

*How well do you know the Catholic faith? Well, let's find out..."*

***Right now I have had a full discussion with my children. Their question is: How can you live as a young Christian if you are living in a premarital relationship or have already had premarital relations?***

**A) God loves us at every moment, in every "complicated" situation, even in a state of sin. God helps us to seek the whole truth about love and to find ways to live it more and more unambiguously and decisively.**

**In a conversation with a Priest or a reliable, experienced Christian, young people can look for a way to live out their love with increasing integrity. They will learn that every life is a process and that, whatever has happened, they can make a new beginning with God's help.**

**B) The Church doesn't talk about that. She has much more important things to do.**

**C) The Church is very clear about it, if someone lives that way he/she is excommunicated.**

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Another question which my children think is interesting. They ask: ***Is masturbation an offense against love?***

**A) No. it is not a sin any more. This was an unrealistic moral teaching of the Church before the Council.**

**B) Masturbation is a grave offense against love, because it makes the excitement of sexual pleasure an end in itself and uncouples it from the holistic unfolding of love between a man and a woman. That is why "sex with yourself" is a contradiction in terms.**

**C) The moral theologians are divided. Different authors say different things.**

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