

## ***Film and Book on Martin Luther--Some Guiding Questions***

### **Luther the Person**

- Who was Martin Luther? Describe his character? What prompted him to go into the priesthood?
- What was the contribution and influence of Luther's growing up years, parents and parenting styles and home environment on who Luther became as an adult? How did this contribute to personality formation?
- Describe Luther's psychological and physical health.
- Compare and contrast Luther's life with Erikson's theory of psychosocial development. What were the crises that Luther experienced in adulthood? (Trust vs. mistrust, p.255; experience of shame vs. doubt, p. 256; initiative vs. guilt, p.257; industry vs. inferiority, p. 258)
- Does Luther's life represent a life-long search for identity? Does Luther's life represent a life-long developmental process? How and why?

### **Luther and the Catholic Church**

- Compare and contrast how the poor were treated and brainwashed then as compared to now?
- According to Luther, the church took advantage of the poor people by brainwashing them and making them give their money to the church through the purchase of relics and indulgences. What are relics and indulgences?
- It was after the writing of the 95 theses that Luther became a threat to the Catholic Church. What are the 95 theses and what is the message they contain?
- Describe Luther as a Preacher and Teacher.
- What has been the contributions and influence of Luther on the church, society and the world?
- What prompted his development of the Lutheran Church? Is this church similar to the catholic church?

### **Overall Analysis**

- Did Luther's developmental years influence who he became? His fixation on the devil? On his psychological and physical health? On his contributions to the world and to theology?
- What is your assessment and analysis of Martin Luther? Can you compare and contrast Luther's life with someone that you know in the world or your own society and culture?