



# *The Joy of Love*

## Study Guide

### Chapter Four - "Love in Marriage"

1. Read the passage on love from 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. On pages 74-94, Pope Francis breaks down each word in this passage. Given the richness of this chapter, consider returning to it frequently. As you read each section, reflect on situations from your life. In what ways do you live out these words? Where can you work to grow in your love of others?
2. **"Joy and Beauty"** Pope Francis says, "The most intense joys in life arise when we are able to elicit joy in others, as a foretaste of heaven." What experiences can you think of where you have brought joy to others?
3. **"A Love That Reveals Itself and Increases"** In this section, Pope Francis offers a set of words that needs to be used often: "Three words: 'Please,' 'Thank you,' 'Sorry.' Three essential words!" When was the last time you used one of these three words with friends, family, children, or spouse? Where might one of these words be helpful to use today?
4. **"Dialogue"** Pope Francis says, "Develop the habit of giving real importance to the other person." List some examples of how you can do this in your life.
5. **"Passionate Love"** In the final sections of this chapter, Pope Francis offers information about the emotional and physical aspects of married and unmarried life. In what ways do these section speak to you? What questions arise when you read this?
6. Throughout this week, spend time "praying to the Holy Spirit for an outpouring of his grace, his supernatural strength and his spiritual fire, to confirm, direct and transform our love in every new situation."