



## Studying the Rule of the OFS



### Chapter 2 The Form of Life

17. Within their families, let them live in a Franciscan spirit of peace, fidelity and respect for life, striving to make their family a sign of a world already renewed in Christ. \*27

In particular, let husbands and wives, living out the grace of matrimony, bear witness in the world to the love which Christ has for his Church. Let them joyfully accompany their children on their human and spiritual journeys by providing a simple and open Christian education and by being attentive to the vocation of each. \*28

**Footnotes:**

\*27 Regola Leone XIII 11.8

\*28 Lumen Gentium 41.5; Apostolicam Actuositatem 30.2-3

**Cf. General Constitutions:**

Art 24.1

**ENDNOTES:**

May the Lord give you peace!



**Q.** What is ‘a Franciscan spirit of peace, fidelity and respect for life’ as it relates to the family?

Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ  
Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord  
Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the Church  
Children obey your parents in the Lord  
Fathers, do not provoke your children, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord  
(Eph 5.21-22; 6.1-4)

‘The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptised persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament.’ (Code of Canon Law, 1055)

**Q.** What is the ‘grace of matrimony’?

**Q.** Within its mission to restore the Church, it is clear that Franciscans witness to the world not only with their lips but by their lives. What is meant by ‘providing a simple and open Christian education’ to their children?