

The germ cell of a healthy society



PRAY

Lord, Jesus Christ, you have become a man and has lived with Mary and Josef in a special family. Be the center of all Christian families today, too. Help these families to light. Make them be a place of peace, mutual take acceptance and unselfish love. Give even those families where God has not found his place yet the willingness to love, forgiveness and mercy. Fill them with your joy. Amen.



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.*



Col 3,19-21

Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged.

119

What does the family do for society?

Family is first of all the place where the continuation of society is ensured. Secondly, the family performs the specific task of socializing and raising children. Cultural, ethical, social, intellectual and religious virtues, values, and traditions are handed down, which are fundamental for every free, conscientious person. Equipped with these tools of a family upbringing, people can assume, with the requisite education, all kinds of responsibilities in society. A third task of the family is that it cares for all members of the household and offers them a safe, private place in which to grow and relax. Fourth (especially in aging societies), it is becoming increasingly important to provide loving care for household members who are sick or handicapped or no longer able to earn money. Here the view of the nuclear family expands to the previous generation, which can promote profound solidarity and at the same time a sense of identity.

1. Which virtues (= strengths and positive habits, which bring out the good) make a family strong?
2. Why are strong and self-confident families an asset for society as a whole?
3. What are the innate tasks of the family and how can the state support them in this respect?
4. How can I contribute to my own family staying or coming alive so that it can assist in the building of society? What do I decide to do in my life if I learn that my family of origin is estranged, destroyed or even not existing (anymore)?

Consider if you know any families in need, in a crisis or coping with a certain challenge. Which service or help could you offer (babysitting, private lessons, do the shopping, visiting). Report at the next meeting about your experiences.

Do you take on this challenge?

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