



Living the Faith Step 5

The top 10 things to know about Pope Francis' Laudato Si'

Transcript from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_lqFTYLc_4 accessed July 2017

A Spiritual Perspective

- The Environmental crisis from a religious point of view
- Language of faith enters the discussion

Effects on the Poor

- Disproportionate effect of environmental change on the poor
- Many examples of the effects of climate change whose worst impacts are felt by those in developing countries

Technocratic Mindset

- Technology is seen as the key to human existence
- Critiques an unthinking reliance on market forces in which every technological advancement is embraced before thinking about how it will affect our world
- Christian spirituality offers a growth marked by moderation and the capacity to be happy with little

Authoritative Teaching

- Laudato Si is now added to the body of Church's Social Teaching
- Continues reflection on modern day problems that began with Rerum Novarum

Christian Biblical Roots

- Discussions about ecology can be grounded in the Bible and Church Tradition
- Chapter 2 introduces the Gospel of Creation, Pope Francis leads people to the call to care for creation, sadly, we have done too much 'tilling' and not enough 'keeping' - Genesis

Everything is connected

- Systematic approach to the problem
- Pope links all of us to creation -we are included in nature and in concert in our actions with it
- Our decisions have an inevitable effect on the environment
- A blind pursuit of money that sets aside the concern for the poor and the ruination of the planet are connected

Embraces Science

- Accepts the best scientific research today and builds on it
- Draws on both Church teaching and contemporary scientific findings from all fields to help modern day people reflect on important questions

Selfishness and Indifference Criticised

- Critiques those who ignore the problems of climate change and especially its effect on the poor
- Decision makers on the most part are removed from the poor- no real physical connection
- Selfishness leads to the evaporation of the notion of the Common Good

Global Dialogue and Solidarity

- Draws from the findings of people from all over the world
- Calls into dialogue and debate all people about our common home

Ecological Conversion

- Addressed to everyone on the planet
- Calls for a new way of looking at things
- We face an urgent crisis -the earth has begun to look like an immense pile of filth

Final comment

Because God is with us all of us can strive to change course.
We can move towards ecological conversion and listen to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.