

Thomas H. Groome and Harold D. Horwell, eds. *Horizons and Hopes*,
(New York: Paulist Press, 2003), 1 29.

The following are excerpts from Chapter 1 "Total Catechesis/Religious Education" by Thomas Groome. They are included here to provide a guide when considering catechetical religious education opportunities for the child with autism. Because children with autism have core challenges with language, a traditional classroom where language is the primary mode of teaching will be particularly challenging for the child with autism to understand. For these reasons, all ministries of the church should be considered potential opportunities to catechize. This is the essence of a Total Catechesis Education approach and it is an approach that while not "new" is currently emerging as a more effective way of "forming, informing and transforming" (Groomway