

Wisdom of Our Catholic Tradition

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God.”

Romans 12:2

“We call upon them [the Catholic faithful] to stand against all attacks on marriage and to stand up for the meaning, dignity, and sanctity of marriage and the family.”

Marriage, Love and Life in the Divine Plan, p. 4

Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.

1 Samuel 3:9

THE BEATITUDES

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5: 3-10

Prepare for the next session by reading Chapters 4 and 8 from **Blessed is Marriage: A Guide to the Beatitudes for Catholic Couples.**

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The BEATITUDES: A Couple's Path to Greater Joy

Session Two

Your Marriage is a Dance

Before You Begin

As you enjoy your time together alone, look over this booklet and choose one or more of the activities that you find most interesting to the two of you. If any activity threatens to take the fun out of your time together, set it aside and agree to discuss it at another time.

Lord of the Dance

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
At Bethlehem I had my birth.
“Dance, then, wherever you may be.
I am the Lord of the Dance,” said he.
“I’ll lead you all wherever you may be,
I will lead you all in the Dance,” said he.

Words: Sydney Carter*

*Music: Shaker melody; adapt. Sydney Carter © 1963 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. (Admin. Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188) All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under license #76348

Just For Fun

Try to guess your spouse's favorite type of dance.
Your spouse may give you feedback by saying: “cold,” “warm,” or “hot” to indicate how close your guess is to the correct answer. (cold = distant; warm = close; hot = very close)

Stories

Do you remember a time when you had a lot of fun dancing together? Share with your spouse a time in your “marriage dance” that was graceful and wonderful, and a time when you stepped on each other’s toes, or tripped, or missed the rhythm of the music.

***“Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.”***

Matthew 5:4

Questions for Your Conversation

- ♥ If your marriage were a dance what type of dance would it be, and why?
- ♥ What would your spouse say is your typical way of dealing with a problem?
- ♥ Are we dancing to the rhythm of God’s love song, or are we following someone else’s music?

More Questions

See pages 31 & 32 in **Blessed Is Marriage**.

***“Blessed are those who are persecuted
for righteousness’ sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”***

Matthew 5:10

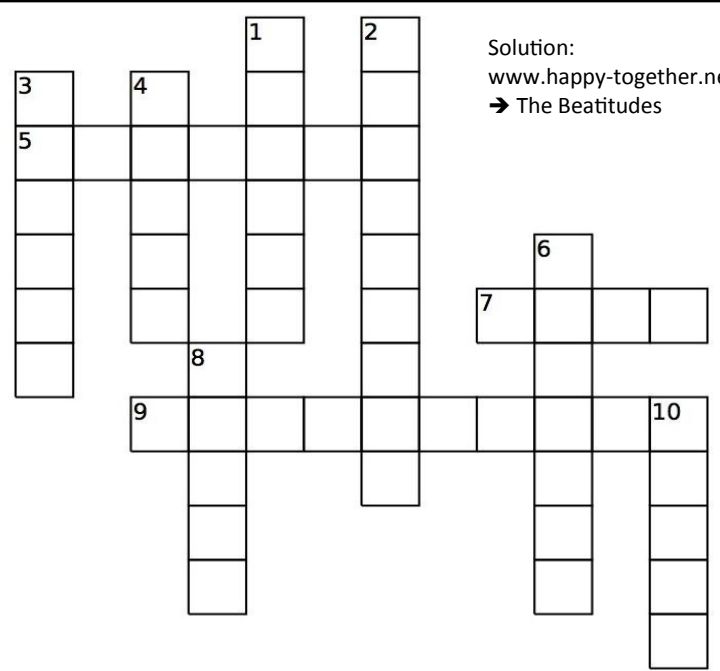
Question for Your Conversation

- ♥ What situations do you encounter in your daily life that are in conflict with your Christian values?

More Questions

See pages 86 and 87 in **Blessed Is Marriage**.

More Fun



Solution:
www.happy-together.net
→ The Beatitudes

Across

5. “Houston, we have a ____.”
7. When hurt, you feel ____.
9. When picked on, you feel ____.

Down

1. Principles you hold dear
2. Consoled
3. Your “better half”
4. When a loved one dies, you ____.
6. 1st book of the New Testament
8. Son of God
10. Song: “Lord of the _____”

Action for This Week

Put your initials by at least one action that you commit to do this week, then share with your spouse.

I will tackle a project that I have been dreading to do.	
I will ask God’s help to address a problem I do not know how to resolve.	
I will avoid watching TV shows that are counter to our Christian values.	
I will spend time reading the Bible or the local Catholic newspaper.	