The Protestant Reformation

Keep these ideas in mind as you study Unit 4, Session 16.

Saint Angela Merici is recognized for finding a new way for women to serve God in the Church. She founded the Order of Saint Ursula and encouraged the sisters to use gentleness over force.  

During the Protestant Reformation, groups broke away from the Catholic Church and formed new Protestant denominations, including Lutheran, Anabaptist, Presbyterian, Anglican, and Puritan.

The Protestant Reformation was a movement that sought to reform the beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic Church.

Actual grace helps us make choices according to God’s will. It is the freely given gift of God. Sanctifying grace is the gift of God that is given to us without our earning it.

Martin Luther posted 95 theses to the door of a church in Wittenberg, Germany. Luther challenged the practice of selling indulgences, which is a lessening of the temporal punishment due for sins that have been forgiven. Through his denial of Church teaching, he helped found a new branch of Christianity called Protestantism.

Free will gives us the ability to choose whether to respond to God’s gift of Salvation by professing our belief in Christ and his Church.

While Luther believed that faith alone was sufficient for Salvation, the Church believed that both faith and works are necessary.

Purgatory is a process of purification before souls go to Heaven. It is a fine-tuning of the soul.

John Calvin’s doctrine states that some humans, called the elect, are created for Heaven.

Particular judgment happens at the time of our death when we are judged based on how willing we were to accept God’s grace and how faithful we were to following Jesus. At the Last Judgment, everyone will come before Christ to account for the good that he or she has done.

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