

Questions for discussion

1 “It is not good to be alone”: in what sense?

(A few suggestions:

Solitude is obviously a positive value, and *inability to be alone* is a genuine weakness.

The Church favours *celibacy* very highly - why? - and values solitary *prayer*.

Can the group discern any positive values in the life of a holy hermit?)

2 How might we understand the values of personal life, and relationship?

(The balance between the kind of affection that smothers or possesses the beloved, and the indifference that uses and abuses. How does a married couple strike the balance between time spent together and time apart? How do married people preserve their individuality - without which there would be no-one left to love?)

3 How do we find the right degree in a particular relationship?

(Not every relationship is “serious”; how do we judge the degree of significance someone will have for us? In the University, what sort of relationship is appropriate between students? Do we find ourselves differing from the people around us in our attitudes to fellow-students? If yes, or no, why or why not?)

4 How far does faith in God make a difference to our relationships?

(This question will be the most searching, and you might find it the most thoughtful, rather than the noisiest. But that doesn't mean there is nothing to say!)