

LESSON 2
ABORTION
Week of June 12th

During this week, you and your group members will discuss the sensitive topic of abortion. Your group leader will introduce the topic and allow group members to share their thoughts in a sensitive manner that will promote healthy conversation about the topic.

In this session you will:

1. Discuss why people make the choice to abort.
2. Review what the Bible says about abortion.



Please view the video and use the space below to take notes on the video.

ABORTION

Abortion dates back to 1973 with the decision by the Supreme Court to make abortion illegal with the landmark decision Roe vs. Wade. Abortion has always been a serious hot button, politically and socially.

Women may consider abortion for the following reasons:

1. An unwanted pregnancy (not ready for a child; or the second or third child may cause a financial hardship)
2. Pregnancy due to rape
3. Pregnancy due to incest
4. Surviving an emotionally abusive relationship and the fear of bringing a child into the world

Thus, a person may abort based on four reasons.

- A. Choice
- B. Privacy
- C. Hardship
- D. Convenience

Share your opinion or feelings about the reasons mentioned above.

Different Views Concerning the Unborn

1. Some people believe the unborn is a human being since the unborn has a heartbeat, a blood type, and DNA.
2. Some say the unborn is not a “person,” therefore, the unborn does not have human rights until some arbitrary event.
3. Some people say they are only “potential persons” until twenty weeks of gestation, or birth, or so many hours after birth.
4. Some people say that because the unborn cannot feel pain (which is unscientific), or because the unborn is dependent on the mother, the unborn is not a full person yet.

So what should the abortion debate be?

If the issue is about abortion and not the circumstances surrounding it, then, when do we consider and address the value of life?

Points to consider when expressing a biblical worldview:

1. If the defense of the unborn is considered an expression of sexism (discriminating against women and their rights), when does the person who is pro-choice discuss life at conception or when is life taken into consideration?
2. If you are pro-life, are you indifferent or insensitive to women in crises? Does that mean you compromise the priority of life?
3. If it is a life at conception, is that life disposable?

Biblical References

1. Jeremiah 1:5 *“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you....”*
The child in the womb was foreknown and foreordained by God.
2. Psalm 139: 1:5 *“Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed...”*
The child in the womb was fashioned in uniqueness by God.
3. Luke 1:41-44 - *“The babe leaped in her wombs...”*
The child in the womb is capable of feelings, even those of joy.

Discussion - What is your response to the following?

1. “A woman has the right to decide what to do with her own body.”

Are their limitations to the rights we have with our body? We can all do things to our bodies, but can those actions damage other people? For example, do I have the right to harm others with my body?

2. If a woman is raped and becomes pregnant should she be forced to have the baby?

- If a child is conceived in rape, should the child be forced to die?
- Is the child who is conceived in rape of lesser value than the child conceived in love?

3. Should the life of the mother be sacrificed for the life of the child?

- If the mother’s life is seriously threatened, does the mother have the right to abort?