



3: Outline of DVD for Participants

The outline for participants is on the next page. It is recommended that you photocopy the page as double-sided, so that the participants have one page to look at and hold.

The participants' outline has the discussion questions on the second page, at the bottom.





Outline of Marriage DVD

For participants

Use this outline to help answer the discussion questions on the back.

Introductory questions: Why does the love between a man and a woman lead to a fruitfulness beyond themselves? Does this communion point to an even greater mystery of life and love?

St. Gianna Beretta Molla and Pietro Molla: “It is true that love is the most beautiful gift that God has given to us.”

Catherine and Frank Borris: “It was as if I am the left hand and she is the right hand, and we come together and we are one. I didn’t feel as though I was complete without her. I still don’t.”

Definition: “Domestic church”— “It is here that the father of the family, the mother, children, and all members of the family exercise the priesthood of the baptized in a privileged way ‘by the reception of the sacraments, prayer and thanksgiving, the witness of a holy life, and self-denial and active charity.’ Thus the home is the first school of Christian life and ‘a school for human enrichment’” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1657).

Idea: “The vocation to marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman as they come from the hand of the Creator” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1603).

Idea: “The human body, with its sex and its masculinity and femininity, ... is not only the source of fruitfulness and procreation... It includes right from the beginning the spousal meaning, that is, the capacity of expressing love, that love in which the person becomes a gift and, by means of this gift, fulfills the meaning of his being and existence” (John Paul II, *Theology of the Body*).

Cathy and Gerry Roth: “The family is the reason we’re here. To raise your children as best you can to be good Catholics, good members of the community.”

“Do you think we could do this if we were just on our own? I don’t think so.”

“God is there at every moment. I think that is what has deepened our marriage.”

Idea: Physical fruitfulness (bearing children) and sexual difference somehow image God the Trinity.

Definition: “Image of God”— “The divine image is present in every man. It shines forth in the communion of persons, in the likeness of the union of the divine persons among themselves” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1702).

Definition: “Divine Persons”— God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The mystery of the Trinity: the three Persons are really distinct, but God is one. Human love can be an image of this distinction-and-union.

Idea: The union between spouses is caught up into the very union of God the Trinity.

Elisabeth and Felix Lesar: “It is so good to introduce a little infinity and eternity into the love I have for you!”

Lisette and Santiago Montalvo: “I knew that my vows were something very important. I knew that I was doing something in the face of God, with God, and it was a lifelong thing.”

“We found that we express ourselves differently—different ways of seeing life, different ways of doing things. ...

We have to look for the middle ground...”

“I don’t feel like I’m losing anything from me by giving to her. In fact, I feel like I’m gaining.”

“Sometimes you have to put yourself aside for the best interests of the whole family.”

Definitions: “Totality” and “Unity”— “Conjugal love involves a totality, in which all the elements of the person enter—the body and instinct, feeling and affectivity, the spirit and will. It aims at a deeply personal unity, a unity that, beyond union in one flesh, leads to forming one heart and soul” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1643).

Definition: “Indissolubility”—The reality that validly contracted sacramental marriages cannot be dissolved or ended.

Idea: In their total self-giving to one another, spouses find happiness, security, trust, and peace.

St. Francis DeSales: “The soul must sooner separate from the body of the one or the other than the husband from his wife.”

Marge and John McCarthy: “When I walked down the aisle, I had this acute sense that it was mine to undertake or not. I had a keen sense of responsibility, but also a sense of invitation—an invitation to a richer life...”

“Fidelity is not just a duty. There is just something beautiful about being loved by someone when you are no longer lovable.”

Definition: “Procreation”—Conceiving a new human life as the fruit of the love of husband and wife

Idea: The faithful union of husband and wife is such a profound and joyful gift that it naturally opens spouses up to the generation of new life together.

Dorothy Day: “When you love people, you see all the good in them, all the Christ in them. God sees Christ His Son in us and loves us, and so we should see Christ in others and nothing else, and love them.”

Melanie and Dominic Lombardi: “Part of the reason we got married is that we felt ready to be parents if God so blessed us.”

“We just pray for them and with them, and the Holy Spirit puts the joy in their hearts.”

Idea: Mothers model motherhood and being a wife, while fathers model fatherhood and being a husband.

Idea: “Man cannot fully find himself except through a sincere gift of himself” (Second Vatican Council, *Gaudium et Spes*, #24).

Maria and Luigi Quattrocchi: “Their vibrant intimacy sprang from their mutual love of Christ in the Eucharist, which they received together at Holy Mass.”

Idea: The Eucharist is the very source of Christian marriage.

Idea: Marriage symbolizes the union of Christ and the Church.

Catherine and Jeremy Sienkiewicz: “You are entering into this covenant, not just this legal kind of contract, where you exchange yourself, you give yourself to the other person totally. Everything you have, everything you will ever be, is for the other person.”

“Again, as long as we trust God and trust his mercy, we know that we will make it through these trials.”

Idea: “In a particular way, the Church addresses the young, ... for the purpose of presenting them with new horizons, helping them to discover the beauty and grandeur of the vocation to love and the service of life” (John Paul II).

Discussion Questions

- What in this video was new? What was attractive to you?
- How did the couples work on their marriages?
- Did the couples see their marriages as being only about the two of them, or did they think their marriages involved more?
- What is the point of marriage?
- What ideas from this presentation would you want to teach your children? How could you teach your children and/or others about the vocation to marriage?