

**A Biblical Study of
The Catechism
of the Catholic Church:
Bible Answers to the Most
Frequently Asked Questions
about Catholic Beliefs and Practices**

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**HOW DO WE
KNOW GOD?**

“the Church is
expressing her
confidence in the
possibility of speaking
about him to all men and
with all men” (CCC, 39)

“the apostolic preaching,
which is expressed in a
special way in the
inspired books, was to be
preserved in a continuous
line of succession until
the end of time” (CCC, 77)

“this living transmission, accomplished in the Holy Spirit, is called Tradition, since it is distinct from Sacred Scripture, though closely connected to it. Through Tradition, ‘the Church, in her doctrine, life, and worship perpetuates and transmits to every generation all that she herself is, all that she believes’ (CCC, 78)

Mark 7:8–9 “You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!” (ESV)

2 Timothy 2:15 “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.” (ESV)

Acts 17:11 “Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.” (ESV)

Does the Bible give more encouragement about tradition or more warnings about traditions?

NEGATIVE - Matthew 15:1–9

NEGATIVE - Mark 7:1–13

POSITIVE - 1 Corinthians 11:2

NEGATIVE - Galatians 1:13–16

NEGATIVE - Colossians 2:8

POSITIVE - 2 Thessalonians 2:9–15

POSITIVE - 2 Thessalonians 3:6

Mark 7:1–13 “And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” [6] And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; [7] in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ [8] You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

[9] And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! [10] For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ [11] But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God)—[12] then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, [13] thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.” (ESV)

What does 2 Timothy
3:14-15 say about salvation?

What is the best way to
know and follow Jesus?
Can we interact with Him
directly?

Read Acts 17:11. Why are the Bereans praised for testing the teaching of Paul? Why didn't they just presume what he said was true?

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