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# THE DA VINCI DECEPTION

100 Questions about the Facts and  
Fiction of *The Da Vinci Code*

## DA VINCI DISCUSSION NIGHT PREPARATION

Set up a table (with permission) in the vestibule to promote the Da Vinci Discussion Night to parishioners after Mass. *The Da Vinci Deception* book should be given to each participant as they sign up for the discussion night. It is highly recommended, but not required, that each participant be familiar with *The Da Vinci Deception*.

Study group participant materials:

- 1) A copy of *The Da Vinci Deception*
- 2) The Bible (We recommend using the *Revised Standard Version—Catholic Edition* or the *New American Bible*)

Facilitator materials (in addition to the materials above):

- 1) A copy of the DVD, *The Da Vinci Code and the Bible*, by Dr. Ted Sri.
- 2) At least one copy of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church (second edition)* would be helpful to have on hand to answer any questions that might arise.

## HOW TO CONDUCT A DISCUSSION NIGHT

1. Plan for your Discussion Night to last about 90 minutes. Your time could be allocated in the following way:

### 90-Minute Session

- |                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| • Greetings and Opening Prayer | 5 minutes  |
| • Presentation of the DVD      | 65 minutes |
| • Discussion Questions         | 15 minutes |
| • Closing Prayer               | 5 minutes  |

(See recommended prayers at the end of the list of questions)

2. Ideally, the group leader will be familiar with both *The Da Vinci Code* and *The Da Vinci Deception*. However, if the leader is not familiar with *The Da Vinci Code*, he/she can prepare for the Discussion Night with *The Da Vinci Deception* and by previewing the DVD. While formal theological training is not necessary, your group study will be more fruitful if the leader is well-versed in the Bible and the teachings of the Catholic Church. This will help your discussions bear more fruit and remain accurate to Church teaching.

## PLAY THE DVD

*The Da Vinci Code and the Bible* is an excellent, informative talk presented by Dr. Ted Sri. This one-hour talk is sure to capture the attention of the participants and spark much productive discussion.

## CHOOSING THE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

This guide includes twenty-two of the most crucial questions from the complete four-week *The Da Vinci Deception Study Guide* (visit [www.DaVinciOutreach.com](http://www.DaVinciOutreach.com) to download this program for free). Some questions will spark more discussion than others. Prior to the Discussion Night, the group leader should select four or five questions from the list.

## SUGGESTED LIST OF STUDY QUESTIONS

NOTE: The following numbered questions refer to material in *The Da Vinci Deception*. Answers to these questions can be found in the book; refer to the question number(s) in parentheses.

1. Why is it appropriate to refer to *The Da Vinci Code* as propaganda? (Introduction)
2. What is the novel's central thesis (or historical claim)? (Question #1)
3. How does the novel seek to ground itself in history? Why is this deceptive? (Question #3)
4. What conclusions can be drawn from the popularity of *The Da Vinci Code*? (Questions #4 & 5)
5. What biographical information about Leonardo da Vinci does Brown distort? (Questions #13–16)
6. Was the Catholic Church really opposed to science and reason in Leonardo's day? (Question #30)
7. What is the myth of the Holy Grail? How does Brown get it wrong? (Questions #18 & 19)
8. What can be said of Dan Brown's grasp of history? Of his analysis of art? (Question #31)

9. What is *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*? Why is Dan Brown indebted to it? (Questions #32–35)
10. What other dubious sources does Brown rely on? What conclusions, then, can we draw about the factual basis for Brown’s assertions? (Questions #36 & 37)
11. Why does Brown make all these shocking claims about Leonardo, the Priory of Sion, and Mary Magdalene if they are not true? (Question #40)
12. Why is it appropriate to say that *The Da Vinci Code* is fundamentally anti-Catholic? (Questions #43 & 44)
13. Explain the real place of sexuality and “the sacred feminine” in Christianity. (Question #48)
14. Who was Constantine? What role did he play in determining the canon of Scripture? (Questions #50 & 51)
15. Before the Council of Nicea, what did Christians believe about Jesus? (Question #54)
16. What were the key issues of the Council of Nicea? How does *The Da Vinci Code* get them wrong? (Question #55)
17. Who determined which books would be part of the New Testament? (Question #63)
18. What criteria did the Church follow when deciding which books should be included in the New Testament? (Question #64)
19. What about the claim of the *The Da Vinci Code* that Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene? Doesn’t the Gnostic *Gospel of Philip* provide historical evidence for this claim? (Questions #73 & 74)
20. Discuss why Brown argues that Christianity is of pagan origin. Is he correct? (Questions #90 & 91)
21. What five options do we have in coming to terms with the person of Christ? Discuss each of them. (Question #98)
22. What response should Christians make to *The Da Vinci Code* book and movie? (Questions #99–100)

## PARTICIPANT'S ACTION PLAN

1. Boycott the movie.
2. Give a copy of *The Da Vinci Deception* to loved ones.
3. Speak up when Our Lord and the Church are attacked. Dispel the myths of *The Da Vinci Code*.  
1 John 2:23—“*No one who denies the Son has the Father. He who confesses the Son has the Father also.*”  
1 John 4:15—“*Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.*”

## RECOMMENDED CLOSING PRAYERS

Recite the *Act of Faith*:

*O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the holy Catholic Church teaches, because in revealing them you can neither deceive nor be deceived.*

Pray an *Our Father*, a *Hail Mary*, and a *Glory Be* for the intention of freeing all people of goodwill from the deception of *The Da Vinci Code*.

*This discussion guide was compiled by the editors of Ascension Press and CatholicExchange.com*

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