

TH604 - Dr. Louis A. Decaro
Jenny Valme
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Chapter 2 5-3-1

5 Quiz Questions:

- 1) According to character or virtue ethics, what question should we be asking about moral life?
- 2) How would Aristotle define the pursuit of happiness?
- 3) What comes into play when pursuing the morally good?
- 4) What are some shortcomings of the character/virtue approach to ethics?
- 5) According to Hauerwas, how should Christian ethics be approached?

Answers:

- 1) We should be asking what we ought to be and aim to develop moral virtue in the community (45-46).
- 2) As the natural end to a life focused on well-being rather than being something that is self-centered (47).
- 3) Intentions, visions, and dispositions (57).
- 4) It can potentially ignore the possible consequences of an action, or ignore the basic fundamental moral principles that apply in life and focus too heavily on the heart of the person (58).
- 5) Christian ethics' is to be approached by first rightly envisioning the world, by an ordering of our narratives about God, ourselves, and the world (54).

3 Terms:

- 1) Character: A person's inner and distinctive core from which moral discernment, decisions, and actions spring (46).
- 2) Virtue: An activity of the soul showing forth excellence within its particular sphere of activity (47).
- 3) Moral development theory: As humans go through developmental stages physically, emotionally, and cognitively, so they grow in moral understanding and reasoning (49).

1 Summary Paragraph:

The heart of a person may be a great foundation to evaluate their standard of morality. However, we have to take care to not over-emphasize the character of a person in lieu of what is ethically right or wrong. Fundamental principles that apply across the board to human life still play a great role in determining what should be considered ethically acceptable, regardless of the community. As Christians, we are called to take all factors of a situation as it applies to biblical foundations into consideration, so that we can adequately determine what is morally or ethically right or wrong.