

UNIT 21: LOYALTY

Definition

The habit of keeping faith or maintaining intimacy with our friends and family

Discussion

ASK: What are some examples of Loyalty?

This is a tough one in some groups. Perhaps students will remember “taking up for a sibling” when a bully was present. Or maybe someone was speaking ill about a sibling, and the big brother stood up and asked for silence on the topic. Maybe students will think about loyalty to God and defending the Faith. These are all good examples of loyalty both to friend and to God.

Practice

How do we practice Loyalty at home and at co-op?

One way we practice loyalty first to God is not to allow a friendship to get in the way of that loyalty. Part of the duty of a Christian is to reprimand the sinner, so even if a friend says something false or negative about God, we are to speak up. We also show loyalty to God by not taking part in events or occasions that put us at risk of sinning. Being loyal to friends and family includes not speaking ill of our friends and family. Is it loyal to your brother to tell the teacher that he was complaining about an assignment? Does that help your brother or the teacher? [no.] Is it loyal to your sister to tell her friends that she still sucks her thumb at night? [no.] In other words, we speak well of others and not ill of them. Let us practice: Each of you say ONE GOOD THING about your brother or sister.

The CCC

“The principle of solidarity, also articulated in terms of ‘friendship’ or ‘social charity,’ is a direct demand of human and Christian brotherhood.” --- CCC 1939

“The virtue of solidarity goes beyond material goods. In spreading the spiritual goods of the faith, the Church has promoted, and often opened new paths for, the development of temporal goods as well. And so throughout the centuries has the Lord’s saying been verified: ‘Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well.’ --- CCC 1942

“Every word or attitude is forbidden which by flattery, adulation, or complaisance encourages and confirms another in malicious acts and perverse conduct. Adulation is a grave fault if it makes one an accomplice in another’s vices or grave sins. Neither the desire to be of service nor friendship justifies duplicitous speech. Adulation is a venial sin when it only seeks to be agreeable, to avoid evil, to meet a need, or to obtain legitimate advantages.” --- CCC 2480

Some Quotes

“Faithless is he that says farewell when the road darkens.” --- J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Fellowship of the Ring*