the Diocese of Green Bay to substitute Alpha video #15 for the eleventh session. The substitution Alpha video #15 with a Catholic video or presentation is a key piece for people to continue their faith journey within a Catholic discipleship process. Keep in mind this is not an exhaustive list of options:

- A presentation by Fr. James Mallon on, “What About the Church?” This is a 50 minute presentation that can be found on YouTube. It is advisable to present a 30 minute segment of this presentation to Alpha participants.
- A presentation by Bishop Michael Byrnes on, “Week 15 /Alpha in a Catholic Voice / What about the Church?” This is a 41 minute presentation that can be found on YouTube.
- A 30 minute segment from Robert Barron’s Catholicism video series has a high production value and therefore would serve as a fine Catholic context for the eleventh session of Alpha.
- Lastly, having a speaker from the local parish talk about how that parish can serve the spiritual and human needs of Alpha participants is of great value; this, because it gives the participants an incentive to stay plugged into the parish where they experienced the Alpha course.

### **The Discipleship Process within a Catholic Context**

The Diocese of Green Bay discipleship process is designed to move people through four stages of discipleship: 1. Discover Jesus 2. Follow Jesus 3. Worship Jesus. 4. Share Jesus. For Catholics, the discipleship process is not complete without full participation in the Eucharistic celebration at Mass.

Therefore, it is important that the eleventh Alpha session video or presentation address how the discipleship process is situated in the Catholic Church or, more particularly, the local parish; especially as it pertains to the third stage of worshipping Jesus.

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The Diocese of Green Bay honors all questions regarding the Alpha course. As such, please feel free to contact the Department of New Evangelization. In fact, if you have any questions, contact:

Joe Tremblay, Adult Faith Formation Coordinator, at the Department of New Evangelization:

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