



Sermon Series: Courageous Conversations, Part 4

Sermon Title: Conversations About Protecting the Unborn

Speaker/ Date: Armin Sommer, January 24, 2021

One of the key passages in the Bible that speak to the sanctity of unborn humans is Psalm 139, penned by David. **Psalm 139:13, 15**

That passage speaks of the personhood of unborn humans. Another scripture speaks of our obligation to protect the unborn. **Proverbs 24:11–12**

(Big idea) We are to cherish and protect the lives of unborn human beings.

Abortion is not only a woman's issue, but a spiritual issue, from first to last.

Element #1. Establish Rapport

This requires us to discover the background of the person with whom you are having the conversation. Did they pursue an abortion or encourage or support such a decision in some way? Depending on the person's role, there may be different levels of denial, grief, shame, or even trauma.

Part of establishing rapport is the realization that the person you are conversing with may be carrying a deep wound. Part of your role, therefore is to be a burden-bearer. **Galatians 6:1–2**

Element #2. Know and Speak Truth

The Pro-Abortion Argument

In 1973 *Roe v Wade* SCOTUS decision declared abortion to be a right. Jane Roe was a fictitious name given to Norma McCorvey who was pregnant with her 3rd child and ended up carrying the child to term. Within a few years she came to know the Lord and became a pro-life advocate. On Jan 22, 1973 the court ruled that constitution implied a right to privacy, which also implied a right to abortion. The result of the Court's decision: most states (including NJ) allow abortion up to the moment of birth.

Pro-Choice advocates often ignore the movement's association with Margaret Sanger, the founder of Planned Parenthood. Sanger was a proponent of eugenics - the theory of improving the human population by controlled breeding. Eugenics would become a key part of Nazi ideology. She was also a racist.

God created us as distinct from all other creatures. He is involved in every human life even before birth. **Psalm 139:13-16**

God expects us to see the unborn as precious and to protect those without the ability to speak for themselves. **Matthew 25:40**

The world for the past year focused on the COVID-19 pandemic. Since January of last year, roughly 1.9 million people died with COVID. But over the last 12 months, **43 million lives** have been snuffed out by abortion, worldwide.

An unborn baby's heart is beating at just 25 days. Brain waves can be recorded at just 40 days. Often before a woman knows that she's pregnant! At 9 weeks, the baby can hiccup and at 12 weeks, he/she has his own fingerprint. None of this information was known back in 1973. Back then, it was easier to believe the unborn child was just a clump of cells. But since ultrasounds have become routine, all of that changed. Many abortion-vulnerable women, if they see their first ultrasound of their unborn, choose to carry their child to term. That's why ultrasound tech is so valuable to ministries we support.

Element #3. Keep the Door Open

One of the best ways to keep the door open is to encourage your friend to listen to the voices of experience; those who have endured and now pursue recovery after the experience of abortion.

Pro-choice advocates are sincere, but sincerely misinformed. We respect and care about them. But we must do whatever we can to protect human life.

Abortion is not the unpardonable sin. Anyone can experience healing and freedom from regret and guilt. **Isaiah 1:18**

Psalm 103:12 also tells us God is willing to remove the guilt of our sins "**as far as the east is from the west.**"

Friends, I trust as you stand before the Lord` someday, He'll be able to commend you (and me) for protecting the "least of these" because of our love for Him. **We are to cherish and protect the lives of unborn human beings.**

Discussion Questions:

- What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?
- Should followers of Christ ever vote for a candidate who supports abortion? Explain
- Is there ever a circumstance where is biblically appropriate for a mother to have an abortion?
- Do you ever see the law of our land change regarding it's position on pro-choice?
- Should/ will God judge America for the legal stance on abortion?
- How would you counsel someone who is living with the guilt of having or endorsing an abortion?
- How can local and global churches be more pro-life (note: not simply pro-birth)?
- What are some ministries that you know of which serve to support the physical needs of women who are now caring for the unplanned children that they chose not to abort?
- Do you serve in any capacity to stand against abortion? Explain.

BIBLE VERSES

Psalm 139:13, 15 (NIV) — For you [God] created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ... 15 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.

Proverbs 24:11–12 (NIV) — 11 Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. 12 If you say, "But we knew nothing about

this,” does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who guards your life know it?

Galatians 6:1–2 (NLT) — 1 Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. 2 Share each other’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb... All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. (Psalm 139:13-16)

Isaiah 1:18 Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.