"No one lives alone. No one sins alone. No one is saved alone," wrote Pope Benedict XVI, whose words resonate with today’s teens, particularly because the prevalence of social media allows them to better see how their lives are interwoven with those around them. Foundations of Catholic Social Teaching: Living as a Disciple of Christ builds on those connections by helping teens find their place in the community of the faithful as they advocate for charity and justice in the world. The textbook, the second in the Encountering Jesus series released by Ave Maria Press, adheres to the USCCB guidelines for Elective Course C: Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ. Organized around the seven principles of Catholic social teaching, Foundations of Catholic Social Teaching helps students gain a greater understanding of the roots of social teaching in the Church, its context in the Bible and the Catechism and real-life examples of charity and justice in action. Developed in collaboration with experts in theology and pedagogy, Foundations for Catholic Social Teaching includes a number of new features as a part of a new, interactive design, including:

- Chapter Focus Questions: Each chapter’s main idea is posed as a question to the student to provide a broader context in which new ideas can be integrated and understood.
- Infographics: A wide variety of visual and interactive designs throughout the text help students understand theological concepts in ways they will remember.
- Currents Events: Each chapter opens with a story from the contemporary world that teens can relate to their own lives.
- Educational Photos: Images throughout the text have been carefully chosen not only to illustrate the chapter but for teachers and students to use as educational tools.
- Note-Taking Graphic Organizers: Designed to help students organize, summarize, and sequence the text, various types of organizers were customized for every section of the book.
- Section Assessments: Each section includes pedagogically designed assessment questions with labels that show how the questions serve a variety of different learning styles.

Online Resources: As always, teachers can access a wide variety of online resources at the Ave Maria Press website, including videos, PowerPoints, handouts, crossword puzzles, reading guides, and tests. (© 2015) The Subcommittee on the Catechism, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has found that this catechetical high school text is in conformity with the Catechism of the Catholic Church and fulfills the requirements of Elective C of the Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age.

**Book Information**

Series: Encountering Jesus
Paperback: 360 pages
This was the required text for 11th grade theology at my son's school. I flipped through the book and was amazed at how biased and poorly written it was. Whoa, no wonder he thought the class was a crock! Here's how author Michael Pennock starts his treatment of the War on Terror (featuring a photo of smoke billowing out of the doomed Twin Towers): "...on September 11th, 2001...fanatical extremists hijacked jets and used them as weapons of destruction...." He goes on for a page and a half, never ONCE mentioning al-Qaida, Osama bin Laden, jihad, or that the "fanatical extremists" were, in fact, devout Muslims who believed they were on a religious mission for the greater glory of Islam. One would think that these would be pertinent facts. Imagine how silly it would be to describe the Holocaust without ever stating that the Nazi party specifically targeted Jews, Gypsies, homosexuals and others for extermination. (Actually, the term "fanatical extremists" is redundant, but in any case people who are thus described do embrace an ideology outside what is considered civilized. Not citing that ideology is dishonest at best, and manipulative at worst.) The chapters on sexism and prejudice also dance around the uncomfortable fact that specific cultures promote (and indeed, mandate) injustice. It is important to give examples to young people so that they may gain insight and, hopefully, recognize falling into racist/sexist/ageist/etc. thinking. But Pennock reinforces, instead of breaks down, stereotypes.

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Partnering with the King: Study the Gospel of Matthew and Become a Disciple of Jesus
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What Jesus Said: Words of Jesus Christ from the Urantia Papers
From Jesus to Christ: The Origins of the New