

SPIRITUALITY TERMS

1. **Scripture** – sacred books and source of Judo-Christian faith.
2. **Theology** – studies God’s revelation to humans and how it should affect one’s life
3. **Spirituality** – studies the experience of the faithful who may have experienced the intimate self-communication of God.
4. **Atheist** – a person who says there is no God.
5. **Agnostic** – a person who says you cannot know God with any certainty.
6. **Practical Atheist** – a person who says there is a God, but his belief does not affect his life in daily events.
7. **Entelechy** – the hidden mysterious design present within all living beings.
8. **Heredity** – inner givenness of one’s personality, such as, family traditions, culture, historical time and place of birth, etc.
9. **Environment** – outer givenness of one’s personality, such as, family traditions, culture, historical time and place of birth, etc.
10. **Originality** – call to be one’s unique self; to be the origin of what I think, feel, say, and do.
11. **Primary Source of Originality** – God
12. **Secondary Source of Originality** – self-motivation; the ability to choose; the expansion of my initial originality in history.
13. **Cultural Originality** – a person who is called to be the origin of some new cultural form, theories, systems.
14. **Personal Originality** – living in my own way the customs and traditions
15. **Spiritual Originality** – living in my own way the customs and traditions of spirituality that are already available in my culture.
16. **Person** – comes from the Greek word “per sona” meaning “to sound through”
17. **Differentiation** – a movement of growth that involves the discovery and incorporating new worlds of meaning...leads to diversity.
18. **Integration** – a movement of growth that unifies and makes whole
19. **Situated Freedom** – ability of the human person to choose an attitude or response to one’s situation.
20. **Emotion** – a spontaneous reaction to a situation or stimulus.
21. **Meditative Reflection** – to participate reflectively in the experiential description given by a writer on the dynamics of spiritual living.

Place of the Human Sciences in the Study of Spirituality

1. The study of a person's ability to respond to one's religious faith in everyday life can be greatly helped by the understanding of the human person and his society as presented in the following areas:

Psychology.....That studies the human person and his behavior

Sociology.....That studies the structures and interaction of groups of people, cultural attitudes, etc.

Philosophy.....Which studies the fundamental nature of man – who he is.

2. These sciences are never **ENDS** in themselves, but definitely do help us to understand **who we are**, and **what factors influence our actions**:

Psychology - can put us in touch with ways that can help us to be more receptive to God's presence in our lives, and what will enable us to better live our faith.

Sociology - can help us become aware of the influences and attitudes which **foster growth** in our lives as believers.

* (psy) - can help put us in touch with unfreedoms within us that make it difficult for us to grow as fully human persons, therefore truly mature believers.

- also, can help us become aware of the influences and attitudes that tend to **hinder our growth** as fully mature believers.