

Read Books V-VIII of Homer's *Odyssey* and answer the following questions¹:

Book Five

1. Why does Kalypso keep Odysseus on her island?

2. What is Kalypso's reaction to the message from Hermes that Odysseus must go?

Book Six

1. What do we learn about Nausikaa's character from her reaction to Odysseus and her treatment of him?

¹ Some of the material from the questions comes from Wes Callihan, *A Study Guide To The Great Books: Homer's Odyssey* (Lancaster PA: Veritas Press, 2009) 80-95. Material also comes from Peter J. Leithart, *Heroes of the City of Man* (Moscow ID: Canon Press, 1999) 178-179.

2. What condition is Odysseus in when he lands at the land of the Phaiakians?

Book Seven

1. At the beginning of books six and seven, how does Athene intervene in the journey of Odysseus?

2. From lines 81-132, describe the palace of Alkinoos.

3. In lines 290-305, what is Odysseus' impression of Nausikaa's character?

Book Eight

1. What is the name of the singer? Would you consider this a fitting name for your firstborn child?

2. In lines 62-73, some people believe that Homer "wrote himself into" the play. What episodes from the Trojan War does he sing about?

3. What do we learn from the singer about the Trojan war in addition to what we have learned from Menelaos and Nestor?

4. What happens at the end of book eight?