

**“Sanctity of Human Life Sunday:
Choose Life”
Deuteronomy 30:19**

“Choose Life.”

Deuteronomy 30:19 (ESV) I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live.

Introduction

God hates the shedding of innocent blood! And His ears are filled with the cries of the innocent being slain in this nation, and there will be a day of reckoning! And we will answer for what we do and for what we don't do!

At the height of God's creative activity, he made man (as male and female) in his own image and likeness
From the "dust from the ground" God made a "living creature"

Since God is the Creator of human life, all human beings belong to God

Acts 17:28 (ESV) For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we are indeed his off spring."

Human beings are not accidents of history

Genesis 1:26 (ESV) Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

The image of God:

- (1) An upright bodily form
- (2) Dominion over created nature
- (3) Human reason
- (4) Human pre-fallen righteousness and free will
- (5) Human capacities like language capabilities
- (6) The unique relationship between man & woman
- (7) Some ability to conform to moral standards

Genesis 9:6 (ESV) "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.

Every human life—from conception to natural death—is to be received as a gift from the sovereign Creator, is to be treated with reverence and respect, and is not to be harmed without biblical justification

Psalms 139:13-16 (ESV) For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

Mark down January 22, 1973, for on that date, the United States Supreme Court made it legal for our nation to murder human beings by what doctors call an "abortion."

That's when the floodgates of death were opened, now 46 years ago this week

3400 abortions happen every day in the US

That is almost 3 abortions every minute

Every 4 minutes a life is saved at a pregnancy crisis center

93% of abortions happen because of an unwanted pregnancy

76% of abortions are performed on unwed mothers

Over 60% of women who abort their babies are over 20 years old (most are NOT unwed teens)

Over 40% of all abortions are performed on patients for the second, third, or fourth time

22% of all pregnancies are terminated by abortion!

We need to show compassion toward the unwed mother and the women who have had an abortion, not condoning the sin, but caring for the sinner, leading all to a place of repentance and restoration

1 John 1:9 (ESV) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Here's my firm conviction!

1. We must be concerned about life
2. We must stop sexual immorality in the church
 - a. This must begin with open and honest discussion about sex and God's Word
 - b. About marriage being God's institution and even though we might have failed in a marriage there is God's expectation for marriage
 - b. About our past sexual sins and our confessions to our children and our asking them for forgiveness

- c. About how we would do it now and about our expectations for our kids moving forward
- d. About gender and how they were made physically is what their gender is

If you want me involved in this discussion I am ready and available if you will just join in and be a part

We need to model Biblical marriage and we need to teach God's design to our children and to our friends. We need to stamp out sexual immorality in the church. This will only happen when parents and grandparents model a godly lifestyle and when they are convicted enough to share their convictions about Biblical marriage and sex with their children.

3. We must get rid of our idols (our way and convenience)

Acts 15:20 (ESV) But should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood.

What does God's Word say about life?

There are over 100 texts that deal with the preborn

Preborn Human Life in the Old Testament!

Psalm 139:13-16 (ESV) For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

And the Bible doesn't distinguish between prenatal and postnatal life.

Jeremiah 1:5 (ESV) "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

At conception a human life is formed in the womb

Preborn Human Life in the New Testament:

In Luke's Gospel, we read that Mary, who was pregnant with Jesus, went to visit her relative Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist

Luke 1:41 (ESV) And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Have you never heard an expectant mother say: "A fetus leaped inside me or a product of conception kicked me"

The Greek word *brephos*, noun, (*bref'-os*), an unborn or a newborn child, infant, babe, child in arms

It is the same term that is used to describe Jesus, the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger
Luke 2:12 (ESV) And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

In other words, there is no distinction made in the Greek NT between a preborn baby and a new born child

Preborn Human Life Must Be Protected!

Proverbs 24:11-12 (ESV) Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter. ¹² If you say, "Behold, we did not know this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it.

Proverbs 31:8-9 (ESV) Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute.

⁹ Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.

We need to stand up and speak out. Why? Because abortion is wrong-it is pre-meditated murder

Exodus 20:13 (ESV) "You shall not murder.

Proverbs 6:16-17 (ESV) There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him:

¹⁷ haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood.

Poor arguments of pro-abortion activists!

- A. "A fetus is not a baby"
- B. "What about rape and incest and saving the life of the mother?"
- C. "What about handicaps and birth defects?"

- D. What about poor unwed teens?
Well let me ask you about one unwed mother
- E. "Doesn't a woman have the right to choose?"

What can we do?

- A. Stay Informed
Visit frc.org and sign up for the Washington Update
It will keep you posted on issues to do with life, natural marriage, religious freedom, and other issues that Bible-believing Americans should be concerned about
- B. Start Engaging: We need to start engaging on this issue in the public arena. Jesus said we are the Salt and the Light

Matthew 5:13-14 (ESV) "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

Here are four practical ways we can be active and make an impact:

1. Pray that the dignity of every human life will be respected and protected from conception to natural death (Prov. 24:11-12).
2. Affirm all elected officials who are pro-life
3. Contact your Representative and Senators and affirm them, every one of ours is prolife

4. Educate yourself on pro-life arguments

Engage people with what the Bible says about life, natural marriage, sexual immorality

To find out more about how to promote the pro-life cause in your daily life, check out FRC.org/life.

Our efforts are making a difference

Bible-believing Christians need to be engaged because we can make a difference in who is making those life and death decisions by the way we vote and by our activism

Thomas Jefferson declared: "The care of human life and happiness and not their destruction is the first and only legitimate object of good government."

We must vote for public servants who are prolife remind those currently serving of this great truth of the need for government to protect the dignity of every human being, born and preborn

God's people need to rise up and stand up and speak up for the defenseless! In fact, the Bible gives us our marching orders

Isaiah 58:1 (ESV)"Cry aloud; do not hold back; lift up your voice like a trumpet; declare to my people their transgression.

We need to be that voice for those who have no voice.