

## Love of Family (Maka-Pamilya)

### Reflection

Who are the members of our family? What activity do we enjoy doing together as a family?

### Inspiration from the Holy Bible

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and who walk in his ways. What your hands provide you will enjoy; you will be blessed and prosper. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your home, Your children like young olive plants around your table. Just so will the man be blessed who fears the Lord. (Psalm 128:1-4)

### Inspiration from the Holy Qur'an

"Our Lord, I have settled some of my descendants in an uncultivated valley near Your sacred House, our Lord, that they may establish prayer. So make hearts among the people incline toward them and provide for them from the fruits that they might be grateful." (Surah Al-Ibrahim 14:37)

"My Lord, save me and my family from [the consequence of what they do]." (Surah Ash-Shu'ara' 26:169)

### Hadith

Abu Hurairah (RA) reported: "Verily, whoever believes in Allah and the hereafter let him uphold the ties of kinship." (Al-Bukhari)

An A'iesa (RA) said: That Messenger (PBUH) said: "The best among you who are the best to their families, and I am the best of you to my family." (At-Tirmidhi)

Jabir bin Mut'am (RA) narrated: "That the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said: The one who severs the tie of kinship will not enter paradise." (Muttafaqun 'Alayh)

### How does God form our family?

a. God unites man and woman in marriage. "At last!" the man exclaimed. "This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called 'woman, because she was taken from 'man." This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one. (Genesis 2:23-24)

B. The gift of family is a blessing from God. Our family must be anchored on God's love. Our home should be a place where God is revered and where we show His love to one another.

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

C. God provides the guidance to serve as foundations for relationships in a family.

Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting for those who belong to the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly. Children, always obey your parents, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, or they will become discouraged. (Colossians 3:18-21)

## **Challenge**

What is your most significant learning for today? How will we keep it to our own life?

## **Prayer**

Praise God for His goodness and grace in our life. Ask forgiveness for our sins. Thank Him for the blessings we have received.

If we have any prayer requests, let us pray for one another.

We end the meeting with this declaration of faith: Lord make us an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred let us sow love. Where there is injury let us seek pardon. Where there is doubt let us show faith. Where there is despair let us spread hope. Where there is darkness let us shine light. And where there is sadness let us share joy.