

# Life is too precious to make cynical experiments



## PRAY

You alone, Lord, you are Lord over life and death. None of us would exist if you had not said out of your infinite love: „I want this man to exist. I see him with such pleasure. I have my plans with him. I have my joy with him and wait for the answer of his love!“ We praise you, Lord, and bless you for that, and we pray to you: Give us the strength to swing to the side of life day after day, to safeguard and protect it, to see it with your eyes. Let us be by your side. Amen.



## CONTEMPLATE

One person reads the Bible passage aloud.  
Short silence.

**Exchange:** *What particularly appealed to you?*



## STUDY

1. Read DOCAT text sentence-for-sentence. Then one person reads the text aloud in full.
2. Three minutes of silence.
3. Each person reads a word or phrase aloud (without comment) that he or she has noticed.
4. Explain briefly in the next round why you have chosen the sentence (e.g. memories, questions, etc.).



## DISCUSS

**Also discuss your own questions on this topic!**

**Treasure Book:** *Take five minutes to write down what you don't want to forget.*



## CHALLENGE

Our **CHALLENGES** are just suggestions you can make in addition to your study guide meetings. You can also replace them with stronger, more fitting, more original or better ones. Just let us know at [feedback@youcat.org](mailto:feedback@youcat.org).

**#DOCATChallenge:** *Share your experience on Facebook or Instagram.*



## Ps 22: 10-12

On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

69

## What is bioethics about?

The word "bioethics" is formed from the Greek words bios (= life) and ethos (= custom, usage, good habit); it is a set of teachings about how to deal fairly with all living things. Bioethics, therefore, is not just environmental ethics, research into how to preserve species and protect habitats. Good bioethics must also be ethics about the life of human beings, for the dignity of the human person is at stake, and not only in genetic research or the question of euthanasia (= May someone kill himself or another human being who is suffering badly?). National Socialism coined the expression "life not worth living", and thereby the Nazis sought in a criminal way to make themselves masters of life and death. A human being, however, is a person from the moment of conception; as a human being, he has a claim on all other human beings. No one has the right to deprive him of his God-given personal dignity. No one may violate the integrity of another human being: not for research purposes, not because someone is old, sick, demented, unborn, or disabled. The dignity of the person is the true foundation of human rights and the justification of the political order.

1. Why must there be ethics (= the philosophy on right and wrong conduct) especially in biology (= the science of life and the living)?
2. Nazis talked about „life unworthy of being lived“and meant, for instance, disabled people. Why must we not use this expression in any case?
3. Why is a so-called „consuming“ stem cells research unethical?
4. Why is the dignity of man the real foundation of human rights? Are you aware of your dignity as a person?

Become an „expert“ in one of the following three topics:

1. Euthanasia.
2. Stem cells research.
3. Prenatal diagnosis.

Take a bio-ethical approach. Share your findings at your next meeting within your group.

Do you take on this challenge?

# Life is too precious to make cynical experiments



## PRAY

You alone, Lord, you are Lord over life and death. None of us would exist if you had not said out of your infinite love: „I want this man to exist. I see him with such pleasure. I have my plans with him. I have my joy with him and wait for the answer of his love!“ We praise you, Lord, and bless you for that, and we pray to you: Give us the strength to swing to the side of life day after day, to safeguard and protect it, to see it with your eyes. Let us be by your side. Amen.



## CONTEMPLATE

One person reads the Bible passage aloud.  
Short silence.

**Exchange:** What particularly appealed to you?



## STUDY

1. Read DOCAT text sentence-for-sentence. Then one person reads the text aloud in full.
2. Three minutes of silence.
3. Each person reads a word or phrase aloud (without comment) that he or she has noticed.
4. Explain briefly in the next round why you have chosen the sentence (e.g. memories, questions, etc.).



## DISCUSS

**Also discuss your own questions on this topic!**

**Treasure Book:** Take five minutes to write down what you don't want to forget.



## CHALLENGE

Our **CHALLENGES** are just suggestions you can make in addition to your study guide meetings. You can also replace them with stronger, more fitting, more original or better ones. Just let us know at [feedback@youcat.org](mailto:feedback@youcat.org).

**#DOCATChallenge:** Share your experience on Facebook or Instagram.

## DOCAT Study guide



## Ps 22: 10-12

On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

69

## What is bioethics about?

The word "bioethics" is formed from the Greek words bios (= life) and ethos (= custom, usage, good habit); it is a set of teachings about how to deal fairly with all living things. Bioethics, therefore, is not just environmental ethics, research into how to preserve species and protect habitats. Good bioethics must also be ethics about the life of human beings, for the dignity of the human person is at stake, and not only in genetic research or the question of euthanasia (= May someone kill himself or another human being who is suffering badly?). National Socialism coined the expression "life not worth living", and thereby the Nazis sought in a criminal way to make themselves masters of life and death. A human being, however, is a person from the moment of conception; as a human being, he has a claim on all other human beings. No one has the right to deprive him of his God-given personal dignity. No one may violate the integrity of another human being: not for research purposes, not because someone is old, sick, demented, unborn, or disabled. The dignity of the person is the true foundation of human rights and the justification of the political order.

1. Why must there be ethics (= the philosophy on right and wrong conduct) especially in biology (= the science of life and the living)?
2. Nazis talked about „life unworthy of being lived“and meant, for instance, disabled people. Why must we not use this expression in any case?
3. Why is a so-called „consuming“ stem cells research unethical?
4. Why is the dignity of man the real foundation of human rights? Are you aware of your dignity as a person?

Become an „expert“ in one of the following three topics:

1. Euthanasia.
2. Stem cells research.
3. Prenatal diagnosis.

Take a bio-ethical approach. Share your findings at your next meeting within your group.

Do you take on this challenge?