

# COUPLES FOR CHRIST CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM

## Participant's Handout

### SESSION No. 7 : THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY

#### Brief Outline

The family as an institution is under attack from many fronts. We need to prevent the breaking up of families, to make our marriages more resilient. For this we need to put on God's mind and to follow his plan for the family.

#### **A. God's Plan for the Family**

- God has intended the family for the transmission of life
- The family is a place for teaching children and training leaders.
- The family is a domestic church.

#### **B. Why God's Plan for Families is Not Happening**

- God has lost his central place in the family.
- The family itself is losing its importance.
- The pace of modern life has become very fast making it difficult for lasting relationships to develop.
- The family is under attack by evil forces. 1 Pet. 5:8.

### C. What can we do?

- Make a decision that in your family, you want God's plan to happen.
- Make time for the task of building a strong family.
- Pray together as a family.
- Fathers should take steps to assume full responsibility for the spiritual and material needs of the family.
- Learn more about God's plan for your family
- Seek other couples who share your concern about family life and be in regular fellowship with them.

God has a plan for our families. But the evil one wants to prevent this plan from happening. We should seek the protection and guidance of the Holy Family of Nazareth to make God's plan happen.

### Discussion starter

1. For the men: Have I assumed full responsibility for the spiritual and material needs of my family?
2. For the women: Have I supported my husband in his role and done my share in building up a Christian family?

### Scriptures for daily prayer

| Day |                          | Day |                |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|----------------|
| 1   | Genesis 1:26-28, 2:18-24 | 5   | 1 Peter 5:8-10 |
| 2   | 1 Timothy 3:4-5          | 6   | 1 Peter 3:1-7  |
| 3   | Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 20-25 | 7   | Sirach 3:1-16  |
| 4   | Ephesians 5:21-6:4       |     |                |

### The Challenge

God is trying to restore the Christian family back to His original plan. We are called to respond to His divine efforts and to be a part of His work. Will you take the steps necessary to have God's plan happen in your family?