

What does it mean to be human?



PRAY

My Lord and my God!

You think we are splendid — more splendid than we could ever imagine! We marvel that we are your children — not because we are so good, but because YOU are so good. Amen.



CONTEMPLATE

One person reads the Bible passage aloud. Short silence.

Exchange: *What particularly appealed to you?*



STUDY

1. Read YOUCAT text sentence-for-sentence. Then one person reads the text aloud in full.
2. Three minutes of silence.
3. Each person reads a word or phrase aloud (without comment) that he or she has noticed.
4. Explain briefly in the next round why you have chosen the sentence (e.g. memories, questions, etc.).



DISCUSS

Also discuss your own questions on this topic!

Treasure Book: *Take five minutes to write down what you don't want to forget.*



CHALLENGE

Our **CHALLENGES** are just suggestions you can make in addition to your study guide meetings. You can also replace them with stronger, more fitting, more original or better ones. Just let us know at feedback@youcat.org.

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



Is 43:1

Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name: you are mine.

280

What reasons do Christians give for human dignity?

Every person, from the first moment of his life in the womb, has an inviolable dignity, because from all eternity God willed, loved, created, and redeemed that person and destined him for eternal happiness. [1699–1715]

If human dignity were based solely on the successes and accomplishments of individuals, then those who are weak, sick, or helpless would have no dignity. Christians believe that human dignity is, in the first place, the result of God's respect for us. He looks at every person and loves him as though he were the only creature in the world. Because God has looked upon even the least significant child of Adam, that person possesses an infinite worth, which must not be destroyed by men.

1. Consider this quote by Manfred Lütz: "As humans consist almost only of water, they are just a few cents worth. But in terms of dignity, they are priceless." What does he mean?
2. Can a person lose his or her dignity, thereby allowing others to treat him or her inhumanely?
3. Why is it forbidden for a human to end his or her own life?
4. Why can a Christian never accept abortion?

Deliberate together what you could do to stop abortion and euthanasia. Consider in this context: Practical support for the persons concerned is always better than fierce, aggressive accusations.

Do you accept this challenge?

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