



Name: _____

Date: _____

Words to know:

analogical (*comparing two or more things that have something in common*), rational (*possessing the ability to think*)

GOODNESS: Refers to the desirability and to the perfection of something

Desire:

- The good is what we _____ or even what causes or arouses our _____ or our love. Or you could even say it's what we desire in all our willing.
- "Since the good moves the _____, we describe it in this way as what all _____." —St. Thomas Aquinas
- In other words, every act of our _____ actually arises from our original thirst or desire for _____. So this idea of the good is extremely important. It's at the _____ of our _____. Freedom has to do with how we as intellectual, _____ creatures, seek the good.

Perfection:

- The second way of describing the good is that the good is what _____ something. A living thing seeks its perfection and so it seeks its _____.
- A person has a perfection proper to a human nature, which is connected to our capacity to _____ and to _____. We are able to know the good as such and are able to _____ it and _____ it with our _____.
- So, we could define the human person in a certain way as a being aspiring to perfection not only on the physical or biological level but also on the _____ level because a human person seeks _____ and friendship, _____, and _____. He seeks in all of these things what is good.
- From this we can see how the good is an END. It is a final cause. It is what we are seeking by our _____.

CHOOSING OR REJECTING THE GOOD:

- So, the distinctive thing about human beings is that we are able to _____ the good with our minds and so _____ our actions to it.
- We also have the capacity to misunderstand the good or to seek after things that are only apparent goods. This is how we _____.
- When we sin, our _____ become clouded and our _____ become distorted.
- That's why it is so important for us as flourishing human beings to _____ the good and to _____ it with our whole heart.

Comprehension questions:

1. In your own words, explain why there is not one precise definition of the word "good."
2. What is one specific way you can seek the good in your life today?
3. What is sin, in your own words? Why should we not do it?