Chapter 3: Meaning

- 1. The chapter claims that mathematical ideas are metaphors. What's a mathematical idea you've seen in more than one situation? How has the meaning of that idea become clearer and richer by seeing it in different situations?
- 2. Give an example from your own experience of how abstraction can enrich the meaning of an idea, mathematical or otherwise.
- 3. Give an example from your own experience of how a story has added meaning to some idea.
- 4. Choose a quotation from the chapter that stood out to you, and explain what about it struck you.

Chapter 4: Play

- 1. Think of an activity that you associate with play, and make a list of all the things you enjoy about the playfulness of that activity. What analogies can you see between the things on your list and mathematical activities?
- 2. Some people seem to have a deep reservoir of patience and hopefulness when trying to solve a problem, leading them to continue thinking about the problem for a long time. Other people seem to give up almost immediately. How can math play build up hopefulness and patience? Compare this to the discipline required to learn a sport or instrument.
- 3. Math play "asks you to change perspective, to look at a problem from different viewpoints." In what ways is this virtue useful in life?
- 4. What role does play have in the life of a follower of Jesus?