

## **DO | What are you going to do about it?**

*Proverbs 24:11-12*

***"Rescue those who are unjustly sentenced to death; don't stand back and let them die. Don't try to disclaim responsibility by saying you didn't know about it."***

- **We must not be silent!!** First, it makes clear that when a group of humans are being killed who ought not to be killed, it is our biblical duty to intervene and to try to rescue them and to hold them back from the slaughter.
- Second, the text makes clear that sometimes slaughter can be done with enough camouflage that people may try to make a plausible case that they did not really know what was happening.
- Third, it makes clear that the excuse of ignorance is not likely to hold with God who not only knows what we really know in our hearts but also what we have willfully neglected to know.
- Now I believe (John Piper) very strongly that this is God's word to us today concerning the slaughter of abortion. I believe this text is a clear call to action along with many others of a similar kind ([Psalm 82:3-4](#); [Isaiah 58:6-7](#); [James 1:27](#); [2:14-17](#); [1 John 3:16-17](#); etc.).

**Biblical Principle:** According to James 1:27; we need to care for those who are in need – society's most helpless members- and avoid the sins of the world. HUA

**?Question:** What does Christlike action look like to you??

**Application Challenge:** Write out your argument to defend prolife!

## **-----Stories from the Field-----**

*There is a Gathering Storm over human life. The debate over abortion in America is still fervent and it continues to shape American political parties. Activism has not yet produced a liberal consensus. Unless Christian press into the storm and declare the sanctity of human life – casualties will grow- we can not be silent.*

Every law restricts human freedom. **With the separation of church and state argument driving confusion, by stating that abortion restrictions are imposing faith on others, the government is trying to legislate morality.** But who's – secularism? Women are more pro-life than men and account for a larger percentage of the pro-life agenda

**The Christian worldview states that from the moment of conception, a human life begins to develop and demands protection and care.** If a woman's *physical life* is at stake, it is not wrong to save her life. The moral reality of the human life supersedes the means by "how," including immorally, that human life came to be. There are illegitimate parents, but no illegitimate children!

**God created mankind in His image,** male and female, and not only gave them life but created them with the ability to reproduce their own living human offspring. **Christians believe that through the Bible God has instructed us to respect that "gift" of reproduction and to respect the life that it brings,** and it should be protected from conception to natural death.



**Men of Valor**

### **Gathering Storm #3**

**Biblical Manhood:** To love and follow Jesus by being Men of the Word and Men of Prayer while Accepting Accountability, Taking Responsibility, Leading Intentionally, Persevering through Adversity in their domain to make God Known

**The Worldview: The pro-abortion movement has strategically labeled abortive care as health care- thus, opposing abortion amounts to opposing woman's access to health care services.** That is the premise upon which they believe abortion is a constitutional right! And in turn, must be made available to all through Federal funding. The meaning, however, of health can include psychological or emotional health, which means a woman, for any reason, can abort her pregnancy.

The Christian witness demands that we bear witness to the glory of the creator by pointing to the development and beauty of human life in a mother's womb. **We must defend the sanctity of human life and confront the arguments demanding unfettered access to abortions.** We do this by **1 – Praying that God would intervene**, change hearts and shed His mercy on our nation. **2 – Equipping ourselves with the Word of God** to preach and proclaim the glory of humanity enshrined in God's creative mandate. **3 – Championing adoption and foster care**, willing to step in to take a child, who otherwise would have been aborted. **We cannot accept the logic of the culture of death. The only real answer is the gospel of life!!**

### **Talk about it:**

**Question for contemplation and discussion:** What did God enlighten to you in the text?

## **KNOW | What does God want us to know**

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### ***Acts 17:26***

*From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands.*

- **There are no illegitimate children!!** We can certainly say that we had nothing to do with the time and place of our birth. **Our nationality**

**and heritage were chosen by God.** God has set things in place so that we would seek him and reach out and find him. Paul gives us hope and a mystery for those who wonder about the faithfulness of God to His creation. Just like the Greeks that Paul was addressing, the question is not “What is God doing in the outer reaches of the world? But rather What is God doing in me right now.

**Biblical Principle:** God is the creator; God is sovereign and in control! Romans 8 - All things – even illegitimate parents – are used for God's Glory and our good!! HUA (Tim Teabow)

**?Question:** What does God want you to know about His perspective on the pro-abortion movement given this understanding?

## **BE | How does God want us to become more like Him?**

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### ***Genesis 9:6***

*“Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.*

- **We must defend the sanctity of human life! The basis for this requirement is the image of God (Gen. 9:6).** Those who so flagrantly hate the Lord that they destroy His image forfeit their own lives.
- May we therefore always be quick to stand for the just application of our Father's law.
- After Noah, his family, and the animals exited the ark, God gave a new command: put to death anyone who murders another person. The severest of penalties is to follow murder, and God Himself gives the reason for it. **God specified that murder was to be punished by death because of the nature of man. Man is created in God's own image (Genesis 1:27).** As murder destroys an image-bearer, it is a direct affront to God Himself. Murder is consistently listed as a sin throughout the New Testament (e.g., Revelation 22:15).

**Biblical Principle:** Man still bears the image of God, and God's view of murder has remained the same. HUA

**?Question:** Are you prepared to give a defense for the sanctity of human life scripturally?

Scripture teaches us clearly that conception is an act of God, that every person conceived is conceived in the image of God, and that each person is the special care of God.

Nothing illustrates that more than if you injure a child that is untimely born and you have inflicted that injury, you pay a just punishment, including if you kill that child, you pay with your life. God has special care for those who are helpless.

God is also graciously forgiving those who have been the murderers of infants. I want you to know that the Lord Jesus Christ offers you forgiveness for that sin. There may be some of you who have been engaged in medical practice as a doctor, or a nurse, or attendant in that, and you have been involved in an abortion.

There may be some of you who have at one time or another assisted a friend in getting to an abortion, or perhaps worked in a place where that was done. The Lord forgives that if we come to Him. And, of course, when you come to Christ all your sin is forgiven,

including that sin, for He offers, as we know so well, grace that is greater than our sin.