

A man is a man from the very beginning



PRAY

You have created my inner being and have woven me into the lap of my mother. Thank you for having me so wonderfully shaped. I know: Your works are astonishing. When I was shaped in the darkness artfully wrought in the depths of the earth, my limbs were not hidden from you. Your eyes saw how I came into being, in your book this was already written. My days were already formed before any of them existed. (Ps 139: 13-16)



CONTEMPLATE

One person reads the Bible passage aloud.
Short silence.

Exchange: *What particularly appealed to you?*



STUDY

1. Read DOCAT text sentence-for-sentence. Then one person reads the text aloud in full.
2. Three minutes of silence.
3. Each person reads a word or phrase aloud (without comment) that he or she has noticed.
4. Explain briefly in the next round why you have chosen the sentence (e.g. memories, questions, etc.).



DISCUSS

Also discuss your own questions on this topic!

Treasure Book: *Take five minutes to write down what you don't want to forget.*



CHALLENGE

Our **CHALLENGES** are just suggestions you can make in addition to your study guide meetings. You can also replace them with stronger, more fitting, more original or better ones. Just let us know at feedback@youcat.org.

#DOCATChallenge: *Share your experience on Facebook or Instagram.*



Ps 139:16

Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

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When does a human being start to be a person?

Some say that we can talk about a human person only after he is born. Others even dispute that and say: Someone is truly human only when he can think and decide. Still others define the beginning of the human person as the moment when the brain stem is formed or the moment when there is no more possibility of identical twinning. The Church rejects all these interpretations and says: Human life begins with the fusion of an ovum and a sperm cell. At the earliest moment of the embryonic stage after fertilization, the Church, in accord with both science and common sense, regards the life that has resulted as a complete human being already and, as such, endowed with the dignity that belongs to every human person. Respect for this dignity must also be shown to the unborn and to the weakest members of society. (Cf. DP 5.)

1. Is the church right when she affirms that the life of man starts with the fusion of an egg cell and semen?
2. Which two of the Ten Commandments is abortion violating?
3. Why is the statement "My belly belongs to me" a fatal threat to the "weakest members of society"?
4. Why do you as a Christian have to do everything for women in need, although at the same time you must never accept abortion in any form?

Undertake a postcard initiative „You are expecting a child and need help? You will find real help here!“ (On the reverse side print a good address). Display the postcard at places where many young women congregate.

Do you take on this challenge?

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DOCAT Study guide



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