

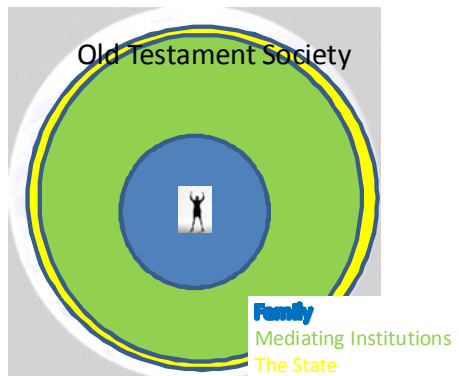
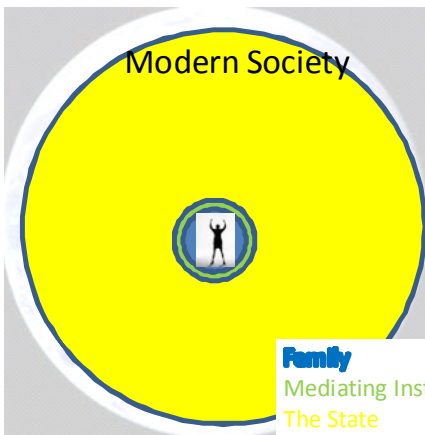


The Bible and Politics



The Bible and the Family

Circles of Belonging - old and new



The New Testament and Circles of Belonging

Family

Church - a mediating institution

Nation

Questions for Homegroups

1. What experience do you have of there being “nothing between the individual and the state” in modern society? What are the good things that a large centralised state can produce and what are the problems?
2. Consider how Jesus deals with the issue of divorce in Matthew 19:1ff. What principles come from this which might be useful for national policies on marriage and divorce?
3. What do you think are the key problems in families in this country? What does the bible have to say about these issues?
4. Should Magdalen Road Church be more involved in delivering social care to local people? What are the dangers? How does evangelism fit into this?
5. What do you think you can do as an individual to be a better citizen?

Resources on the Family

The Centre for Social Justice

<http://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/>

This is an organisation founded by Ian Duncan Smith but it is not formally affiliated to a party. It is a rare example of a think tank which is clear and brave about fundamental issues with families in the UK.

You will not agree with everything and specific policies may well need some rethinking but it is a useful place for clear information about the state of the family in Britain.



The Jubilee Centre & Relationships Foundation

www.jubilee-centre.org

www.relationshipsfoundation.org

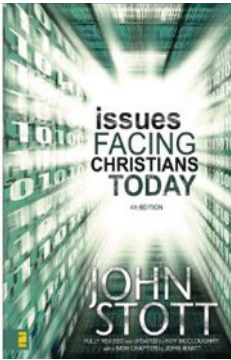
The founder of the Jubilee Centre, Michael Schluter is a passionately committed to putting relationship at the heart of the political agenda.. He has done much

pioneering work. The Jubilee Centre publishes *The Cambridge Papers* which include articles on the family.

Schluter has also founded *The Relationships Foundation* which aims to put relationships at the heart of public policy.



Recommended Books



New Issues Facing Christians Today **John Stott (IVP)**

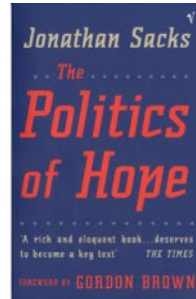
(Now showing the correct cover!)

Stott covers a range of important issues relating to the family including civil partnerships, gay issues, children etc..

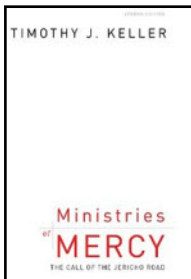
THIS BOOK IS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE AT A SPECIAL PRICE OF £10.00.

The Politics of Hope **Jonathan Sacks**

This is a rich, deeply informed and wise book advocating a communitarian approach to modern politics. Excellent on the family.



Ministries of Mercy **Tim Keller**



Keller makes the broader case for Christians being involved practically in the world.