

Describe Jefferson's point of view about separating church and state. What does the Constitution say about religion? What positions do we find amongst American citizens nowadays? Why does it matter?

How do we respond to Jenkinson's assertion on p. 61: "Jeffersonians are freethinkers, skeptics, and rationalists, which means that if they are Christians they are nominal and habitual Christians rather than believers in the divinity of Jesus"?

How demanding is friendship? Why is friendship hard and time-consuming? Who is a good friend?

According to TJ, how often do we need to "redefine, refashion, rethink" our government and social structures? Why? Where do we find evidence today of a horror of change? Of the urge to cling to the past? To what ends?

What did "the pursuit of happiness" mean to TJ? What does it mean to us as Americans? To us in this class? How do we value "food, wine, nature, flowers, family, friendship, books, art, music, and contemplation. And love"?

Do we live in a meritocracy? Good or bad? Evidence?

See p. 75: are we Jeffersonians in these characteristics? Why important?

For Jefferson, what was an active life? Are we active enough to maintain excellent health--physically, intellectually, spiritually, emotionally?

Why did Jefferson argue for a little rebellion now and then? What do we think nowadays—and why?

Who mentored you? Whom have you mentored? To what ends?

In what ways specifically does our view of science differ from Jefferson's? And why?