

# Life and Abortion

## **Introduction:**

We want to start by acknowledging the reality that the following topics have been very polarizing, controversial, and a source of division among many in our day. People with opposing viewpoints on the issue have responded in hurtful and offensive ways, which brings hurt and pain to the foreground and places truth and healing in the background.

Also, because of the multi-layered and complicated nature, we ask those of you reading these positions to do so with humility, open hearts, and a desire to understand, not just be understood. It's only with a posture of extreme love that we can bring healing to hearts that have been hurt.

Our desire at Mission Church is to be people marked by our love for others. We are committed to listen to you and walk with you, regardless of any differences we may have. We exist to help people find and follow Christ and we invite all people into that purpose.

Though it has always been our preference to address this topic in a relational way, we also thought it would be important and respectful to lay out our position on life and abortion for anyone who is investigating or already a part of Mission Church.

## **Our Beliefs:**

**We believe a Christian's position should only be determined by the Word of God.**

The state or country you live in, whether you are male or female, young or old or regardless of which political party you identify with; none of these things should determine your view on life and abortion.

**We believe that all human life is created in the image and likeness of God.**

Genesis 1:26 states *Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness..."* And then in chapter 5 it says this in verse 3: *"When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image..."*. The words *image* and *likeness* when God creates man and when Adam and Eve give birth to Seth are the same words. To this day, when men and women conceive life, that life is in the image and likeness of God.

**We believe in the sanctity of all life and we believe life begins at conception and is known by God even before conception.**

Jeremiah 1:5 states: *“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”*

In Psalm 139:13-16, David writes this:

*13 For you created my inmost being;  
you knit me together in my mother’s womb.*

*14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
your works are wonderful,  
I know that full well.*

*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.*

*16 Your eyes saw my unformed body;  
all the days ordained for me were written in your book  
before one of them came to be.*

The apostle Paul wrote this in Galatians 1:15 *“But when God, who set me apart from my mother’s womb and called me by his grace...”*

Job 31:15 states *“Did not he who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same one form us both within our mothers?”*

Isaiah 44:24 states *“This is what the Lord says— your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the Lord, the Maker of all things, who stretches out the heavens, who spreads out the earth by myself.”*

**We believe abortion intentionally ends innocent life in opposition to the will of God.**

Exodus 20:13 commands us *“Thou shall not murder.”*

1 John 3:12 states the following:

*Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother’s were righteous.*

It says this in Proverbs 6:

*16 There are six things the Lord hates,  
seven that are detestable to him:*

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

**We believe there is grace without condemnation for those who have been involved in an abortion.**

Romans 8 starts with this: *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

1 Corinthians 12:9: *But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest on me.*

Romans 3:23-24: *...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.*

**In closing:**

All life involved in abortion - the mother, the father and the child - matters to God. Each life has equal dignity and deserves the care, support and protection of the Church. Being "Pro-life" is not a world view or a political view, it is the view of our heavenly Father. **If you hold a pro-life view that only is expressed by the casting of a vote, you have not answered the call to love the marginalized people in our communities who are faced with the decision of abortion.**

Our church is committed to equipping our people to be sent to **help people find & follow Christ**. To those of you in our church community who are passionate about the lives involved in abortion, now is the time to answer the call to start a **Missional Community** to help this group of people find & follow Christ.

Lastly, more than helping you understand us, we want to get to know you. Our staff and leaders are available and open to having healthy conversations regarding life and abortion. Our primary goal is to help people find and follow Christ. As we each grow to know, love and follow Jesus, we believe we are transformed into His image.