

How are Christians acting socially responsible?



PRAY

My Lord and my God!

You are hidden in everyone we run into today. Open up our eyes so that we can see you, especially in the poor and in those who need to be seen by us. Amen.



CONTEMPLATE

One person reads the Bible passage aloud.
Short silence.

Exchange: *What particularly appealed to you?*



STUDY

1. Read YOUCAT 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.

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



Mt 25:40

Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.

438 *Why does the Catholic Church have her own social teaching?*

Because all men, as children of God, possess a unique dignity, the Church with her social teaching is committed to defending and promoting this human dignity for all men in the social sphere. She is not trying to preempt the legitimate freedom of politics or of the economy. When human dignity is violated in politics or economic practices, however, the Church must intervene. [2419–2420, 2422–2423]

“The joy and hope, the grief and anguish of the men of our time, especially of those who are poor or afflicted in any way, are the joy and hope, the grief and anguish of the followers of Christ as well” (Second Vatican Council, GS). In her social teaching, the Church makes this statement specific. And she asks: How can we take responsibility for the well-being and the just treatment of all, even of non-Christians? What is a just organization of human society, of political, economic, and social institutions supposed to look like? In her commitment to justice, the Church is guided by a love that emulates Christ’s love for mankind.

1. Who is benefitting from the principles of Catholic social teaching?
2. Who are the “least” in your hometown?
3. Why do Christians have to fight harder for a just society than non-Christians?
4. Learn about the “principle of subsidiarity” (YOUCAT question 323) and ask yourself: Where did I notice any violation of it in the past?

Read the Works of Mercy in Mt 25:34–46 and decide to perform a task. Report to your studygroup about your choice at the next meeting.

Do you accept this challenge?

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