

Morality: Choosing God
Lesson 11 – Abortion is a Sin

1. There are those who state that the act of abortion does not constitute taking of a human life. If that is the case, can anyone tell me what is growing in the womb? At the moment of conception, the Lord God, working through nature, begins the process of shaping, forming, and making the body of a human being, even as a potter would shape and mold a piece of clay.
2. Children are innocent until the age of accountability, and multiple verses, including Genesis 9:6, Exodus 20:13, Deuteronomy 7:25, and Proverbs 6:16-17, condemn the shedding of innocent blood.
 - 2.1. In Exodus 23:7 the Word instructs to *“Keep yourself far from a false matter; do not kill the innocent and righteous. For I will not justify the wicked,”* clearly showing that God adamantly reviles abortion. Supporters of abortion cannot comprehend that by snuffing out the life of these innocent children, they are condemning themselves to a life without the Son, Jesus.
 - 2.2. And as it says in 1 John 5:12, *“He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.”*
 - 2.3. Consider this: according to Abortionfacts.com, on the day of conception, “of the 200,000,000 sperm that try to penetrate the mother’s egg cell, only one succeeds. At that very moment, a new and unique individual is formed. All of the inherited features of this new person [not fetus] are already set – whether it’s a boy or girl, the color of the eyes, the color of the hair, the dimples of the cheeks and the cleft of the chin. He or she is smaller than a grain of sugar, but the instructions are present for all that this person will ever become.” Everyone deserves a chance at human life, and mankind has no right to take that away.
3. **When Does Life Begin in a Human Being?**
 - 3.1. Genesis 2:7. “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.”
 - 3.2. Job 33:4. “The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.”
 - 3.3. Psalm 51:5. “Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.”
 - 3.4. Some would say that God imparts the human soul, which marks the beginning of life, at the very moment a baby breathes its first breath. They cite such passages as Genesis 2:7 where it says that when God breathed into Adam the breath of life, he became a living being. I certainly wouldn’t dispute the fact that right after God breathed a human soul into Adam that he began to live. However, God’s creation of Adam was quite different from that of His creation of human babies. God made Adam in one day, forming for him a mature, adult body out of the lifeless dust of the earth and then breathing into him the breath of life. The Lord forms and makes babies however, out of living cells over a period of nine months.

4. **Both Unborn Babies and Born Babies are Living Beings**
 - 4.1. Luke 1:41. "And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe (brephos) leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit."
 - 4.2. Luke 18:15. "Then they also brought infants (brephos) to Him that He might touch them; but when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them."
 - 4.3. The Holy Scripture makes no distinction between unborn babies and born babies. It does not speak of a fetus as being an inanimate mass of tissue. Rather it speaks of a fetus as a living baby, even as it does of a born baby.
 - 4.3.1. In both Luke 1:41 and Luke 18:15 the same Greek word (brefoV - brephos) is used for both the unborn baby of Elizabeth and the little babies that were brought to Jesus for Him to bless.
 - 4.3.2. Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon gives the following meaning for brefoV (brephos): an unborn child, embryo, fetus; a new-born child, an infant, a babe. Thus brefoV (brephos) is used interchangeably for both prenatal and postnatal babies.
5. **The Termination of Man's Life Rests Alone with God**
 - 5.1. 1 Samuel 2:6. "The LORD kills and makes alive; He brings down to the grave and brings up."
 - 5.2. Psalm 31:15. "My times are in Your hand; Deliver me from the hand of my enemies, And from those who persecute me."
 - 5.3. Job 14:5. "Since his days are determined, The number of his months is with You; You have appointed his limits, so that he cannot pass."
 - 5.4. Acts 17:25-26. "Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings."
 - 5.5. The Lord God, who gives to all life and breath, possesses the ultimate authority of determining how long an individual is to live here on earth as well as when to end that life. Only in cases where the government is acting as a representative of God - such as in carrying out capital punishment and in engaging in war - does man possess the right to take the life of another human being (Genesis 9:6; Romans 13:1-4).
6. **God Prohibits Murder**
 - 6.1. Exodus 20:13. "You shall not murder."
 - 6.2. Genesis 9:6. "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man."
 - 6.3. Exodus 21:22-23. "If men fight, and hurt a woman with child, so that she gives birth prematurely, yet no harm follows, he shall surely be punished accordingly as the woman's husband imposes on him; and he shall pay as the judges determine. But if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life."
7. What of those cases where the life of the mother is at risk? If I was dying from a heart condition, would it be ethical for me to murder one of my children

so that I might have their heart to save my life? No one would agree with that premise but the question I ask of you is this: is there any difference in the two situations? Of course not. There is much assumption made that the mother would die but there is no certainty.

7.1. One thing you might want to remember; the power of prayer. James 5:16 tells us that the right kind of prayer coming from the right kind of person makes for a powerful combination...The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. At times God says "yes" when we pray, at times God says "no" when we pray. As Christians, we know that we need to leave it in His hands.

8. How do we stop this vicious cycle? Parents have a mandate to supply the inner spiritual forces, which are sorely needed in family life. There is no substitute for the presence of love, faith, and respect, which are so fully illustrated in Christ and taught in the scriptures. These values are what will end abuse and abortions in this country.

8.1. Children have a right to be loved and wanted.

8.1.1. In order to have the capacity to love, one must first be loved (I John 4:19-21). This provides the child with a sense of being wanted, while conflict, quarrellings, and broken homes cause a child to feel insecure and unwanted. These feelings can and do lead to serious antisocial attitudes and negligence. Parents must express their love in both word **and** deed.

8.2. Children have a right to Divine Truth.

8.2.1. The basic orientation of each child rests upon his understanding about God, about Christ, and about the word of God.

8.2.2. Morality and good citizenship are born out of the understanding we are to live for GOD, not man. We are to live by God's values, not mans.

9. The world can only be changed when parents understand the great responsibility they have to raise the God given blessing of children in the way God commands.

If A Child Lives

With criticism, they learn to condemn.

With hostility, they learn to fight.

With fear, they learn to be apprehensive.

With pity, they learn to feel sorry for themselves.

With jealousy, they learn to feel guilty.

With encouragement, they learn to be confident.

With tolerance, they learn to be patient.

With praise, they learn to be appreciative.

With acceptance, they learn to love.

With approval, they learn to like themselves.

With recognition, they learn to have a goal.

With fairness, they learn what justice is.

With honesty, they learn what truth is.

With security, they learn to have faith in themselves.

With love, they know God.