

**Dr. Papanikolaou- Lesson 11**

**How does Orthodox Christianity characterize God's relationship to the world?**

1. What did we learn last class? Review your notes and rewrite a key point or takeaway that you found significant. If you were absent, your job is to review the student guide from last class and then ask your fellow students questions about the points they're about to share.
  
2. Take a minute to compare and contrast this image with the two images that we discussed last week. Are there similarities? What's distinctive about this one?



3. Fill in points Dr. Papanikolaou makes in this video clip.
  - a. In Christianity, people have lost the sense that Christianity is about \_\_\_\_\_”mystical unity with God” or “transformation now” \_\_\_\_\_.
  
4. What is Dr. Papanikolaou’s definition of “The Communion Model?”

As you watch and listen to Dr. Papanikolaou, take notes below:

5. Read the following excerpts from Metropolitan Kallistos Ware's lecture on creation. Each quotation is an Orthodox Christian response to pantheism or nominalism. Which one is which? How can you tell?
- a. "...Creation is not just something upon which God acts from the exterior; rather it is something through which He expresses Himself from within. God is not only outside everything, but equally inside everything. Our primary images, when we describe God's relation to the world, should not be of molding, organizing, or manipulating. We should think rather of God's indwelling and omnipresence" (8).  
-- Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, "Ecological Crisis: Ecologist Hope, Our Orthodox Vision of Creation" Lecture at Fordham University
  - b. "...God's being is more than the universe and is not exhausted by it. Totally imminent, He is at the same time totally transcendent" (9).  
-- Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, "Ecological Crisis: Ecologist Hope, Our Orthodox Vision of Creation" Lecture at Fordham University

6. Any final thoughts?