

# **The Gospel and Abortion**

## **Goals of the Series**

- To submit fully to the teaching from God's Word
- To discover what God's Word says about modern controversial topics
- How are we as Christians to engage with each of these topics
- Become equipped to take the Gospel in the culture

*Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever. - 1 John 2:15-17*

*"I believe that one reason why the church of God at this present moment has so little influence over the world is because the world has so much influence over the church .... Put your finger on any prosperous page in the Church's history, and [you] will find a little marginal note [that says]: 'In this age [people] could readily see where the Church began and where the world ended.' Never were there good times when the Church and the world were joined in marriage with one another." Charles Spurgeon*

## **The Word is my only source of authority.**

- A preacher's authority is NOT personal.
- A preacher's authority is NOT organizational.
- A preacher's authority is NOT intellectual.
- A preacher's authority is NOT psychological.
- A preacher's authority is NOT experiential.
- A preacher's authority is ONLY biblical.

## **Goals of this particular night**

- Have a greater understanding of what God's Word says regarding abortion
- How does God see a person who's had an abortion, thinking of having an abortion, or have encouraged someone to get an abortion?
- How can Christians engage in this topic and people who are pro-choice?

## **Questions/concerns/challenges we face regarding this issue**

- This is a political issue, not a Biblical one
- It's not actually a human, just a fetus
- Doesn't a woman have right to choose?
- What about when a woman's or baby's health is at risk?
- What about a woman who has been raped?

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- Won't more children overpopulate the earth?
- Illegal abortions will be more dangerous and less healthy or safe

## **What is abortion?**

According to the Planned Parenthood website (which anyone can access), they have performed over 345,000 abortions last year alone.

Approximately over 50 million abortions occur worldwide every year  
In the United States alone, over 623,000 occurs every year

- Over 1,700 a day
- Just over one every minute

Overall, 1 in 4 women in the U.S. will have an abortion by the time they're 45 years old." -  
planned parenthood website

## **How Planned Parenthood describes abortion**

"Abortion is very common, and people have abortions for many different reasons. Only you know what's best for you"

"Everyone has their own unique and valid reasons for having an abortion. Some of the many different reasons people decide to end a pregnancy include:"

- They want to be the best parent possible to the kids they already have.
- They're not ready to be a parent yet.
- It's not a good time in their life to have a baby.
- They want to finish school, focus on work, or achieve other goals before having a baby.
- They're not in a relationship with someone they want to have a baby with.
- They're in an abusive relationship or were sexually assaulted.
- The pregnancy is dangerous or bad for their health.
- The fetus won't survive the pregnancy or will suffer after birth.
- They just don't want to be a parent.

"Decisions about your pregnancy are deeply personal. You hold the power to make decisions that are best for you in order to stay on your own path to a healthy and meaningful life.

Two different types of abortion:

In clinic – "A doctor or nurse uses medical instruments and gentle suction to remove the pregnancy." Usually performed 14-16 weeks of pregnancy "

Medication – "You take pills that end your pregnancy and make your uterus expel the pregnancy tissue (like an early miscarriage). Can be taken up to 11 weeks"

## **Gospel Foundations**

### **❖ God is our Creator and we belong to Him**

*Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

*Colossians 1:16 - For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— all things have been created through him and for him*

### **❖ He is holy and He is our Judge, which makes us accountable to Him**

*Revelation 4:8 - Each of the four living creatures had six wings; they were covered with eyes around and inside. Day and night, they never stop, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God, the Almighty, who was, who is, and who is to come.*

*Psalms 7:8 - The Lord judges the peoples; vindicate me, Lord, according to my righteousness and my integrity.*

*Romans 2:6-11 - He will repay each one according to his works: eternal life to those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor, and immortality; but wrath and anger to those who are self-seeking and disobey the truth while obeying unrighteousness. There will be affliction and distress for every human being who does evil, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek; but glory, honor, and peace for everyone who does what is good, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek. For there is no favoritism with God.*

### **❖ God made man in His own image**

*Genesis 1:26-27 - Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth." So, God created man in his own image; he created him in the image of God; he created them male and female.*

*Psalms 139:13-16 - For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.*

### **❖ We became morally evil and slaves to sin**

*Genesis 3:6-7 - The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; she also gave*

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*some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.*

*John 8:34 - Jesus responded, "Truly I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin.*

❖ **Rather than our worship and focus be on God, we focus on self**

*Romans 3:10-12 - as it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away; all alike have become worthless. There is no one who does what is good, not even one.*

❖ **We are spiritually dead (Do not miss this)**

*Romans 5:12 - Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, in this way death spread to all people, because all sinned*

*Ephesians 2:1 - And you were dead in your trespasses and sins*

*"What would you do if you met a really modern man on a train and you just had an hour to talk to him about the gospel?" He replied, "I've said over and over, I would spend 45-50 minutes on the negative, to really show him his dilemma – that he is morally dead – then I'd take 10-15 minutes to preach the Gospel. I believe that much of our evangelistic and personal work today is not clear simply because we are too anxious to get to the answer without having a man realize the real cause of his sickness, which is true moral guilt (and not just psychological guilt feelings) in the presence of God." - Francis Schaeffer*

❖ **The Gospel is the Good News that this Holy God of the universe saved hopeless sinful people deserving of His wrath, by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, to bear His wrath against sin by dying on the cross, and to show His power over sin the resurrection**

*John 3:16 - For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.*

*Galatians 3:13 - Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, because it is written, Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.*

*Romans 5:9 - How much more then, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from wrath.*

❖ **All who have faith in Jesus will be reconciled to God forever**

*Ephesians 2:4-7 - But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us, made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace! He also raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace through his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.*

❖ **In Christ, we experience a new life, with** a new heart, mind, and attitude through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit

*2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come!*

*Titus 3:4-7 - But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love for mankind appeared, he saved us—not by works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy—through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit. He poured out his Spirit on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior so that, having been justified by his grace, we may become heirs with the hope of eternal life.*

*John 16:8-14 - When he comes, he will convict the world about sin, righteousness, and judgment: About sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will no longer see me; and about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. “I still have many things to tell you, but you can’t bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. For he will not speak on his own, but he will speak whatever he hears. He will also declare to you what is to come. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you.*

❖ **Gospel-centered faith will lead to a Gospel-centered lifestyle**

*Matthew 5:16 - In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*

❖ **Heaven is a glorious reality for those who trust Jesus, and hell is a dreadful reality for those who die without Christ**

*Phil. 3:20-21 - Our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly wait for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humble condition into the likeness of his glorious body, by the power that enables him to subject everything to himself*

*Rev. 20:11-15 - Then I saw a great white throne and one seated on it. Earth and heaven fled from his presence, and no place was found for them. I also saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged according to their works by what was written in the books. Then the sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them; each one was judged according to their works. Death and Hades were*

*thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.*

There is more at stake tonight just having a little Bible study. Eternity is on the line. I pray that if you are someone who is unsure in your faith, that you would make the greatest decision of your life and give your life to Christ fully tonight. And if you have already given your life to Christ, I pray that you become equipped tonight, to understand the brutal mistreatment and murder and injustice that is being done to millions of unborn babies every year. I pray that you would not stay silent over this injustice, but stand firm in the Gospel, and become a voice of the voiceless.

## **The Gospel and Abortion**

### **❖ God alone is the Creator of all life**

*Isaiah 40:28 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the whole earth. He never becomes faint or weary; there is no limit to his understanding.*

### **❖ God alone is the giver of all life**

*Job 33:4 - The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.*

### **❖ God alone is the taker of all life**

*Job 1:21 - Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will leave this life. The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.*

*Deuteronomy 32:39 - See now that I alone am he; there is no God but me. I bring death and I give life; I wound and I heal. No one can rescue anyone from my power.*

### **❖ Out of everything in Creation, only human beings are bear the image of God**

*Genesis 1:26 - Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness.*

### **❖ Animals may be killed for human sustenance, but human beings may not murder other human beings**

*Genesis 9:6 - Whoever sheds human blood, by humans his blood will be shed, for God made humans in his image.*

- ❖ **In the Old Testament period, Ancient Near East cultures practiced the killing of unborn and infants, which God’s people were not to participate in**

*Leviticus 18:21 - “You are not to sacrifice any of your children in the fire to Molech. Do not profane the name of your God; I am the Lord.*

- ❖ **The prophets of God spoke strongly against any such practice**

*Isaiah 57:4-5 - Isn’t it you, you rebellious children, you offspring of liars, who burn with lust among the oaks, under every green tree, who slaughter children in the wadis below the clefts of the rocks?*

*Jeremiah 7:31 - They have built the high places of Topheth in Ben Hinnom Valley in order to burn their sons and daughters in the fire, a thing I did not command; I never entertained the thought*

- ❖ **During the time of the Kings of Israel, King David believed in human life at conception**

*Psalms 51:5 - Indeed, I was guilty when I was born; I was sinful when my mother conceived me.*

- ❖ **In later years, the Lord brings judgement on the Ammonites for this sin**

*Amos 1:13 - The Lord says: I will not relent from punishing the Ammonites for three crimes, even four, because they ripped open the pregnant women of Gilead in order to enlarge their territory.*

- ❖ **In the eyes of the Lord, children are seen as a blessing**

*Psalms 127:3-5 - Sons (and daughters) are indeed a heritage from the Lord, offspring, a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the sons (and daughters) born in one’s youth. Happy is the man who has filled his quiver with them.*

People often say abortion is a very complex issue. It’s not. Every single argument for/against abortion hinges on one very important question. Is the clump of cells inside a woman’s body or an actual human or just simply, as Planned Parenthood describes it, “pregnancy tissue?” What does God’s Word say?

- ❖ **Inside a woman’s womb, there can be found a person formed in the image of God**

*Genesis 1:26 - Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness.*

- ❖ **Inside a woman’s womb, there can be found a person that God is forming**

*Psalms 139:13-16 - For it was you who created my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I will praise you because I have been remarkably and wondrously made. Your works are wondrous, and I know this very well. My bones were not hidden from you when I was*

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*made in secret, when I was formed in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw me when I was formless; all my days were written in your book and planned before a single one of them began.*

- ❖ **We just remember that the Psalmist wrote this before we even had a scientific understanding of what was happening in the womb.**

*Job 31:15 - Did not the one who made me in the womb also make them? Did not the same God form us both in the womb?*

- ❖ **Inside a woman's womb, there can be found a person that God knows**

*Jeremiah 1:5 - I chose you before I formed you in the womb; I set you apart before you were born. I appointed you a prophet to the nations.*

- ❖ **Inside a woman's womb, there can be found a person that God relates to**

*Psalms 22:9-10 - It was you who brought me out of the womb, making me secure at my mother's breast. I was given over to you at birth; you have been my God from my mother's womb.*

- ❖ **Inside a woman's womb, there can be found a person that God calls**

*Galatians 1:15-16 - But when God, who from my mother's womb set me apart and called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son in me, so that I could preach him among the Gentiles*

- ❖ **Inside a woman's womb, there can be found a person that God names**

*Isaiah 49:1 - Coasts and islands, listen to me; distant peoples, pay attention. The Lord called me before I was born. He named me while I was in my mother's womb.*

- ❖ **Inside a woman's womb, there can be found a person that God anoints!**

*Luke 1:15 - For he will be great in the sight of the Lord and will never drink wine or beer. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit while still in his mother's womb*

*Luke 1:44 - For you see, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped for joy inside me.*

- ❖ **Abortion then becomes an assault on God's glorious work in creation**

*Psalms 104:24 - How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.*

- ❖ **If the unborn is not human, no justification for abortion is necessary**



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- No different than stepping on a bug (life that does not have same human value)
- No different than removing a cancerous cell (clump of cells that does not belong)
- No different than getting a tattoo (harming cells in your body for personal pleasure)

❖ **If the unborn is human, no justification for abortion is adequate**

- All abortions are murder of a child

*“Think of a little girl named Rachel. Rachel is two months old, but she is still six weeks away from being a full-term baby. She was born prematurely at 24 weeks, in the middle of her mother’s second trimester. On the day of her birth Rachel weighed one pound, nine ounces, but dropped to just under a pound soon after. She was so small she could rest in the palm of her daddy’s hand. She was a tiny, living, human person. Heroic measures were taken to save this child’s life. Why? Because we have an obligation to protect, nurture, and care for other humans who would die without our help—especially little children. Rachel was a vulnerable and valuable human being. But get this ... If a doctor came into the hospital room and, instead of caring for Rachel, took the life of this little girl as she lay quietly nursing at her mother’s breast, it would be homicide. However, if this same little girl—the very same Rachel—was inches away resting inside her mother’s womb, she could be legally killed by abortion.” - Gregory Koukl*

❖ **Though the unborn is visibly hidden from man, he/she is never hidden from God.**

*Job 10:8-13 - “Your hands shaped me and formed me. Will you now turn and destroy me? Please remember that you formed me like clay. Will you now return me to dust? Did you not pour me out like milk and curdle me like cheese? You clothed me with skin and flesh, and wove me together with bones and tendons. You gave me life and faithful love, and your care has guarded my life. “Yet you concealed these thoughts in your heart; I know that this was your hidden plan*

❖ **God will judge each and every sin of abortion**

*Romans 2:6-8 - He will repay each one according to his works: eternal life to those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor, and immortality; but wrath and anger to those who are self-seeking and disobey the truth while obeying unrighteousness.*

- This includes: mothers who have aborted babies. Fathers who have encouraged abortion. Family members who have supported abortion. Doctors who have performed abortion.
- This includes Christians who have done nothing/supported abortion
  - *James 4:17 - If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn’t do it, it is sin for them.*
- This includes political leaders who have permitted abortion
  - Government is given by God for the good of people, to legislate morality

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- *Romans 13:1-4 - Let everyone submit to the governing authorities, since there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are instituted by God. So then, the one who resists the authority is opposing God's command, and those who oppose it will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you want to be unafraid of the one in authority? Do what is good, and you will have its approval. For it is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, because it does not carry the sword for no reason. For it is God's servant, an avenger that brings wrath on the one who does wrong.*
- "The Government doesn't have a right to take away my rights to choose." That's exactly what they should do. They take away our rights to choose murder or choose kidnapping. The government should absolutely limit our rights to be pro-choice in those arenas

Yet, we live in a world where 1 in 4 women have had an abortion, and countless fathers and family members have encouraged it. This is everything the Bible says. How does the Gospel relate?

#### ❖ **God is the Savior of all sinners**

*Titus 3:3-7 - For we too were once foolish, disobedient, deceived, enslaved by various passions and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, detesting one another. But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love for mankind appeared, he saved us—not by works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy—through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit. He poured out his Spirit on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior so that, having been justified by his grace, we may become heirs with the hope of eternal life.*

#### ❖ **God forgives all sinners entirely**

*Psalms 103:11-12 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his faithful love toward those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.*

#### ❖ **God heals all spiritual and emotional wounds**

*Luke 7:47-50 - Therefore I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven; that's why she loved much. But the one who is forgiven little, loves little." Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." Those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this man who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."*

#### ❖ **God restores all sinners fully**

*Romans 8:1 - Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus*

❖ **God redeems all sinners fully**

*Romans 8:28 - We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.*

- Christ is greater than any and all sin, and He is redeeming sinners to this very day, and radically transforming desires making people like you and I into the image of Christ. To God be the glory

❖ **Because of this confidence in Christ, the Church should be strong advocates for the rights of unborn children**

*Ephesians 5:6-11 - Let no one deceive you with empty arguments, for God's wrath is coming on the disobedient because of these things. Therefore, do not become their partners. For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light— for the fruit of the light consists of all goodness, righteousness, and truth— testing what is pleasing to the Lord. Don't participate in the fruitless works of darkness, but instead expose them.*

## Objections

❖ **"it's just a clump of cells"**

- Every cell in the womb is being formed by God
- *Psalm 139:13-16 - For it was you who created my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I will praise you because I have been remarkably and wondrously made. Your works are wondrous, and I know this very well. My bones were not hidden from you when I was made in secret, when I was formed in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw me when I was formless; all my days were written in your book and planned before a single one of them began.*
  - Week 1 - Child begins to form in wound
  - Week 4 - Brain, backbone, and spiral cord begin to form
  - Week 5 - Three distinct layers of the body form
  - Week 6 - Brain waves can now be detected and recorded
  - Week 7 - Movements of arms and legs detected
  - Week 8 - nose and eyelids form
  - Week 9 - Gender begins to form, including many of bodily organs
  - Week 10 - Fingers and toes
  - Week 11 - inhaling and exhaling easily noticeable
  - **Keep in mind, many abortions happen in week 12-14**

❖ **Doesn't a woman have the right to choose? It's her body. They have right to privacy?**

- Well, some things for sure, but not all things. Yes, we have freedom to choose—whether we have children or not. But we don't have the freedom to simply eliminate toddlers, or teenagers for that matter, who are inconvenient to us. No woman has the freedom to kill her child if it's a child, right?
  - “But making abortions illegal forces women into back alleys with coat hangers.” Well, if it's dangerous to kill a person, should we make it easier for them? If it's dangerous to rob a bank, do we make it more convenient for bank robbers?
  - “But more children will create a drain on the economy.” When human beings get expensive, shall we kill them?

❖ **What about a couple that isn't ready to be parents? Or can't afford a child? Or want to focus on other goals before having a baby?**

- Abortion is murder
- Genesis 9:6 - Whoever sheds human blood, by humans his blood will be shed, for God made humans in his image.

❖ **What about a mother who is raped?**

- Should a child be punished for the sin of the father?
  - *Deuteronomy 24:16 - “Fathers are not to be put to death for their children, and children are not to be put to death for their fathers; each person will be put to death for his own sin.”*
  - Would you murder a child outside the womb that was conceived by rape?
- So how do we treat this child? With love and mercy
- What about the emotional toll this has on a woman? Don't you care?
  - If the rapist was caught, would we allow the woman to murder the rapist in order to have emotional relief? Absolutely not. Then why would we allow her to murder her innocent child to have emotional relief?
- The message of the gospel: God takes unimaginable evil and turns it into ultimate good
  - *Acts 2:22-24 - “Fellow Israelites, listen to these words: This Jesus of Nazareth was a man attested to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did among you through him, just as you yourselves know. Though he was delivered up according to God's determined plan and foreknowledge, you used lawless people to nail him to a cross and kill him. God raised him up, ending the pains of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by death.*

❖ **What about cases of incest?**

- Story of Judah and Tamar - Genesis 38
- *Matthew 1:3 - Judah fathered Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez fathered Hezron, Hezron fathered Aram*

❖ **What if the child is special needs? (Approximately 92% of babies with down syndrome are aborted)**

- All of God's works are wonderful
  - *John 9:1-3 - As he was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," Jesus answered. "This came about so that God's works might be displayed in him.*
- Even (or especially) in the midst of difficulty
  - *Genesis 50:20 - You planned evil against me; God planned it for good to bring about the present result*

❖ **What if the mother's life is at risk?**

- Seek professional medical diagnosis (hopefully Christian)
- If there is no other option and both the baby and the mother will die, then it is better to save a life rather than lose both.
- Beautiful opportunity of mother risking her life to have the child, but if it's a sure death sentence, better to save her life

❖ **"I'm pro-life but I don't feel I should tell anyone how to live their life"**

- Millions of babies are murdered every year. If we stay silent, we are no different than those in Nazi Germany who stayed silent on concentration camps. Or the countless men and women who stayed silent about slavery.
- *Proverbs 24:10-12 - If you do nothing in a difficult time, your strength is limited. Rescue those being taken off to death, and save those stumbling toward slaughter. If you say, "But we didn't know about this," won't he who weighs hearts consider it? Won't he who protects your life know? Won't he repay a person according to his work?*

❖ **Jesus and the New Testament never talk about abortion**

- Jesus cherishes children
  - *Matthew 19:13-15 - Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. Jesus said, "Leave the little children alone, and don't try to keep them from coming to me, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." After placing his hands on them, he went on from there.*
- Luke records the fetal personhood of John the Baptist in the womb
  - *Luke 1:44 - For you see, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped for joy inside me.*

❖ **Is embryonic stem cell research ok?**

- Embryonic stem cell research involves the creation of human embryos in order to harvest their stem cells for medical research. This type of research is essentially creating life and then destroying life for the purpose of science. It's murder. There are alternatives in which removing stem cells does not harm any life whatsoever.

❖ **What happens to the babies that die in abortion?**

- A person does not go to heaven because they are "innocent."
- All people sin and deserve judgement, even prior to birth
  - *Romans 5:12 - Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, in this way death spread to all people, because all sinned*
- HOWEVER, an argument can be made that Bible supports that infants do go to heaven
  - David will see His dead son again
    - *2 Samuel 12:22-23 - He answered, "While the baby was alive, I fasted and wept because I thought, 'Who knows? The Lord may be gracious to me and let him live.' But now that he is dead, why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I'll go to him, but he will never return to me."*
  - God punishes sin differently for different generations
    - *Numbers 14:29-33 - Your corpses will fall in this wilderness—all of you who were registered in the census, the entire number of you twenty years old or more—because you have complained about me. I swear that none of you will enter the land I promised to settle you in, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun. I will bring your children whom you said would become plunder into the land you rejected, and they will enjoy it. But as for you, your corpses will fall in this wilderness. Your children will be shepherds in the wilderness for forty years and bear the penalty for your acts of unfaithfulness until all your corpses lie scattered in the wilderness.*
  - Jesus loves children
    - *Matthew 19:13-14 - Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. Jesus said, "Leave the little children alone, and don't try to keep them from coming to me, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*
- But if they go to heaven, why does abortion matter?
  - Murder is a big deal
    - *Genesis 9:6 - "Whoever sheds human blood, by humans his blood will be shed, for God made humans in his image.*
  - If we try and justify the murder of the unborn, what's stopping us from justifying the murder of 1 or 2-year-old? Or Christians?
  - Shall we sin so that grace may abound? (Romans 6:1-2)
  - Life on earth is good. It's good to be alive. Good opportunities to serve God on this earth.

*If you have any questions throughout the night, please text 310-710-3028*

- *Philippians 1:21-24 - For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. Now if I live on in the flesh, this means fruitful work for me; and I don't know which one I should choose. I am torn between the two. I long to depart and be with Christ—which is far better—but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for your sake.*

## **Practical Takeaways**

### **❖ How should we respond as believers?**

- Learn the facts about abortion
- See the pictures of abortion (the world needed to see the concentration camps from Nazi Germany.)
- Listen to the victims of abortion

### **❖ If you are someone who has had an abortion/thinking of having an abortion**

- Remember who are you in Christ

*Isaiah 53:5-6 - But he was pierced because of our rebellion, crushed because of our iniquities; punishment for our peace was on him, and we are healed by his wounds. We all went astray like sheep; we all have turned to our own way; and the Lord has punished him for the iniquity of us all.*

- Share your burdens from the past with sisters and/or brothers in Christ

*James 5:16 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.*

- Share your struggles in the present with sisters and/or brothers in Christ

### **❖ As believers, we are to speak up about abortion**

- To God in prayer
- To believers and non-believers
- To our government

### **❖ Serve**

- Giving of time and resources to pro-life causes and ministries
- Serving unwed, under-age, or single mothers
- Volunteer at pregnancy centers
- Consider adopting unwanted children
  - Care for the unborn. Care for the born

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*Psalm 82:3-4 - Provide justice for the needy and the fatherless; uphold the rights of the oppressed and the destitute. Rescue the poor and needy; save them from the power of the wicked.”*

*James 1:22-25 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.*

## **Recommended Reading**

For further study on the topics covered in tonight’s sessions, see the resources listed below. Please note, however, that Hope Chapel Youth ministry does not endorse everything contained in these resources. As always, we urge you to examine these resources and the topics covered in this study in light of the truths of God’s Word.

- ❖ Gregory Koukl, *Abortion and Human Rights*
- ❖ Randy Alcorn, *Pro-Life Answers to Pro-Choice Arguments*
- ❖ David Platt, *Counter Culture*

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