

The Bible and Catholic Social Teaching

For each theme read a few of the passages cited.
Consider how the scriptural passage reflects the theme.

Life and Dignity of the Human Person

- Genesis 1:26-27 (created in the image of God)
- Deuteronomy 30:19 (choose life)
- Psalm 8:5-7 (humans made little less than a god)
- John 12:32 (Christ will draw all to himself)

Call to Family, Community, and Participation

- Genesis 17:7-8 (God covenants with a people)
- Exodus 6:6-8 (God's covenant frees a people)
- Leviticus 19:9-15, 35-37; Deuteronomy 14:22-29, 15:1-18, 24:10-22 (some of covenant's social laws)
- Jeremiah 32: 38-40 (God's covenant with a people and their children)
- Mark 1:14-15 (the reign of God, a social image)
- Luke 22:14-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Hebrews 8:7-12 (Christ's new covenant)

Human Rights and Responsibilities

- Deuteronomy 5:17, 30:19 (right to life)
- Sirach 34:22 (rights of workers)
- Psalm 146:5-8 (freedom from oppression)
- Isaiah 10:1-2 (against unjust laws)

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

- Exodus 22:20-22; Leviticus 19:33-34; Deuteronomy 24:17-18 (laws protecting aliens, widows, orphans)
- Exodus 22:24-26; Leviticus 25:23-28; Deuteronomy 15:1-11, 23:20, 24:6 and 10-13 (laws protecting debtors)
- Deuteronomy 14:28-29, 26:12-13 (laws protecting the poor)
- Matthew 25:31-46 (judgment of the nations)
- Luke 4:15-6-21 (Jesus' mission to the poor/outcast)
- Luke 14:12-14 (reach out to the poor/vulnerable)

The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

- Genesis 2:2-3 (God labors and rests)
- Genesis 2:15 (humans cultivate the earth)
- Exodus 20:9-11, 23:12, 34:21; Leviticus 23:3; Deuteronomy 5:12-15 (Sabbath gave laborers rest)
- Leviticus 19:13, Deuteronomy 24:14-15; Sirach 34:22; Jeremiah 22:13; James 5:4 (wage justice)
- Isaiah 58:3 (do not drive laborers)
- Mark 6:3 (Jesus worked as a carpenter)
- Mark 2:27 (Sabbath is for benefit of people)
- Matthew 10:9-10; Luke 10:7; 1 Timothy 5:17-18 (laborers deserve they pay)

Solidarity

- Genesis 22:17-18; Psalm 22:28-29 (save all nations)
- Isaiah 2:1-4; Micah 4:1-3; (peace of all nations)
- Romans 10:12 (no national distinctions in God)
- Galatians 3:28 (all one in Christ)

Care for God's Creation

- Genesis 1:31 (goodness of creation)
- Genesis 2:15 (stewardship of earth)
- Daniel 3:74-81 (all the earth blesses God)
- Hosea 4:1-3 (humans wound the earth)
- Romans 8:18-25 (all creation awaits redemption)

(From: *Leader's Guide to Sharing Catholic Social Teaching*. USCCB, 2000)