

GRADE 10 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

BOOK 2: MADE IN THE
IMAGE OF GOD

Grade 10
Religious Education

BOOK 2

MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

This book is the second of a series of three books
which make up the Religious Education Programme for Grade 10.

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Sr. Ehrentrude Pretzl SSsP, Coordinator

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Prayer before Class

O Holy Spirit of light and truth,
help me now as I begin this class
to understand what I am taught
to remember what I learn,
and to work hard to learn well.
Amen.

Prayer after Class

We thank you O God
for all that we have learnt.
Reward our teachers and bless our
companions in class.
Protect us and help us to be happy
and kind, now and throughout our
lives. Amen.

To the student:

Your exercise book is a companion to this book. By writing down your thoughts, sharing them with your teacher and with others, you will learn far more about the wonder of your being than by using this book by itself.

May you discover more and more, the love of Father, Son and Spirit, their dwelling place within you, and their plan for your life and for the world. You will do this as you learn about the special and unique person God has created .. you!

About this book..

In this book we are going to learn about who I am .. a person made in the image and likeness of God. It is always interesting to discover more about who we are. In fact it is probably the most interesting thing in life, to learn about ourselves, our destiny and our place in the world. Such learning is on-going. Apart from being interesting, it is also *important* for us to know who we are. We are not like the animals and plants, but people made in the image of God.



We belong to God's own family as well as being members of a human family.

Human beings have a very great and special dignity, therefore, because they have been made in the likeness of God. They have special gifts that no other creature has, and also special responsibilities. They can have an extraordinary impact on the world and on other people.

Think of someone you know who has a good influence on the community or the world. Name someone who does not have a good influence on others or creation.

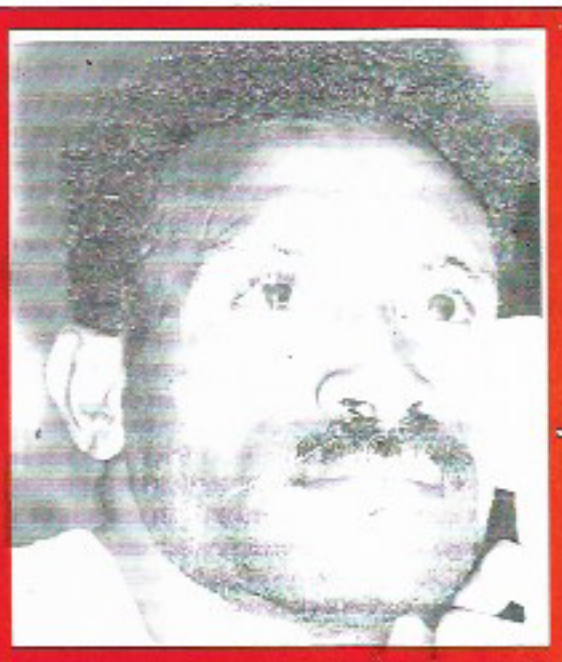
Knowing who we are and why we have been created, gives us great hope and purpose for our lives.

We are created out of love and destined for eternal life.

We are not independent of our Creator.

In this book, we are going to look at

- ◆ Ourselves, and the influences that make us the kind of people we are.
- ◆ What the Bible says about who we are and especially what the Bible says about male and female.
- ◆ We will look at the joys and difficulties and the great responsibility of choosing a partner for life. Our life of love and self-giving with one other special person is not far ahead in the future. The more we come to know and understand ourselves, and communicate what we know with others, the more likely we are to have a happy future.
- ◆ Ourselves as moral beings, and the great trust and respect God has for us. God allows us to make decisions which help us grow into people who are fully alive with the grace of God.



Topic One

Discovering Ourselves

What makes me the person I am?

Write down a short description of yourself. Write about one paragraph. Share with your friend or with the class.

Here are some descriptions that other Grade 10's have written about themselves:

Angela: I come from a family of 9 including my parents. I am the last born in my family. I am short with a small build and brown skin. My hair is a bit long.

Thomas: I am shy and a humbug boy. I am skinny and a dark skinned person.

Anne: I am a person who is quiet most of the time. I am dark skinned and I have hard hair. I am not really tall or fat. I like reading.

Robert: I am 17 years of age and I'm always present in school activities. I really and truly love my family. I am not that bright but I am good at sport.

These students have included characteristics like personality, figure, talents.

These things describe the way we were born.

Which students mentioned something about themselves that did not come at birth?

I can develop the qualities I was born with, come to love and understand them, accept them or not accept them. Usually, however, I cannot completely change them.

are you an extrovert or an introvert?



Extroverted people get their energy from being with others. For example, social activities fill them with energy.

Introverted people get their energy from being by themselves. After being with people for some time the energy of introverts runs out. They need to spend time by themselves to 'recharge their batteries'.

Extroverts are opposite, they recharge by talking.

One kind of person is not better than another, but it helps if we understand that other people might be different from ourselves.

Also, when we understand ourselves, we can try to develop our less well developed side. For example, if we know we are an extrovert, we might try to spend some time reflecting on things. Introverts can make the effort to speak more with others.

There has been a lot of study in the 20th century of human beings, of how they think and feel, of what makes them happy and sad, of what makes them interested in working, studying or playing.



This study is called psychology. It is useful, as well as interesting, to learn all we can about ourselves and others. Then we will be better able to develop our gifts. We also learn to be more tolerant of others and more appreciative of the wonder of human beings.

Look again at the description you wrote about yourself. As we grow older we realize that there are many other things that have shaped us as individuals besides the way we were born. Some of these other things are:

- other people
- events
- our religion
- our own decisions

Examples:

1. Describe the differences between the youngest and eldest child in a family.

The youngest person in a family might grow up not as serious as the eldest because the eldest often has to take more responsibility. Eldest children are not born serious and responsible, they often become that way because of the influence of **other people**.

2. Events also influence and shape us. A young person might be badly burnt in an accident. They might stay away from school altogether or repeat a grade.

3. My Religion tells me I am made in the image of God. It tells me how to treat other people. A religious Sister or Brother is a good example of a person whose life and career has been shaped by their belief in God. In small and big ways, my religion shapes me too.

4. Lastly, my own decisions shape me. When I was little, I did not make many of my own decisions. Now my own decisions are playing a very big part in making me the kind of person I am.

Will I take drugs? Will I be a troublemaker? What job will I get? How will I spend my free time? Who do I want for a friend?

Spend some time, reflecting on these four things.

Choose one, and write a paragraph describing yourself, but this time explaining how one of these other factors has shaped you.

Share with a friend, or with your exercise book.

When we are younger, it is hard to realize the influence that others have on us (and that we have on them). Now it is time to think about this.

Read the story of Josephine on the next page. Can you find examples of how other people affected her, and how she affected other people?

What are Josephine's good points?

Josephine felt tired and irritable already, and she hadn't even got out of bed yet! Maybe it is fever she thought, hoping for an excuse not to go to work. Coughs, sores, a cut from a knife. The same thing over and over again. With a groan, she got up and went to wash. To make the morning's work more interesting, Josephine decided that she would leave all the sores to Cecilia, the nurse who worked with her.

Cecilia was upset by Josephine's selfishness and thought in her own mind ... 'Doesn't Josephine ever think of anyone but herself?'. But she decided not to let Josephine's bossy ways interfere with the day or influence her own good mood. And with people coming in and taking her attention, Cecilia soon forgot about Josephine. The morning was busy with people coming and people going, and both nurses busy. As one of her patients left, Josephine looked across the room, and saw that Cecilia was bandaging the arm of the new teacher that they both liked - William! Josephine noticed that they were laughing together and Cecilia seemed to be taking a long time in doing the dressing properly.

The patient that came to Josephine next was an old man who couldn't speak well because he had no teeth. 'You were here yesterday' she said loudly. 'why are you here again today?' 'The other nurse told me to come so that you could check my burnt hands were not infected,' the old man mumbled. 'There's no need for that. Just don't put your hands in water. And try to keep those bandages clean!' she snapped. 'Come back in one week's time. We don't need you here every day. We've got plenty of other people to look after besides you.' The old man put his head down, picked up his stick clumsily in his burnt hands, and limped out of the aid post without saying a word. As soon as he had gone, Josephine was sorry that she had been so impatient and angry. She knew that he had come a long way from a mountain village, because he trusted what Cecilia had told him, and now he felt so foolish and some of the young men laughed at him as he went down the road.

Finally there were no more patients and Josephine and Cecilia cleaned their little hospital rooms and prepared to leave. They had been very busy and now both were very tired. Today was Saturday though, and Cecilia was going home for the rest of the weekend, so she didn't worry about being tired. Josephine locked the door and turned at the sound of laughter and saw that it was Cecilia and her friends. Their laughter made Josephine feel lonely. Cecilia was a good nurse and popular with the people. No wonder William liked her. They all waved to Josephine as the village truck swung out of the hospital yard. Josephine waved back but as she turned to go along the road to her own house, she still felt left out.

She walked slowly, enjoying the fresh greenness and the breeze that didn't ever seem to come inside the clinic. It was good to be finished! Just as Josephine was feeling a bit happier she noticed a group of young girls come around the corner of the road. And with them was Elizabeth!

As soon as she saw Elizabeth, Josephine's good mood left her. Elizabeth's grandmother was very sick. She had come home from the big hospital in the town to spend the last few weeks of her life in her own village. She needed looking after, but nothing too difficult. She had cancer and needed to have her sores cleaned and dressed, but Elizabeth wouldn't bother to do anything at all for her grandmother. And the old woman never complained.

Josephine remembered that she had told the old lady that maybe she would come to visit her this afternoon, but she was so tired, and the old lady's village, though not far away, was at the top of a really steep hill, and anyway, Josephine told herself, the family should look after her. Josephine stared hard at Elizabeth and went into her own house, shut the door with a loud bang, and locked it securely. But a little while later, she went out and began walking to the old woman's village. She had decided to go and visit her anyway.

Can you think of some ways that the moods of other people have influenced you lately?

How do you feel when your friend is feeling sad?

How do you feel when everyone gets into trouble on assembly?

How do you feel when your favourite teacher is happy and laughing?

As well as the influence that others have on us, we must not forget that we also influence them. Realizing this truth is a very big step towards maturity.

how do we
grow
as persons?
how do we
become mature?

1. By controlling our feelings.

When we are small, we mostly act by our feelings. If we want a biscuit and don't get it we throw ourselves down on the ground and scream. We want everyone to know just how we feel. As we grow older we learn to guide and control our feelings.

We control them by using our power to think and judge, and choose.

For example, if we control our anger it might be because we judge that if we let it grow we will do wrong to someone, so we choose to stop it.

The better we come to know and control our feelings, the better we are able to live for others. We truly reflect God when we live for others.

2. By answering for our actions.

When we are small and do something wrong, we say 'I didn't mean it', or maybe someone says it for us.

But as we get older, we learn to know clearly that when we act, we alone do the action, we own it and are responsible for it. This means we must act wisely in our daily living, so that what we do will be for our own good, and the good of others.

To do this is to act as an adult - which means to accept my own actions as my own, and be ready to answer for them.

This is called 'accepting responsibility'.

3. By seeing things as they really are.

As we grow, we put aside playing and living in a world of our own. We see that life on earth is serious as well as good.

When we begin to see that life has to be lived by ourselves, by putting our own feet on the ground and walking deliberately along the way we have chosen, it is a bit frightening. Some people want to stay as children.

They want to hide away from the hard work of living. Most young people however, are very courageous. They are ready to accept the call to take their part bravely in this beautiful world that God has made.

4. By getting along with others.

When we are infants we are very self-centered. We think that other people exist just to give us what we want! When a child agrees to accept others and their rights, he or she begins to grow as a human person.

Look at the following ways that people show immature behaviour. Say whether you think they are failing to grow in area 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 (given above).

- My prefect corrects me so I decide not to do any work any more.
- I smash a louvre because my book has been stolen.
- I play around in class because I don't want to work too hard.
- I tell my parents that my friend forced me to do the wrong thing and that is why I am in trouble.

What stops me growing as a person?

Sin prevents me growing as a person. We sin when we refuse to accept God. When we sin we want to be independent of God.

St. Thomas Aquinas, a famous theologian of the 12th century, says that the only thing which stops love of God, is love of self.

The sin that stops us growing as persons is not great or unusual. There are some quite ordinary small things that stop us growing as persons. These are some of them.

1. Being too bossy.

These people like to rule over others and to get their own way. They can easily become angry. They look down on others and do not care if they hurt them.

Such people often think they are brave, but really they are just unkind, they are like dictators acting without understanding and without wisdom. Sometimes we might not realise that we are a bossy kind of person. Our friends might not tell us because they know we will feel hurt. We have to stand back and listen to how we speak to others to discover if we are bossy or not.

2. Being too fearful

A person who is shy and afraid can think they are just gentle and humble. But it is also possible that they are too proud to come forward, to take a brave step. They are afraid they might make a mistake and that others will laugh at them. This kind of pride can make a person fail to do what they should do. It can also make a person judge others as 'show-offs' or bossy when it is not

true. Usually we know when we are too fearful. We do not need others to tell us. We might not realise however, that we judge others as show-offs, when we are not very brave ourselves.

3. Having wrong minds

Some people imagine others are insulting them when there is no idea of insult at all. Or sometimes, people who have wrong minds get jealous if attention is paid to others. These people are not steady and constant. They are like grasshoppers or green frogs, jumping to a wrong idea. When others are talking, they imagine they are gossiping. These people show a lack of trust in the goodness of others. We need to spend a lot of time in prayer to know and understand God's great love for us, if we are like this.

4. Being too concerned with pleasure

Some people have a desire for pleasure that is so strong they neglect their duties and obligations, sometimes even the obligation to be a good student. They only think of satisfying themselves. Usually these people know what they are like.

Sometimes they need others to remind them of what is important and valuable in life.

Rate yourself!

On the lines below, mark where you are at: (1 for least, 5 for a lot of this behaviour)

Bossy: 1 _____ 5

Fearful: 1 _____ 5

Wrong mind: 1 _____ 5

Only pleasure: 1 _____ 5

What can you do to improve in one of these areas?

Write a sentence in your book.

Which of the 4 descriptions best fits you?

MY SELF IDENTITY

The first step towards a full human life is to be able to answer positively these questions:

1. *Who am I? (What is my dignity?)*
2. *Why am I here (What is my destiny?)*
3. *What is the worth of my person and my life?*
4. *What is the value of my life for others?*

The answer I give to all these questions is my **SELF IDENTITY**.

Draw a box in your exercise book like this one, put the heading **MY SELF IDENTITY** then answer the four questions above.

Reflect on your answers.
Would you say your identity is positive or negative?
Share with a friend or write a comment in your exercise book
Perhaps you might like to make some personal posters about your identity for the classroom

Having an identity is so important, that if a person thinks badly of himself or herself, they will often keep causing some sort of trouble in order to keep the identity or image of troublemaker they have of themselves.

These people do not like to be told that they are good. If their reputation as a 'humbug' is their only source of identity, they do not want to part with it.

Otherwise, who are they?

Coming to accept ourselves *as neither all good nor all bad*, is a big step towards maturity.

We are all creatures of weakness and strength. No one is all bad, or all good.

We are creatures of ups and downs. We bounce back and forth between goodness and selfishness.

The admission of all that we are, the honest self-acceptance of our human condition, brings true peace and joy.

We are not humbugs only, nor are we perfect human beings.

**WE
ARE
FRACTIONS,
NOT
WHOLE
NUMBERS**

Even though we are fractions and not whole numbers, we need to remember all the time that our value as a person comes from the God who made us and loves us.

Also, God hasn't finished with us yet! One day we will be 'whole numbers' but both God and ourselves have to work together on this job of making us whole.



Topic Two

What the Bible says

What does the Bible say about who we are? Well the first pages of Scripture tell us that we are made in God's image (Genesis 1).

In particular we are like God in our ability to love, to know, and to create and support life.

We also know from the Bible that God is love. (1John 4:16). God asks to be loved. It is his first commandment. Jesus said it was the greatest commandment.. 'to love God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your strength.' (Mt 22:37).

We are like God in this too, for we are also made to be loved, by others, and especially by our Creator. St. Augustine says (talking about God): 'Our hearts are restless, until they rest in You'.

It is our job to learn to live in the company of the Father, Son and Spirit, as we move through the days and years of our life on earth, and to experience love from them.

Read the Scripture quotes.

Choose one that appeals to you and copy it onto a piece of cardboard or paper. Put it somewhere where you can read it often, for example, above your bed, or on your desk. If you can, make some large posters for your classroom with some of these words.

Do not be afraid, I am with you. Is 43:5

You are precious to me and I love you. Is 43:4

I chose you
Jn 15:16

I can never forget you!
I have written your name on the palms of my hands. Is 49:16

I love you:
Jn 15:9

Do not be worried and upset.
Believe in Me.
Jn 14:1

I HAVE CALLED YOU BY
YOUR NAME, YOU ARE
MINE. Is 43:1

Even the hairs of your head have all been counted. Do not be afraid. Mt. 10:30

For all Christians, the words like the ones we have written down have great meaning.

Some people say human beings are just one of the many kinds of life forms on earth which just evolved themselves. We do not believe that our world 'just happened'. We are not just a 'bunch of cells'. The Bible tells us very clearly who we are. We have been made in the image of God, we are deeply loved, and meant to live with God forever. Apart from being like God in being made for love, we are like God in being able to know, recognize and understand. Although we are limited by our human nature, these abilities are truly wonderful. God has given us these great gifts as 'talents' - with which we are to create goodness and harmony, care for each other and for all creation, and to work for the coming of God's Kingdom.



One of the most important things to know about what the Bible says about us, is to know what it says about male and female.

There is often a lot of confusion about what the book of Genesis says.

So what does the Book of Genesis say about male and female?

Copy the following reference into your book:

Genesis 1:26,27,31

Then God said, "And now we will make human beings; they will be like us and resemble us. ... So God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female... God looked at everything he had made, and he was very pleased."

This is the first mention of human beings, in the Bible. There is the mention of both male and female.

Read this passage two or three times. Do you think it sounds like God made men to be better than women? or women better than men?

Why was God pleased?

Do you think God can make mistakes?

In Chapter two of Genesis, we have another story about creation. People knew that the world God made was good and perfect. But they did not understand how evil came to be in the world. So this is why we have a second story, about the garden of Eden.

Genesis Chapter 2.

Then the Lord God took some soil from the ground and formed a man out of it; he breathed life-giving breath into his nostrils and the man began to live.

Then the Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and guard it. He told him, 'You may eat the fruit of any tree in the garden, except the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad.'

Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to live alone. I will make a suitable companion to help him.' So he took some

soil from the ground and formed all the animals and all the birds. Then he brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and that is how they all got their names. So the man named all the birds and all the animals; but not one of them was a suitable companion to help him.

Then the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep, and while he was sleeping, he took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the flesh. He formed a woman out of the rib and brought her to him.

Then the man said,

'At last, here is one of my own kind - Bone taken from my bone, and flesh from my flesh.'

This is the story that is sometimes used to say that men are better than women.

It is very sad that such a beautiful story is misused in this way.

Copy the story into your books and then answer the following questions:

1. Why weren't the birds and animals good enough company for the man?
2. Who was told not to eat the fruit, the man or the woman?
3. How does the man describe the woman?
4. Do you think the man is happy with the woman to be his companion, or does the story seem to say that he just wants her for a slave?
5. Why do you think the story says that the woman came from the man's side, and not from his head or his foot?

Two Common Mistakes

Some people have the idea that because the woman is described as a 'helpmate' she is somehow less than the man.

But think of those who help you.

If someone helps you with a maths problem, does that make them less than you?

If someone helps you with your school fees, are they less than you?

Such reasoning is really stupid.

A second mistake in thinking is that if something is made second, then it is less than the first thing.

Again this is very faulty thinking.

Is the Prime Minister less than his parents, because his parents were born first?

If you do a rough copy for your written expression; is the rough copy better than your second copy, because the rough copy came first?

Is a banana plant better than the sucker? What if the bananas have been picked? The plant is good for nothing, even though it came before the sucker.

For things of the same substance, it is a useless question to ask which came first.

A banana is good if it bears good fruit. Likewise, God will judge human beings, both male and female, not according to their date of birth, but according to their good works.

Although male and female are different, one is not better than the other.

They are *both* in the 'likeness' of God.



Our sexuality (that is, our maleness or femaleness) is a gift from God. This gift colours and influences our way of seeing life and of being in relationship with others. Males and females bring different points of view to a problem, and both views are important. Even when the views are the same, often the reasons will be different. As male and female we are called to give life to others and to grow in wholeness as sexual beings.

When woman was created, she was not taken from the man's head - she is not over the man. She was not taken from the man's foot, she is not under the man. She was taken from the man's side, to be his equal - and from next to his heart, to be loved, not used.

We know that as humans, we reflect God's own ability to think, to choose, to love. But, even more remarkably, each of us uniquely mirrors God.

This means each of us reflects God and his love in a way that no one else ever has or ever will.

Each of us is special, a word of God spoken, a one-of-a-kind sign of his love.

In the Bible we have the story of the three servants. We are to use the 'gold' God gives us, and multiply it so that when the King returns, he will call us his 'good and faithful servants'.

Read the story of the three servants which begins in the next column.

Matthew 25: 14-30

Once there was a man who was about to go on a journey; he called his servants and put them in charge of his property. He gave to each one according to his ability: to one he gave five thousand gold coins, to another he gave two thousand, and to another he gave one thousand. Then he left on his journey. The servant who had received five thousand coins went at once and invested his money and earned another five thousand. In the same way the servant who had received two thousand coins, earned another two thousand. But the servant who had received one thousand coins, went off, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The servant who had received five thousand coins came in and handed over the other five thousand. 'You gave me five thousand coins sir,' he said. 'Look! Here are another five thousand that I have earned.' 'Well done, you good and faithful servant!' said his master. 'You have been faithful in managing small amounts, so I will put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness!'

Then the servant who had been given two thousand coins came in and said, 'You gave me two thousand coins, sir. Look! Here are another two thousand that I have earned.'

'Well done, you good and faithful servant!' said his master. 'You have been faithful in managing small amounts, so I will put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness!'

Then the servant who had received one thousand coins came in and said, 'Sir, I know you are a hard man; you reap harvests where you did not plant, and you gather crops where you did not scatter seed. I was afraid, so I went off and hid your money in the ground. Look! Here is what belongs to you.'

'You bad and lazy servant!' his master said. 'you knew, did you, that I reap harvests

where I did not plant, and gather crops where I did not scatter seed? Well, then, you should have deposited my money in the bank, and I would have received it all back with interest when I returned. Now, take the money away from him, and give it to the one who has ten thousand coins. For to every person who has something, even more will be given, and he will have more than enough; but the person who has nothing, even the little that he has will be taken away from him.

As for this useless servant - throw him outside in the darkness; there he will cry and gnash his teeth.

* * * * *

This story from the Bible tells us something very important about human beings. The qualities that we have, the gifts we have been given, are not for us to be totally independent creatures, zooming around in our own orbits like Pluto or one of the other planets.



Our gifts are to be developed and used for the master.

The story also reminds us that we are going to have to give an account of our stewardship. For some, it might be a long way off, for others it might not be very far away. We do not know the day or the hour.

* * * * *

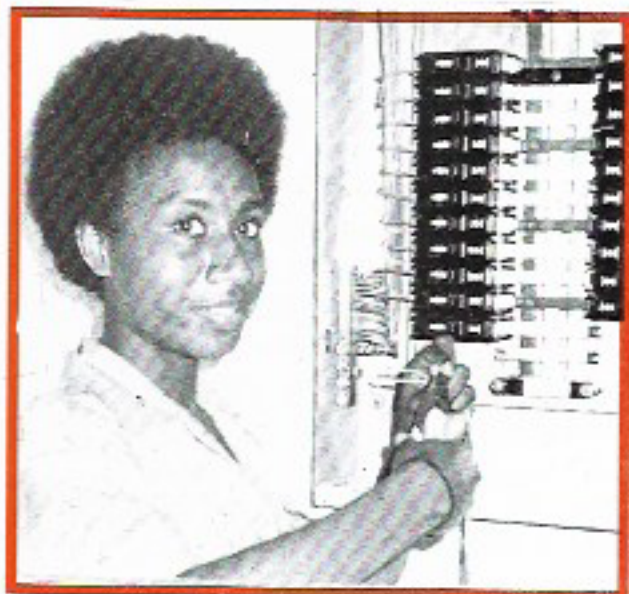
Look at the qualities listed in the next column. When you read them, think of yourself. Then, copy them into your exercise book. Swap your book with a friend and ask them to tick the ones they think are the most outstanding ones you possess.

No-one is to tick more than five things, and three or four is best.

Get your book back. Do you agree with your friend?

a good sense of humour
sports talent
the ability to listen to others
the talent to get along with people
leadership talent
the ability to forgive
good with mechanical things
able to draw
musical talent
intelligence
a happy personality
a willingness to work hard
faithfulness to a job
talent to read well
a peacemaker
strong in faith
treat people as equals
able to sing
humble

- 1 What gift do you have that is not mentioned in this list? Write down one more.
- 2 What might your mother, father or auntie add to this list?
3. Think hard, then write down what you think Jesus would write about you.
(Write a paragraph)
4. Write a prayer, thanking God for one of the gifts he has given you.



being made in the image of God means being able to live in relationship with others

When the Bible says we are made in the image of God, it does not mean that physically we are like God.

It means that we have been made, able to share in some of God's qualities.

For example, we are able to **LOVE**.

We are able to **THINK**.

We have **FREE WILL**.

Most important of all, we are made to live in relationship with others. All the gifts we have been given, are for us to live as God does, in loving relationships, firstly with our family and community, but also with others, freely chosen.

The idea of relationships is really important in our faith because the Bible describes God as Father, Son and Spirit - beings in relationship with each other and us.

- I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one goes to the Father except by Me. **John 14:6**
- I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, who will stay with you forever. He is the Spirit, who reveals the truth about God. **John 14:16**
- Those who love me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and my Father and I will come to them and live with them. **John 14:23**
- You did not choose me; I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit.

John 14:16

The Bible teaches that Jesus and the Spirit have their own special relationship with each other and with the Father.

It teaches that we, who are made in the

image and likeness of God, live in relationship with the Trinity and with each other. This is our purpose for being, we are created to share God's life.

We all know that we are very dependent on God, who gives us life. But God has made us also very dependent on other people.

For example, how did you learn to speak? Were you born speaking language from the womb?

Without the interaction of other people we would never have learned to speak.

experience of being called by name.

We would never have been able to survive even the first few years of our lives.

Even now that we are much older, we find that our school, our homes and villages are full of items that have been produced by other people, even people from the other side of the world.



Probably even the plate that we eat from and the cup that we drink from have been made overseas. It would be interesting to meet the people who have made the things we use.

Name 5 things you own that have been made by people in another country.

Name 5 things in your school that have been made by people in another country.

Our relationships with other people can be frustrating, joyful, sad or ordinary, but we would never want to live without other people and the opportunity to interact with them. Even more importantly, it is through our relationships with others that we grow in self-esteem. Through them we also come to know and understand ourselves better.

Read these examples of relationships from Gr. 10 students:

My favourite relationship is between my mum and me.
I can't choose between my family and my friends, both are really important to me.
My secret friend is God.
My most important relationship is with my friend.
I am really glad that I have a best friend to share everything with.



Sometimes we have problems with a relationship because we have let our feelings be too strong.

So why do human beings have emotions?

Where do they come from?

Are some emotions good and others bad?

Sometimes we might think that life would be much simpler if we never had any emotions at all! What do you think?

If you try to imagine a human being without any feelings at all, you will quickly realize that such a creature could not exist.

Emotions are the feelings we experience as we react to our own thoughts and memories, to the things that happen to us, and to the world around us.

Although emotions originate in the brain, they are not thoughts. They are automatic reactions; we don't *choose* to feel sad, or embarrassed, or afraid. For this reason, emotions are neither good nor bad. They simply exist.

There are some emotions that everyone enjoys experiencing; for example, affection, joy, excitement. Then there are others that we find more difficult to handle: anger, fear, nervousness, jealousy.

We cannot eliminate these emotions from our lives, but we can remember that we are more than our emotions.

We can use our other gifts, like intelligence, and learn how to respond to our feelings and express them in a creative way.

It helps to know that a feeling, in itself, cannot harm you or others. What can harm you and the people around you, is allowing your feelings to be in charge of you, instead of the other way around.

It is hard work to learn to be in charge of our feelings. But we have helps, e.g. prayer, the sacraments, advice from others. Another important help is to develop the habits of behaviour that strengthen personal freedom from slavery to emotions. Such habits are reflection, self-discipline, and courage.



Activity:

Write down two small things you can do in your day to help you develop the habit of self-discipline.

Write down one thing you can do each day to help you develop the habit of reflection.

Write down one thing you can do to help develop the habit of personal courage.





we like looking at girls

Soon, perhaps even already, one of our best friends will be somebody from the opposite sex. We are developing sexually on many levels, especially

1. Physically

We become capable of giving life to a new person. Our whole body develops the full characteristics of male or female. Sometimes sexual growth causes young people to be shy or even ashamed. A true Christian attitude is one of joy, pride and wonder at the mystery taking place within us.

Remember that God planned sex! It is not our own invention. God could have planned some other way, but this was the way he wanted human beings to create new life.

2. Emotionally

We become very attracted to the opposite sex. Because we are very aware and conscious of each other now as male or female, we are sometimes very shy and confused in dealing with each other.

It is important to develop an appreciation of our own sexuality, then we will be able to show respect to others and later find happiness in our own family life.

Psychologists are people who study the way human beings develop and behave. Here are some of their findings:

What do girls feel about sex?

Girls growing up often think of sex as romantic love and a feeling of being accepted by boys.

we like boys to notice us



What do boys feel about sex?

Boys growing up concentrate more on the physical or bodily side of sex because they feel sexual development more strongly in their bodies.

Psychologists say that girls should realize that the sexual nature of boys is stronger than that of girls and that they should realize how boys are more easily stirred up in their sexual desires.

Sexual needs of a woman

It is said that a boy wants sex and a girl wants love. A girl looks for and expects more than just a sexual relationship alone. She thinks of sex in terms of love, care, security and not just as a means of bodily satisfaction. The strongest desire in a woman is to love and be loved in return, and to give herself in love.

Sexual needs of a man

For a man sex is a means of satisfying a great physical need, a physical hunger.

For a man, sex and love can be two needs. A man's desire towards the sex act is more selfish and much stronger than the woman's.

However with proper control and respect the two needs can be met in the one deep relationship.

what is love?

Read the following stories and see if you can tell which are true love stories.

1. Angela tells her sister: there is not enough room on the truck for us both to go for a spin to town. You go, I'll stay and help with the little ones.

2. Maria and Heru trained together every afternoon after school. They were both good runners, and the races to choose who was going to the National Athletics in Port Moresby were being held this week. They both wanted to go.

After the races, Maria would not talk to anyone. She didn't go with the rest of the school to farewell Heru who was chosen for Port Moresby. She stood by herself and wouldn't go and wish her friend good luck.

3. A mother prepares a feast for her son. He has made other plans to go with his friends. However, he changes his plans so that he will not hurt his mother.

4. Ruth is asked by her mother to look after her baby brother, instead of going to a dance. Her mother is sick. Ruth refuses and goes to enjoy herself.

5. Regis had been the star of their football team. He had trained every night but now he lay stiff and helpless on a hospital bed. He had been tackled in one of the matches and his neck had snapped. At first there were many visitors but after a few weeks, not so many, and now only Mek. Mek brought some comics that he read to Regis and he brought news of the team and news from work. Mek traveled home with Regis when he was discharged from hospital and Mek was with him three weeks later in the village when he died.

6. A young man sees a beautiful girl. He thinks of the pleasure she can give him. He tells her he loves her and tries to get her to sleep with him.

7. Peter loves Genevieve very much but he knows that he cannot possess her bodily outside of marriage. He does not want to spoil her chances of education or harm her. So even though he shows her his love, he controls himself.

**which are true love stories?
how can we tell?**

As young adults we want to learn how to **LOVE**

It is something the Bible stresses that we need to learn, if we want to find peace and happiness in life.

The love that a child has is often selfish, because it is not prepared to wait for what it wants. It has no patience with anything that stands in its way. A child demands and wants things **now!**

But as we grow up we should be moving away from this type of love and learn about

MATURE LOVE

Mature love is nothing to do with having a body capable of having sex.

Mature love means to grow up from the childish way of loving, which is very selfish, and to want only good for the one you love.

Mature Love means to forget yourself and what YOU want, and to want to give, and to want what is best for the one you love.

Love is patient and kind.
 Love is not jealous, or conceited or proud.
 Love is not ill-mannered, or selfish or irritable.
 Love does not keep a record of wrongs.
 Love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth.
 Love never gives up.
 Love is eternal. (1 Cor 13)

Love is probably the most misunderstood word in the world. This is because many people think that love is just having a good time with people, and using them to make ourselves happy. They are influenced by what they see in magazines and movies and on television. They do not think about what Jesus says about love.

It is important to know that sex by itself can never be love. True love does not grow out of sex, but the sex act grows out of the deep love that two people have for each other. It is love only when the two people involved have real love in their hearts and want only the good for the other.

It is not good for a girl to have to leave school because she is pregnant. A boy having sex with a schoolgirl or even a college girl, is not concerned about what is best for the girl. He is only thinking of himself.

Yes, this is the real test of love, that you want the best for the one you love... and because of that you will be patient, kind and understanding.

When you have learned what true love is, then you have found a treasure that no-one can take from you.



Activities:

1. Finish this prayer on being a good friend:

Jesus, teach me to be a good friend.
 Teach me to be really happy when good things happen to my friends,
 And also to listen and encourage them when they feel like giving up.
 Help me respect my friends and their things. Jesus,

2. What is mature love? Why do you think that sometimes it will involve suffering?
3. What is something important you have learnt from this book so far?
4. Write out the words of St Paul (above) on a piece of paper and carry it around with you until you know them off by heart.
5. Why are people confused about what love is and means?
6. Write out the words of some of your favourite songs that mention the word love.
 Really think about these words.
 Which songs talk about true love?

Please release me, let me go:
 I don't love you any more.

Jesus and friendship

We know that Jesus is our special friend. This means he is ready to help us in our everyday problems. When we look at what Jesus was like, when he was walking around his country, we can learn how to act. When we want to be like Jesus we are a true friend to him.

1. Firstly, we can see from the Gospels, that Jesus reached out to **strangers**.

Read Luke 7:11-14

Luke 19:1-9

Luke 23:39-43

These are three beautiful stories about Jesus reaching out to people whom he did not know, and doing things for them.

What did Jesus do for each of these people?

Why did he do it?

When do I meet strangers?

We know for sure that Jesus did not know Zacchaeus because Zacchaeus climbed a tree to try and see who Jesus was.

And later in the story he called him 'Sir'. But yet Jesus said he was going to stay at his place.

How should I treat those who are sorry for something they have done?

In the story of the criminal who was crucified with Jesus, the criminal calls Jesus by his own name. This is the only time in Luke's gospel when this happens.

Jesus responds immediately 'I promise you that today you will be in Paradise with me'.

Do you like to be called by name? How do you feel when a teacher remembers your name?

2. Secondly, we know that Jesus reached out to his **friends**, those he did know.

Read John 13:23, 21:7, 19:26

Describe the friendship between John and Jesus.

Read Luke 22:54-62, John 21:7

Describe the friendship between Peter and Jesus.

3. Lastly we know that even on earth, Jesus reached out to **us**.

Read John 17:20-26

Jesus wants us to be his friends. He says 'You are my friends, if you do what I command you' (Jn 15:14).

What is Jesus' command?

How often do you speak to students you don't know?

Do you only stay with the same group of friends or do you mix around?

Do you like your friends to mix with others or do you want them to only walk with you?

When was the last time you spoke to someone that you do not know very well?



Topic Three

Choosing a partner for life

From the very first chapter in the Bible, we learn that male and female are meant to live together. We need to think about many things before we make important decisions. We especially need to reflect before making the decision of choosing a partner for life.

Read the following two stories:

1. James stared at the group of girls leaving the Library.



One stood out from all the rest. She was tall, graceful and very pretty. The night before at the School social, he had danced with her, and she was very shy. Maybe because she is younger than me, he thought. After he left he wrote to her at the school, and after a few letters, Joanne answered! At the end of that year she returned to her village. James wrote and urged her to come to the town where he worked. Finally she came to look after her cousin's children.

James was a very talkative person. Joanne was the opposite, but he didn't seem to notice this. Soon after they married he realized how dull she was. He was soon tired of her, for she had little to say, nothing interesting to him, and so he spent more and more time with his friends. When the child came, she didn't even look smart any more.

QUESTIONS

What do you think is going to happen to this marriage?

James did not make a good choice. He and Joanne were not really happy together.

Why not?

What is the most important thing to look for in choosing a friend for life?

2. There was a letter waiting for Andrew when he returned from school, tired after a day's teaching, corrections, and preparation of classes.



He tore it open and read that his young brother was soon going to be married.

Andrew folded the letter and sat back. That meant three in the family who were younger than him would be married before the end of the year. And what about me? he thought.

I'd like to get married too, but ...

Andrew thought of the girls who worked in the office where he had worked when he left school. There was a typist there who was a

very pretty girl, and who spent most of her money on new clothes for herself. She used to laugh a lot and was always a lot of fun. But when Andrew wanted to talk about something serious, Lucy would laugh and say nothing at all.

Andrew had thought of marrying Lucy but because she was so silly and couldn't talk seriously, he lost interest in her. He had left the office at the end of that year and gone to Teachers' College. His wages were less but he felt that it was worth it because he was learning something new and not doing the same thing over and over each day.



Now I can choose for myself,
but can I choose wisely?



Some of the girls at Teachers' college were silly, but most were interested in all sorts of different things and they could talk to him on many topics.

There was one tall girl from his own area, Julia, who was very easy to talk to.

She had been appointed to a school in a village not far from the town where Andrew himself taught, and people were already talking about her as someone who was really helping the village people as well as teaching the children. Andrew really liked her and decided that he would go to see her on Saturday to tell her about his young brother.

She was very friendly, and interested in his family.

Andrew also remembered that his parents had advised him to choose a girl from his own area.

Questions

 * Who gives you advice about making *
 * friends? Your mother? Your father? *
 * Both of them? Your auntie? *
 * What do they say? *
 * What advice have your relations given *
 * you about the girl/boy you should make *
 * friends with? *
 * When do they advise such friendships *
 * now while you are at school, or do they *
 * advise you to wait until you are older? *
 * Name two wise choices that Andrew *
 * has made so far in his life. *
 * Name one wise choice that you have *
 * made so far in your life. *
 * Who helps you with your problems? *
 * *****

something to think about

Before you decide on a partner for life, you need to think carefully about that person's personality, AND your own.

Are you well suited for each other?

It is not enough to be attracted to each other only physically.

Does your friend get angry easily?

Do you get angry easily?

When angry, does he or she get violent?

If they do, and they do not try to change and get control of themselves, then do not get involved with them.

Get to know yourself, by LISTENING with open ears to what others say about you.

Maybe you are the one at fault, and you are too selfish and childish to really love anyone in the proper way.

If so, do not get involved, wait awhile and try to learn about the love that is patient, kind and forgiving.

Improve your personality by picking out your weak points and trying to do better. Also think about your good points and develop them.

Remember, the person you choose will be your partner for many years until death. Do not think that attraction to the person will solve all the problems. It will not. You must face up to the problems now, before it is too late. If he drinks too much now, getting married to him will not change things. If she is a selfish and jealous person now, she will be the same after getting married.

Also consider how the person handles problems and troubles now. Are they ready to discuss and talk things out? Or do they run away when problems come?

The best things in life have to be worked at.

Work on your personality now and you will have more chance of happiness in your future marriage.

Learn too from the marriages of others.

Keep your eyes open and see what makes the happy marriages that you know of, and what makes the troubled marriages that you see.

Girls: Beware of a bossy guy who drinks heavily.

Beware of a guy who just wants you for a slave.

Boys: Beware of jealous girls who scream a lot.

Beware of bad-tempered or selfish girls.

Girls, write on a piece of paper, the 3 most important characteristics you would like in your husband.

Boys, write the 3 most important characteristics you want in your wife.

Do not write your names on the papers.

Afterwards collect the papers, and have someone read them out to the class. Discuss the results.

You might like to display your results in the classroom.

I'd like to marry someone as beautiful as myself.





Why is it wrong for boys and girls to have sex before marriage? They only do it to show how much they love each other.

some answers

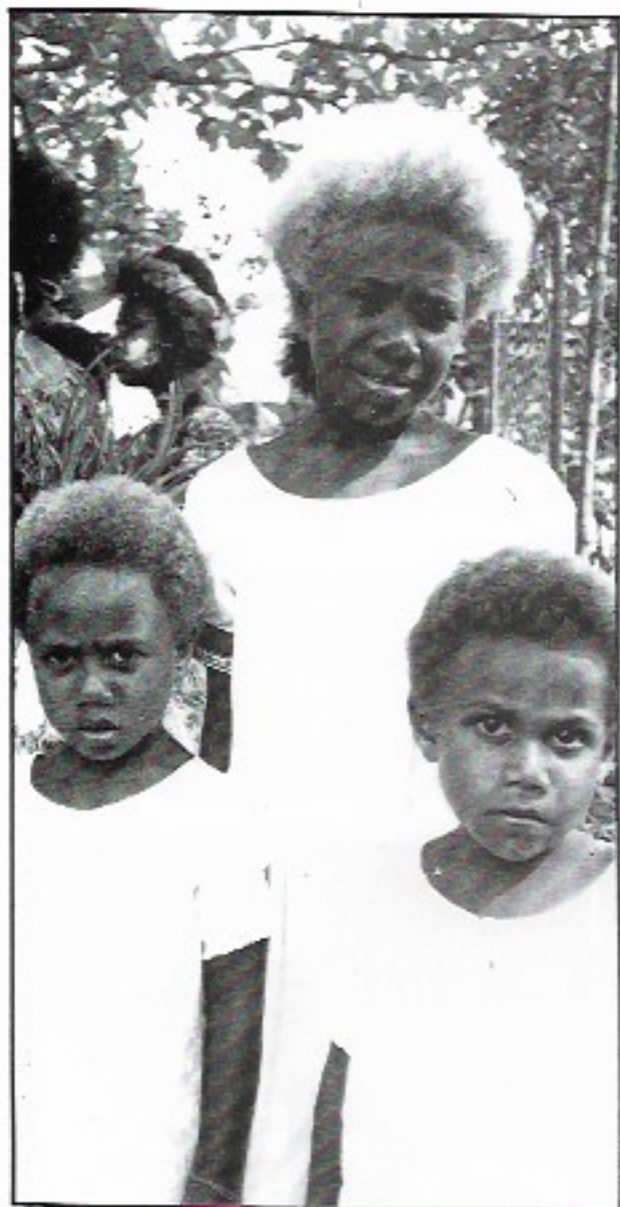
1. Yes, sex is the special way that people who belong to each other, show their love to each other, but their love gives birth to their own child who needs to grow up inside a good family. Sex belongs to married life.
2. If they love each other, then they ought to be willing to give themselves to each other FOREVER. If sex is for temporary satisfaction, then it is not what Jesus calls 'love'.
3. Do you think that LOVE is usually the reason why young people have sexual relations before marriage, or are there other reasons?
4. To experience love, young people do not have to practice sexual intercourse. There are many other ways of showing love and having a wonderful time together.
5. Look and see if the examples of sex between single girls and boys and those who change partners when they feel like it, pass the test of TRUE LOVE.
6. To refuse sex can be a greater proof of love than to give in.
7. Our sexuality is not instinctive like that of the animals. We are free to make it an experience of love.
8. The most important reason for refraining from sex before marriage is because it is what God is asking of you. And what God asks of people is *always* what is good for them. Most young people want to do what is right. They want to face the challenge of being adult Christians. This is how we do it, by doing what God asks.
9. Some people do not seem to realize that they can *make decisions* about their lives. They sort of wander along, and things just seem to happen to them. In fact, that is their explanation for everything: it 'just happened'. They didn't plan to get drunk, it just happened. They didn't plan to take drugs, or have sex, it 'just happened'.

*Think of some other answers you could give in response to this question.
Which answer means the most to you? Write it down.*

Marriage is found among all peoples and cultures of the world. Why?

Because men and women are made for each other, to help each other to be happy.

Also from them comes new life to keep the community going.



But the way people go about getting married is different in each culture.

And sometimes a culture will change its way.

In his book *"Ten Thousand Years in a Life-Time"*, Albert Maori Kiki talks about some of the customs and ideas of marriage in his home place.

At the time of initiation, the young men had

to learn many community laws, e.g. that a man must marry, that he must have his own family, and that he must not take another man's wife.

After initiation the young men appeared in public to be marked by the young girls.

They were chosen according to the length of their hair, which was considered not only as a sign of beauty, but also of strength and character.

In his married life, a man was not expected to spend too much time with his wife. A man was expected to spend most of his time with other men.

Name 3 customs mentioned by Albert Maori Kiki that have probably changed in his place today.

Name some of your own traditional customs about marriage.

Are these customs still kept?

Name one custom that is still strong.

Girl's Prayer

Good Father, somewhere there lives the man who will seek me and to whom I will belong according to your plan. Help me to find the one whom I can trust, who will look after me and respect me. Give me a man who is strong in faith and love of you. Help him to be a good father for our children. Bless our lives together, that we may grow closer to each other and to you. Amen.

Boy's Prayer

Lord God, my Father, you know my whole life and you know me well. Help me to find the girl who will be the right partner for my life, the one with whom I can live well and serve you, and who will be a good mother for my children. Give me patience to wait and the wisdom to choose well. May the love that binds us be sincere and lasting. Amen.

In modern societies, a lot of stress is put on the attraction between man and woman and **romantic love**, as the basis for marriage. Some people say that this is one reason why there is so much divorce in modern societies.

Look up the words 'romance' and 'romantic' in the dictionary.

You will find something like:

Romance: love story, especially one in which the events are quite unlike real life, false but pretty description.

Romantic: having ideas, feelings, remote from experience and real life. Imaginary. Existing only in the imagination.

So this kind of love is not the kind to build a marriage on!

In magazines we see very attractive girls, wearing hardly anything and smiling beautifully at a very good looking and well dressed young man.

But this is not true to real life. We don't walk around in those clothes for our everyday life. And where is the dirty washing and dirty dishes? Where are the children with runny noses? Why don't these models ever have a pimple on their faces?

If we think love is about living in a sterile environment where we just gaze into each others eyes all day, or party on the beach, we are 'romancing'. Such a life is imaginary. Such love is just fantasy.

Jesus showed us what real love is about. It is about some very happy times, for example when Jesus was transfigured on the Mount Tabor, or when he shared meals with his friends. But love is also about being in agony. It is about being crowned with thorns. It is about people shouting out to crucify you. It is about being hot and thirsty, and dying on a cross.

So let us remember when we read magazines and see films, that very often the image that is given is just make believe. Nice to read or watch for fun, but do not expect your life to be that kind of imaginary life.

Every marriage will bring its own set of problems and decisions that have to be made.

But there are general rules that go for every marriage.

Probably the most important rule is about sharing.

A married couple need to share everything, their joys, sorrows, worries and pleasures.

It is also very important that they share decision making. It should always be 'we' who decide and do things.

This applies also to how the money is spent or to things about the children.

If the husband earns money, it is not his, but belongs to them both.

If the wife is earning, the money earned is not hers, but belongs to them both.

It is the same with authority. Although the husband is the strongest, he is not the boss. Both the husband and the wife need to share authority if it is to be a real marriage. This means that they need to trust each other, and to be able to talk to each other well.



feelings and fantasies

A great deal of confusion is caused when people presume that they are 'in love', when what they are actually experiencing is a 'crush' on someone.

Another word sometimes used for this experience is 'infatuation'.

what is the difference
between infatuation and love?

INFATUATION	LOVE
Happens suddenly and disappears quickly	Grows slowly with time
Is jealous and uncertain	Brings security
Is in a hurry. You are afraid you will lose him/her	Can wait for what is right and for the right time
Often sex-centered. Makes you more concerned about your own pleasure	Cares about the other - Loves all of you, not just your body
Might lead you to do things you don't really think are right	Love brings out the best in your character and makes you good
Makes your other relationships suffer	Makes you become more gracious and giving
Makes you sad or moody for no reason	Is steady and unshakable
Often makes you feel trapped, like you are missing out on things	Love is freedom. It gives you the security to reach out and explore
Covers up and is dishonest. You might disagree with the way he or she treats people but you overlook it because you don't want to lose them.	Love doesn't make you change your values. It grows where there is respect and truth. What was important before is just as important still.
INFATUATION	LOVE

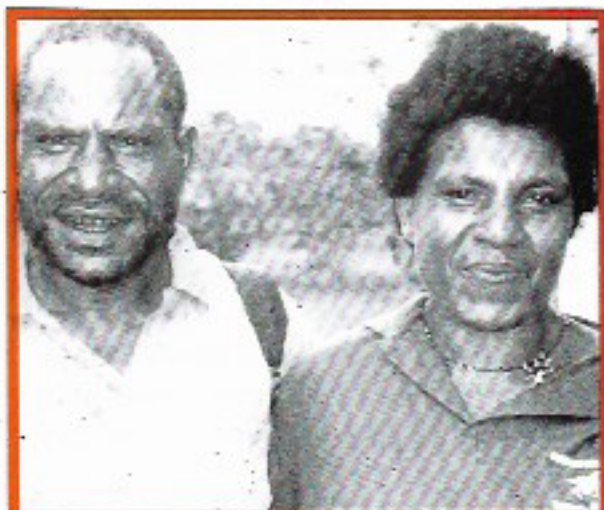
Love does not mean that people will always be nice to each other and never hurt each other, and that there will never be any trouble between them

We are all very weak and selfish people at times.

If there is true love between people they will at some stage have to forgive each other. This is a hard part of marriage. It is never easy to forgive someone who has done wrong to us.

We remember though that only selfish people keep a record of the wrongs that others do to them. We desire our love to be eternal, and we are willing to forgive.

If you want a happy marriage then you must learn to forgive. *But the time to start practising is now.* We all have hurts and we all need to forgive. Do not say: 'Later I'll do it.'



stages in marriage

Most marriages go through stages or cycles. An understanding of the cycle can make the difference between a happy marriage and a painful one.

FIRST STAGE

This stage is the attraction stage - the exhilarating experience of being drawn to one another in a way that makes life beat with a new excitement.

This attraction takes place at all levels of our human experience: physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual.

The challenge of this stage is to keep these four things in harmony and balance. The danger is to let one of them roam out of control and overcome the others.

SECOND STAGE

This next stage is called the integration stage. Once a couple marry, they begin the process of integrating the excitement of love with the ordinariness of life.

What does the word integrate mean?

The challenge of this stage is to keep love as the couple's top priority. It is to keep love from becoming routine and ordinary. The danger is to take love for granted and make other things more important.

THIRD STAGE

This stage is the conflict stage. It begins when partners fall into the dangers mentioned in the first and second stages. Faults and human failings that were once overlooked now cause conflict.

The *challenge* of this time is to steer conflict into a good direction and learn from it.

The *danger* is to avoid conflict rather than deal with it. If this happens, communication breaks down and resentment builds.

FOURTH STAGE

This stage is the maturing stage. It begins when the partners decide to deal with their conflict and rediscover love. It can be the most beautiful period in a marriage.

To understand this, think of married love as having a 'rubber band' quality.

A poet explains it this way

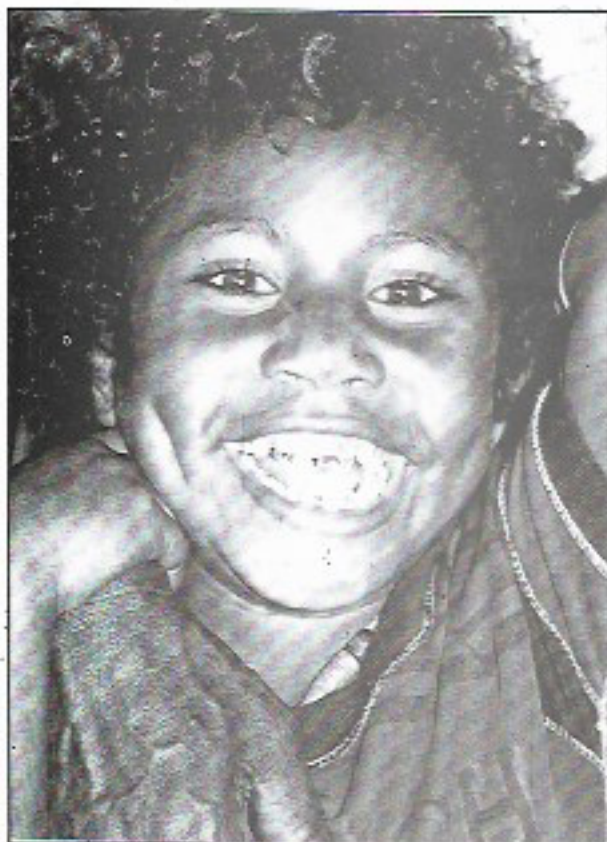
*Two lovers drift apart
driven apart by faults in one another
but the strength of their love
is so strong
it pulls them back to each other again.*

*Awkwardly, clumsily, sometimes crying,
they stumble into one another's arms,
forgive each other, and begin again
in a new burst of beautiful love.*



children in marriage

- children are a gift from the Lord
- they are a real blessing.
- the sons a man has when he is young
- are like arrows in a soldier's hand.
- happy the man who has many such arrows!
- he will never be defeated
- when he meets his enemies
- in the place of judgement.
- Psalm 127:3-5



The verse from the psalm tells us that children are a blessing, that they bring us happiness, and that they also are the cause of our victory on the day of judgement.

We know that in God's wonderful and beautiful plan, it is through the love of husband and wife, that children are born into the world.

They arrive ... adorable, but rather useless!

What are some of the things that parents have to do for their children?

The child who is taught how to be generous and share, will grow up to be a happy person.

The child who is loved much will itself know how to love. Loving does not mean giving the child everything it wants. It is very sad to see weak parents who have allowed their children to boss them.

It is sad not only for the parents, but for the child who will not learn how to be a good friend. Loving a child certainly means that parents have to train their child to do the right thing, and be generous and kind.

Some children come to school and they have never heard of God, their parents are leaving it all for the teachers. How terrible!

The Church teaches very strongly that the family itself is the 'domestic church' and that the family is the place where the child is to first learn about God.

The family will be a strong one when children do things together with their parents: eating, praying, playing, gardening, looking after the house and its environment.

FAMILY PLANNING

Catholic parents have the responsibility to give their children a happy family life where they can feel love and security. They have a right and duty to space their children how they think best, using the knowledge we have of the human body.

The Church teaches that natural family planning is the best way of family planning because in this way the act of intercourse is always normal, and no drugs or other things are used to interfere with the transmission of life.

The natural method most commonly taught in Papua New Guinea is the *ovulation method*, which helps the couple to recognize the fertile and infertile days. Most parishes provide information about natural family planning. (This method is also used to help childless couples).

The success of this method depends on a good and loving relationship between the husband and wife. If, for example, a husband comes home drunk and demands to sleep with his wife on a fertile day for her, then it is likely that she will get pregnant. But this is not how a child is meant to be conceived. Such behaviour by a man is no different from rape, even though the couple are married.

There are many good reasons for wanting to space or limit the number of children in a family, reasons which are based on respect for life. Two such reasons are:

- to help the mother recover if she is sick, especially from frequent pregnancies
- to give proper care to the children they already have.



Reasons which are not based on respect for life are:

- not wanting to share their good things with the children they could bring into the world
- wanting to enjoy the pleasures of married life without having to worry about the responsibility of children.

LIFE
OUR
GREATEST
GIFT

WE
RECEIVE
IT
AND
PASS
IT ON



SUMMARY

What is the thing we should value and hold as most important?

It is the wonderful life that makes us the person we are, and in which we find joy.

Yet we take this great life so much for granted, and so we do not get the best out of life. We have been made in the likeness of God, and in us there is a life (spirit) which lives forever.

We alone among existing things, can know and enjoy God and his love, and serve him.

It is God's plan that human life should begin from the love between man and woman. This love finds its deepest expression in the sex act. Most men and women should marry and because of their love, new persons are given the chance of life and happiness.

All that Christians hold to be right and good as regards marriage and family, is based on the respect for the individual's human life. Whether it be the unborn, the young, the young child, or the man or woman.

These values cannot change just to suit the people who want the easy way out for themselves. Young people who value life will want to respect others as well as themselves.

When a young man and woman insist on sex before marriage, the result can be

- a baby for whom no proper home is prepared,
- a professional career all messed up,
- and parents who are embarrassed and ashamed.

Often such 'short cut sex' means the end of the feeling of love we tried to express anyway.

Love is the most important thing for normal life, and it is possible for this love to be hurt by selfish sex. Many unhappy and broken marriages are the result of irresponsible sex before the marriage, and in this way, people's lives can be made most unhappy.

Abortion, Contraception and Sterilization are all ways that people use so that they can have sex but not be responsible for new life. Read about each of these, then write down how your community could do something to help people in the problems they face in this area.

Abortion is the name given to the operation which destroys the unborn child.

The Church teaches that already the unborn child is a separate individual from its mother. From its very beginning it has life. It has its own developing body and human spirit.

Almost before the mother knows about it, the unborn child's heart has begun to beat (at 25 days old).

The mother and father have no right to decide to end this new life. Why? because life, once begun must be respected. Everybody must have the right to life.

Contraception: Contra means to go against, so contraception is something that stops or goes against conception.

Contraceptives block or obstruct the natural workings of the reproductive system. Some contraceptives can have a harmful effect on a person's health. Later there is often difficulty in giving LIFE to a child when the husband and wife really want one.

Sterilization is an operation that a man or woman can have, so that afterwards they will never be able to give life to a child. This does not show respect to God who gave us the power within our bodies to create life.



Topic Four

Making Moral Decisions

We have learnt that one of the most important decisions in our life, is choosing our future partner. This is a very big decision and it usually only comes once in our life. But we make many small decisions every day. Even deciding to get out of bed in the morning is a decision. Some of our decisions are moral decisions and others are neutral.

Look up the meaning of the word 'moral' in the dictionary.

At the beginning of this book we read the story of Josephine, a nurse. She decided to go to work, even when she did not feel like it. To stay at home, when you are not really sick, and to be paid for it, is morally wrong. So Josephine's decision that morning was a moral decision. It was about right and wrong. If it was a holiday, and Josephine decided to stay in bed, then it would not be a moral decision.

It is God who has given us the freedom to choose right and wrong. This is a very great gift, and one of the main things that separates us human beings from other living creatures. A dog or a whale or a cuscus, cannot make a moral decision.

As we grow older, we will have more and more serious moral decisions to make. We will often have to think and pray about what to do, and even then we might still ask

how do I choose well?

Fortunately, as Christians, we don't have to go it alone when it comes to making decisions.

We have 3 important sources of information to help us decide well.

1. Scripture and Church Law

In Scripture we have the ten commandments, given in the Hebrew Scriptures. These were also mentioned by Jesus in the Christian Scriptures. The Jewish people considered the 10 commandments as a sign of God's favour.

For the Jews, the commandments showed that God was ready to communicate what is needed to make a good decision. This was important and different, because the other gods of the Canaanites and their neighbours, left people guessing about what they had to do.

Do you think that we today, are grateful for the 10 commandments, and think about them as a sign of God's favour?

If someone 'favours' you, what does it mean? Name a time you have been 'favoured'.

What other reasons could the Jewish people have for thinking the commandments were a sign of favour?

Write down three rules that you have at school, that you are grateful for.

Is there any rule that 'favours' the Grade 10's?

For Christians, the whole of the New Testament too is also a sign of God's favour. We are grateful for the instructions Jesus gives us.

Jesus is quite clear about what to do if we want to have life. He says

'If you wish to enter into life, keep the Commandments'. Mt. 19:17

Jesus went on to list the Ten Commandments. When he was asked which was the greatest commandment he said: *'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind ... and your neighbour as yourself'. Mt. 22:36*

These words from Scripture are probably familiar to us, but some of us are perhaps not as familiar with Church Law.

The Church too has a long experience of making decisions. The way the Church teaches us about decisions making is as an advisor. It shares with us the decisions others have made about problems like ours. People ask the Church, like they asked Jesus,

what must I do to be saved?

There are four ways in particular in which the Church teaches a moral way of life to us and offers it to society as a whole.

These four ways are

- by proclamation,
- by instruction,
- by public debate,
- and particularly by example.

A. Proclamation: occasionally the Church makes a public declaration about moral questions. You can sometimes read in the newspaper, statements that the Bishops have made about justice, marriage and family life, and other social matters e.g. aids, whether our country should have the death penalty, whether it is engaging in a just war, and so on.

B. Instruction: the Church is deliberately involved in formal education. Within this education, religious education holds a privileged position, and a most important part of RE at both primary and secondary level is devoted to teaching about the Scriptures and a moral way of life.

C. Public debate: the Church also teaches what she believes to be right and wrong by playing a part in public debate. This is for all its members, both laity and clergy to be involved in. Even if people cannot really influence the civil law, they have the right and duty to make sure that what the Church believes and professes about important public matters is known and understood.

If opportunities for debate are not available, society is in great danger, and the failure of the Church to enter into dialogue would be a failure of its duty to the world.

One way that ordinary people can enter into public debate is through 'Letters to the Editor' in newspapers and magazines.

Public debate does not mean actually having a debate like we do at school, but just making known what is right and just when an important issue is being discussed all over the country.

D. Example: this may be the most important way of all for the Church, both as an institution and through its individual members, to teach about the Christian way of life. When the Church and its members are recognized as an institution and people, of moral goodness, then its teaching on moral living becomes most effective.

If you walk along the school path, and someone bends down and picks up a paper in front of you, then if you see a paper, it is likely you will also pick it up.

If you walk into the classroom and someone has punched a hole in the flywire or wall, you also feel like doing the same or making the hole bigger. This shows the importance of witness, or example. Think of a time recently when you have been influenced for good or for bad by someone's example. Write it down in your religion book.

2. Moral Principles

Although Scripture and Church teaching are our biggest helps for decision making, another help to us are the ordinary moral principles of a society.

Moral principles are universal beliefs about what is right and what is wrong. They are usually very general statements and are found in different societies all over the world.

Some examples are:

- *Do good and avoid evil.*
- *Do to others as you would have them do to you.*
- *It is not right to do something wrong, in order to do something good.*
- *Do not live by lies.*

Wise philosophers in many generations and cultures, have said that these laws are written in the heart of every person.

People who make such principles their personal choice, are on the way to moral maturity and at the same time, on their way to fullness of life.

These moral principles come from the basic things that most humans agree are wrong.

What do you think are the things that most human beings agree are wrong?

See if you can write them down before reading any further.

* * * * *

Now you may look! These are the basic things that most societies agree are wrong:

- to kill
- to steal
- to hate
- to tell lies
- to hurt or injure others

Remembering these things certainly helps us in our decision making.

3. Conscience

As well as Scripture and Church Law, as well as the General Rules of society, we have a third and last thing to help us in making decisions, and that is our *conscience*.

The Church teaches that deep within us we have the ability to know what is good.

It calls this conscience.

It is our way of judging how various choices fit with our overall hopes in life and Jesus' words to us.

Conscience is the judgement that this, here and now, is what I ought or ought not to do.

Conscience is the primary means by which I grow to a greater responsibility for my own actions. Obedience to my conscience is the ultimate test of my moral integrity.

The education of my conscience is essential to my growth to maturity, and it is a lifelong job. It takes place through the influence of, and personal reflection on, the whole of my experience.

The whole of my experience includes

- inherited values (upbringing),
- knowledge and understanding of law and history (moral principles),
- the influence of others, (personal relationships),
- the influence of society, (including school, peer groups, the media),
- an attentive and active listening to the Church (fidelity),
- an awareness of and a listening to God (prayer),

SUMMARY

To help us make good decisions we have

- ⇒ Scripture and Church Law
- ⇒ General Rules of our Society
- ⇒ Our Conscience

Which one/s are you using the most?

We have read and thought about many helps to making wise decisions which will build up good relationships.

Yet still, many people ask 'Why be good?'

They notice how people who decide to do what suits them, without any thoughts about other people, seem to get their own way and nothing seems to happen to them.

- Write down some things happening in your school or community that do not satisfy you.
- Talk about these with your friend.
- Would you like to live in a way that harms other people, even if others do not seem to care?

Most of us would say No to the last question.

Deep down within us, we do not want to live in a way that harms other people, even though it might be a big struggle for us to be good. This is because the question of morality, of making choices between good and bad, is about what it means to be a human being. We are different to the animals because our actions have a moral consequence to them.

Do birds have a responsibility for the world?

Can dogs tell lies to each other?

If we want to live as human beings, then we have to be aware that our actions affect other people.

With Jesus as our model for living, with the guidance provided in the Scriptures and the teaching of the Church, with the guidance provided by moral principles and our conscience, we try to live lives of personal goodness.

That is, we strive to be MORAL people.

A prayer to help make decisions

God of my good and not-so-good decisions, help me to see things more from your view so I never leave anyone's needs out.

Give me the courage to be generous so I never decide only what suits me.

Show me the way to the future so I never doubt that you have hope in me. Make me more loving so that

I always give to others the freedom you give me.

() God be close to me as I make this decision so that your love and my life are always bound together.

Consequences

Whenever we decide or choose something, we start something else happening - this is called a **consequence**.

Sometimes when we do not make a decision, there is still a consequence of our non-decision making.

For example, if I cannot decide whether to join the soccer or the softball team, then maybe both teams are chosen without me. There is always a consequence, whether we decide for ourselves or decide to do nothing.

There is a famous true story of a woman in New York who was stabbed to death in a large building, that had many people in it. When the police asked why the people who lived nearby did nothing, even though they heard her screaming, many said

'I thought someone else would ring the police'

'I couldn't decide what to do' .. and so on.

By not deciding, they actually let her die. The sad part was that her attacker actually left her alone when she started screaming. But when nobody came to help her, he came back. This was a consequence of their decision to do nothing and leave it to their neighbours.

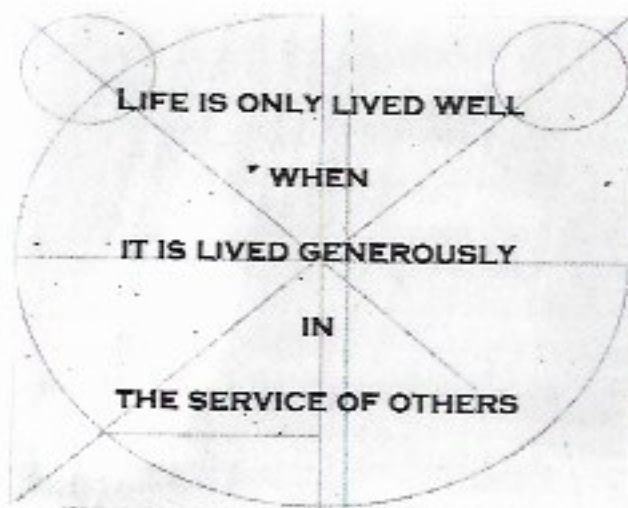
This story reminds us that we live in relationship with each other

Society depends for its health on the development of good relationships among individuals and also between individual members and the whole.



This is true for classes, for schools, for sports teams, for families and for countries and indeed, for the whole world.

We can surely give plenty of examples of how one or two people in a class, can spoil a whole classroom atmosphere. One or two people in a school can do the same to the whole school atmosphere.



Write down a list of all the decisions you have made today, starting with getting out of bed.

Beside each decision write a consequence of that decision.

Some people have suggested that the values, or qualities, or principles, that will serve us best in the 21st Century are

- ♦ commitment
- ♦ responsibility
- ♦ respect
- ♦ and service

Think of an example of somebody in your school who shows one of these values, and then fill in the table below (after you have copied it into your book).

The person's name goes in the first column. The values have already been put down in the second column. In the last column, write down something you have seen the person doing, which makes you believe they have the quality that is next to their name.

Person	Value	Example
	Commitment	
	Responsibility	
	Respect	
	Service	

Christian moral living often calls us to go beyond what society expects. This is very hard. Christians have to be heroic people.

Most of us do not want to hurt others, but we do not want to make the effort to be very good either!

If it were just left to ourselves, probably we wouldn't make much effort at all.

Fortunately for our growth and goodness, we have the season of Lent. This is one time we can use to grow in self discipline and strengthen our moral selves.

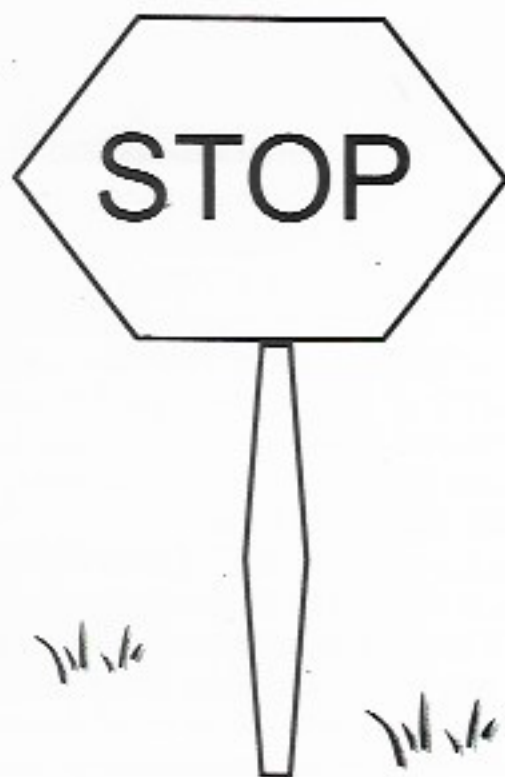
If we enter into this season by fasting, praying and making acts of love, then we will certainly be stronger to die with Jesus in order that we might rise to new life with Him, in our everyday lives as well as at Easter.

Most Christian decision making is like any other decision making.

You go through steps to get a clear picture of what is going on.

One good practice is to think of a stop sign. It is even better to draw it.

Each letter of the word STOP is a reminder to think about one of the steps in good decision making.



S stands for situation.
Ask yourself, what is the situation?
What are my real needs?

T stands for thinking.
Think of all the many possible consequences.

O stands for options.
Are there any other ways to achieve what I want?

P stands for prayer.
Prayer, reflection, and asking advice, are essential to good moral decision making.

Being made in the image of God, means being able to choose. But it does not mean being able to choose evil.

God could never choose to do evil.

God has given us freedom and the ability to understand the consequences of our actions, that is, whether our actions will result in good or evil.

Ways we destroy God's image in ourselves and in others

Drunkenness: Alcohol in itself is not bad. It is only bad when individuals abuse it, because they do not know how to drink properly. Drunks are not disciplined. Sometimes they think beer is for swallowing as quickly as possible in order to send themselves out of their minds. These people spoil their own lives and the lives of others, often the ones they love best.

Human life is certainly not respected when a person is drunk. The first person a drunk hurts is himself/herself. Sometimes they act like a fool and at other times they want to fight everybody.

The heavy drinker also damages his/her own body, especially the liver and the brain. Our brain cells are different from all the other cells in our body. If we cut our arm, we can grow new skin. If we lose blood, our body can make new blood cells. If we break a bone, our body can grow new bone cells. But, if we destroy our brain cells, new ones never grow. Drunkenness can also result in wife bashing. This is one of the many forms of violence that take place against women. A wife is not the possession of a man, for him to do what he likes with.

Suicide: Suicide has increased rapidly in our country, especially among young women. Suicide is the act of taking one's own life. St Paul tells us in the first letter to the

Corinthians, that we do not belong to ourselves but to God. Paul says *'Don't you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you, and who was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourselves, but to God, who bought you for a great price.'* This price is the precious blood of his Son. We are not allowed to destroy our own life. God decides or allows us the length of time we have to live.

If we find we are so unhappy that we do not want to live, then we must try to get help from others, to survive the hard time we are having.

Drugs: Drugs have destroyed or ruined the lives of millions of young people throughout the world. Drugs are a very big problem in our country. Being made in the image of God means we are able to choose. Drugs destroy our freedom to choose. Instead of being able to say yes or no, we become a slave to the drug. People on drugs end up stealing or even prostituting themselves to get the money to buy the drugs that their bodies are crying out for. They are no longer free. They have destroyed an important gift of God to themselves, the ability to choose and grow.

Promiscuity: Promiscuity means that we indulge in uncontrolled sexual activity. We do not show respect for the image of God that is in us, instead we are just slaves to our desires. When we are promiscuous we also do not respect others. We can cause them serious harm by passing on sexually transmitted diseases. Promiscuity can also lead to AIDS. We need to remember that we have a mind and a will, as well as feelings. We do not live by our feelings as the animals do.

On the next page, there is a very sad story about a woman called Paula.

It is a true story.

If you are promiscuous, one day, it could be your story.

Dear Students,

My name is Paula. That's my real name. I am infertile. This means I am unable to have a child. My husband and I have been trying to have a baby for five years now.

I can't get pregnant because my fallopian tubes are severely damaged. Although I did not realize it at the time, I had a disease a number of years ago, which the doctors say was probably the result of an STD. During microsurgery, the surgeon found great sheets of scar tissue wrapped around my ovaries and more scar tissue that blocked both tubes. Only one of the tubes could be repaired during the three hour operation.

I have had three years of medical treatment, countless tests, scores of injections and half a dozen surgical procedures. But still I have not been able to get pregnant.

The tests, needles and surgery are the easy part. It is the emotional pain that is the hardest to bear.

I always wanted to have children. I like them, I want to share my life with them. I wanted to be pregnant and give birth, to feel connected to the flowers and the animals and to the whole of the fertile, creative world.

But now, my body weeps for the loss. My womb is empty, and it always will be. While my friends, one after the other, celebrate the conception and the birth of their children, I have to grieve for my children who will never be.

I am also terribly angry that I never knew anything about STDs. Perhaps if I had known, I could have saved my body from being damaged and my heart from all the pain. I would never wish such pain on anyone. All I can say to you, or beg of you, is: respect yourself, respect your body. Think very carefully about your choices.

Please don't cut yourself off from the flowers.

Paula

Making choices, even making choices about some things which seem clear (such as abortion) is not always easy.

It can be very hard to know what the most loving thing to do is. For instance, the circumstances surrounding abortion can be very complicated.

What if the girl was raped?

What if she is pregnant to her own father or brother?

What if her family depend on her to finish her studies and earn money for the family?

These are real problems. But also we can trick ourselves. We can tell ourselves that we are acting in a loving way, when we are really being selfish, and thinking about what is best for me.

This is why, earlier in this book, we learnt of 3 helps we have in making a good decision.

Name these three helps or guides.

We have also just learnt about the STOP sign.

Write down what each letter in the word stop reminds us of when we are faced with decisions to make.

Copy this sentence:

The choice between good and evil does not depend only on what is right for me.

For example, in abortion, there is the life of the baby to consider, as well as the circumstances of the mother. Many people believe that an unborn child has no rights, but the Church has always insisted that our lives are a gift from God, and that unborn children are human beings and need to be protected.

In fact, they need our very special care because they are the 'little ones' of God's kingdom.

They cannot speak up for themselves.

Topic Five

Activities and Assignments

During this unit we have learnt that almost everything we do has an effect on other people, because most of our actions have moral consequences.

1. Name one way in which you have influenced another person positively.

Name one way in which you have influenced another person negatively.

2. Think about the people who have influenced you. Write a letter to a loving person who has helped you to grow. Thank them for helping you to understand and extend yourself.

3. Write down how you feel when you are

- ♦ asked an opinion,
- ♦ listened to,
- ♦ spoken to in a respectful way,
- ♦ ignored,
- ♦ shouted at,
- ♦ put down,
- ♦ given a responsibility.

ASSIGNMENT:

A. Find out about one of the following and write a paragraph in your books.

- ♦ Couples Encounter
- ♦ Marriage Encounter
- ♦ Couples for Christ

B. Think about our custom of bride-price.

- a) Write down the story of a person you know, where the bride-price has caused problems. Name these problems.
- b) Write down one good point about paying bride-price.

C. Choose the readings you would like for your own wedding day. Choose the first reading from the Old Testament, then a psalm. (Choose only two verses from the psalm).

Choose the second reading from the letters in the New Testament or from the Book of Revelation. Lastly choose the third reading from the Gospel.

Write out all your readings.

4. Copy the timetable below which shows the development of the unborn child.

In some countries, a person's first birthday is celebrated 3 months after he or she is born.

a) Why?

b) Write down the age you would be now, if your age was taken from the time you were conceived. Write your answer in a sentence.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNBORN CHILD	
Day one	Conception
One week	Attaches to the wall of the womb
Three weeks	Heart is beating
Six weeks	Brain waves measurable, the baby moves and responds to touch
Eight weeks	Feels pain, sucks thumb, grabs an instrument placed in his or her palm
Ten weeks	Body completely formed, even fingerprints
3 months	All organ systems functioning
After 3 months	Nothing new develops. There is only growth in size and maturity.

5. Our friends have a very big influence on us. So choosing our friends is one of the very important decisions that have serious consequences for us.

Written below is a poem about a friend.

Read the poem and then spend some time reflecting on it. Share what you like about the poem with your friend.

Copy the poem into your book.

Then write your own poem about what you think a true friend is like, comparing your friend to something found in nature.

Consider the moon.
When it is full, it is beautiful.
But it is not always full,
It waxes and wanes.
Nor is it always there.
Frequently you find
It is there when you don't need it,
And not there when you do need it.

Now consider the stars.
See how they stay with us,
right through the night,
unfailing, untiring, undemanding,
guiding, inspiring and watching over us.
The darker the night the brighter they shine.
If sometimes they are not visible to us
the fault is not theirs-
Clouds have got in their way.
But they are still there,
s'training to shine on us.

A true friend is like a star.
A true friend is a star.



6. Here are some statements about Morality, that is, the rightness or wrongness of human actions.

Answer *true* or *false* to the following statements, then debate with your classmates whether your answer is in line with Christian thinking or not.

1. Something is all right if the majority think it is all right
2. It is OK to get drunk as long as you don't hurt anyone
3. I have a responsibility to give to the poor even if I do not have much myself.
4. Having sex before marriage is good if you both agree.
5. I have to love others, but I don't have to like them.
6. I don't have to do anything about my bad temper if that is how I was born.
7. It is OK for me to steal a few things from others, as long as I don't take too much.
8. If I am poor, I can steal from those who have plenty.
9. It is OK to graffiti on desks and walls because I have to leave my mark on the school.
10. The plates have been served for dinner. My father is not home yet. It is alright to eat his plate of food if I am still hungry.

What would you do in the following situations?

1. Your friend Susan is lonely and sad. She has just broken up with her boyfriend and she asks you to go out with her to watch a video on Sunday night. You have homework due on Monday morning. If you go, your homework will be unfinished. If you don't go, Susan will be even more depressed.

What do you do?

2. You have a chance to tour New Zealand in a sports team. You will miss your sister's wedding if you go. She wants you to be there for her wedding. You two don't always get along, but she won't be happy if you are not there. However, you can't see another chance coming like this. You were only picked because another player got sick suddenly.

What do you do?

3. One of your friends was discovered with marijuana at school. He asks you to hide some drugs with some other things of his at your home. Your dad is a policeman and you have a talkative sister. So you tell him it is too dangerous. He then says that he will say that you have been smoking, if you don't help him.

What do you do?

4. You witness a car accident where a young child is badly injured. You see that the driver staggers as he gets out of his car to help, but he makes sure that the child gets straight to hospital. By doing this he saves the child's life. Later on he rings you and asks you not to tell the police that you saw he was drunk. He says he's sorry to ask this, but he needs his licence for his job.

He will lose his licence if he is charged with drink-driving. He is also a wantok.

The police then ring you and ask you to come to the police station to answer some questions about the accident.

What do you do?

The civil law is very confusing on the matter of the rights of the unborn child.

If a pregnant mother has an accident and loses her baby, then she can ask for compensation.

This means that the unborn baby is considered a person. But if the mother goes into the hospital to have an abortion, then the child has no rights at all!

Also it seems that the father of the child has no rights, because often he can have no say in the matter, if he wants the child, but the mother wants an abortion. The hospital follows the mother's wishes.

Do you think that the father should have any say?

Discuss the following paragraph which is also about abortion. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

People are free to make many choices, but they are not free to make a choice that denies another human being his or her right to life. The right to existence is so basic that it comes before all other rights.

When there is a conflict between the right to life (of the child) and the freedom of choice (of the mother), we can examine what each person must sacrifice.

In order to protect the life of the child, the mother must spend nine months in pregnancy. After the baby is born, she has the option of raising the child herself, or of offering the baby for adoption.

In comparison, the child loses, not nine months, but all the remaining years of his or her life.

'In a society where advertisements are full of words like 'instant', 'immediately' and where everyone wants to have 'everything at once' remember that it takes time to build the relationship between husband and wife, and that the test of love is in enduring commitment.'

* Pope John Paul II.

1. Another check of my self identity

Copy the table below, into your book.

Respond to each one of the statements by putting an X in one of the four spaces.

There are no right or wrong answers. Whatever answer describes you is correct.

After you have finished, ask your teacher how to find your score.

	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
1. I think I'm a worthwhile person, and of value to other people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I try to stay away from people who have negative attitudes about others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I am not really satisfied with my appearance but I can live with it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I think I can do things as well as most people can.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I can admit to myself and to other people when I have done something wrong.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I know I have bad points but I try to improve on them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. When someone criticizes me, I don't fall apart.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. I try to learn from my mistakes without going over and over them in my mind.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. I can stick to my beliefs and my values even under pressure from others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. I think life is interesting and exciting and worth working hard for.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. COPY, THEN FILL IN YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE.

Name	Age	Date of birth
Position in family	Number in family	
Favourite subjects in school		
Least favourite subjects in school		
Interests	Sports played	
Ambitions/Goals		
A quality I like in myself		
Friends		
How I got my name:		

what do people think is important in life?

STORY 1

James and Thomas were good friends and they lived in town. Their homes were quite close. James and his family lived in a section of the town that was provided with running water, but Thomas' family had no water supply, not even a tank. Each day, Thomas' wife would come several times to fill her buckets at the tap under James' house. The two wives would talk and James and his family were pleased to be able to help their friends.

They were all very happy though when the water supply from the town was connected to Thomas' house.

Some time later, a family built a house on the hillside behind Thomas' place. They used scrap materials and worked hard to make it waterproof. The young wife came down each day to collect from Thomas' house, and each time she had to pay 50t.

James heard what was happening. He went to his friend and said: "Are you selling the water?"

Thomas was angry because he felt ashamed before his friend. Soon they stopped being friends altogether.

What was important to James?

What was important to Thomas?

STORY 2

When I was in high school, already many of the girls were friendly with special boys. Sometimes there were fights over boys. Now I have come to a tertiary institution. Here it is different. Every girl is just expected to have a boyfriend, and you are seen as really strange if you don't have one.

At first, myself and a small group of girls I went to high school with, stayed close together. We used to attend dances and other outings as a group.

The boys noticed this and it wasn't long before they had broken up our group.

Now I have a boyfriend like most of the others. Sometimes he expects me to have sex with him, but I know that he goes around with other girls as well. Other students regard this as just the normal thing. I am really unhappy about my situation, but I do not know what I can do about it.

Why is this girl unhappy?

Why do you think the girls agree to have this type of boyfriend?

What is important to them?

Who has the most responsibility if there is a pregnancy?

Can you think of some good advice for this girl? What would you do?

STORY 3

Lucy has just come from the court where decisions have been made about her small son. She is upset because, although the child's father has shown no interest in him at all, he is now able to come and take him at certain times. Also the amount of money he has to give for food and clothing for the child is almost nothing.

Lucy realizes she will have to be completely responsible for her son. She must get work so that she and her child can live. Maybe she can go back to college.. Lucy really regrets...

What does Lucy regret?

Is this a good way for a child to grow up?

What is important to the child's father?

WHICH ONE ARE YOU MOST LIKE?

**PARROT**

I am so noisy you always know when I am around. I am very smart in my movements, so it is hard to catch me stealing things or spoiling others' belongings. I am bright and can distract a lot.

**BUTTERFLY**

I am bright and attractive to look at. I show off when others are looking. I don't settle seriously to anything. Just enjoy life.

**BAT**

I keep very much to myself. I hide away from difficult situations. I only follow what my friends do. I have fears and limits but I don't try to overcome them.

**DOG**

I am a good friend if I like you. I am strong against enemies. I'm quick to fight - especially weaker ones than me.

**ELEPHANT**

I think I am big, so I act like a boss. I can work hard when I like, but I can also use my strength to destroy things. I am loyal to my clan.

**ROOSTER**

I am considered handsome and bright. I am very confident, and like to dominate others, especially females or weaker ones. My voice is heard everytime.

**CAT**

I like a comfortable life. You won't see me doing any hard work. I like to get what I want - food etc. without effort. I like those who make life easy for me.

**FROG**

I really like the sound of my own voice. I am forever making announcements, but I don't follow up with any action. I am quick to hide if I think trouble is coming.

**SNAKE**

I have my own corners where I like to be alone. I don't mix much with others, only those the same as myself. If I am upset, I attack very quickly, often hurting others.

Copy this prayer, changing the 'we' to 'I' and the other plural verbs and nouns to the singular tense also.



Lord Jesus, we are growing up to be young men and women.
 It is wonderful to be young, and to have a healthy, strong and beautiful body, to feel that
 our life lies before us like a new mat that has not been unrolled.
 You know what is going on inside us.
 You know that we are growing up, and that we are opening out to become men and
 women capable of love and marriage.
 You understand because you made us so that men and women
 are attracted to each other.
 Help us not to fall away from you, during these exciting and troubling,
 up and down days of our youth.
 Keep our hearts clean. Give us the strength and courage to control
 our thoughts and desires.
 Some of our old customs are not according to your laws and we must not excuse ourselves
 and follow them.
 Some of our customs are very good and close to your laws, we must not excuse ourselves
 and say we want to follow the modern life.
 Do not let the weakness and bad example of others pull us down.
 Create in us a clean heart, capable of true love for another.
 If we fail, give us the courage to confess our weakness and try again.
 Whatever happens, do not let us lose you.
 If we lose you, we have lost everything and our lives will have no meaning.
 Keep close to us Lord.
 Amen.



