

Men's group notes 8/6/24

Merton says that "hell is where no one has anything in common with anyone else except the fact that they all hate one another and cannot get away from one another and from themselves." So that led us to discussion of What is hell? We discussed our various views on this subject. Is it what Merton describes or is it the absence of God or is it everlasting eternal fire?

Do you feel like you participate in the Mass or are you just an observer? Do you listen to the homily to put it into practice in your life? Do you feel the holy spirit who is present at the mass? Do you feel the presence of Christ who is present at all masses no matter where it is celebrated?

Merton says that a man cannot be a perfect Christian unless he is a communist. The early church certainly began as a communal group and shared all things equally, but this is different than what communism is today.

Is it practically impossible for a rich man to enter heaven or is it that you cannot let your possessions own you but you need to detach yourself from your riches.

Well, this gathering ended our discussion of Merton's "New seeds of contemplation".

A Very difficult and deep reading book which seems to contain a lot of contradictions.

Our next book to read is "The Practice of the Presence of God" by Brother Lawrence. We will read the preface and the Conversations chapters which end on page 16.

Blessing to all and see you on Tuesday August 17 from 6pm to 7pm in the church hall!

Norbert