

A publication of
Genuine Joy Ministries

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Abortion brings shame, heartache, and deep regret.
- There is no act so heinous or so wrong that God cannot forgive.
- A woman who has an abortion in her past can know that God can and will forgive her and help her move on.

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The Hard Questions

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Answers to Life's Hard Questions— Are You Ready?

Dear Joy,

Is abortion ever right for a Christian?

(From a reader in South Dakota)

Part 2 of 2



Remembering our discussion from last month, I think then we all agree that in every live body resides a spirit and each spirit has an eternal destination. Because they refuse to believe that science cannot determine when the spirit enters the child, the idea is really given very little consideration by the pro-choice group. Then the problem of the pregnancy is viewed from the mother's—or potential mother's—choice. Does she want a child or not? Will the child be an inconvenience or not? So she makes her choice. Many times fathers are not even consulted and may not even know of the newly conceived life.

We find this in Genesis, chapter 1:27 where God first created man in His own image and in 2:7: "...the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and the man became a living being." Further in Psalm 139: 13, it says "For you created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb." And verse 15,16, "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, Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be." Corroboration is found in Isaiah 49:1b, "Before I was born the Lord called me; from my birth he has made mention of my name." And verse 5, "And now the Lord says—He who formed me in the womb to be His servant..."

The safest place on earth should be a baby in its mother's womb but it has now

become one of the most dangerous places to be. But pro choice argues, what about when a pregnancy occurs because of rape or incest or perhaps it has been determined the new life will have serious disabilities after birth, what then? We must answer the question: is abortion murder or not since God says, "You must not commit murder." If as scripture states, a person is created by God Himself immediately upon conception then killing that person by any means is murder. Murder is wrong because among other things it is playing God. In discussing murder, it's important to recognize that it's equally wrong to take the life of those who support abortion or perform abortions.

One exception exists which most Christians agree to and that is if the mother's life is in jeopardy because of the baby she is carrying. There are ethical grounds for an abortion if a miscarriage does not occur. But if a doctor advises abortion for this reason, it is still the decision of the parents to make.



"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Spoken by Jesus Christ in Matthew

There are reams of anecdotal stories that relate how a family was blessed by a child with disabilities. I wonder sometimes how the world would have fared if Einstein or Stephen Hawking or Helen Keller had been

aborted. Also, at least in many places and certainly here in the US, there are programs, facilities and ways of dealing with a child created through rape or incest. Crisis pregnancy centers can be found in most large cities and some smaller ones to help in assessing adoption options. State agencies are available for help in adoption as well. What child shouldn't have the opportunity of life, even a disabled child?

In the book, *The Christian and Social Issues*, by Tom Wallace, a reference is made to a full page Washington Post ad, dated June 13, 1983. A lady who had undergone a saline abortion six months earlier describes the mental torments that she now suffers every day. She speaks of her "...everyday hell of never hearing a baby cry without crying within myself; counting days to see how old the baby would have been; wondering what contributions my baby would have made to our desperate society; and wondering if there will ever be another chance for motherhood."

Of the abortion itself, the lady recalls, "...sitting in a

crowded waiting room studying each others fearful, anxious faces...signing death certificates for what is very much alive within you...seeing crying women given tranquilizers and sent home to recuperate and try to forget."

Abortion brings shame, heartache, and deep regret. A woman who has an abortion in her past can know **for certain** that God can and will forgive her and help her move on. There is no act so heinous or so wrong that God cannot forgive. If you've had an abortion or advised someone to have an abortion, there is hope for you in Jesus Christ. He stands ready to forgive and to heal your heart and emotions. I had a young woman tell me that as a teenager she became pregnant and was advised by her family to have an abortion, which she did. All these years later she still regrets it but has found love and forgiveness through Christ. Another young woman expressed to me the difficulties she had after her mother said to her, "I should have aborted you." She has disabilities today but through years of praying and believing has finally accepted the fact that she, "was not a mistake." God had a plan for her just as He does for each one of us and she is now loving him and serving him daily.

Another problem with abortion is it devalues life. When we start as a society to set up criteria for maintaining life **before** birth, we will soon find

ourselves setting up criteria for maintaining life **after** birth. We already see this in other countries and to a lesser degree in our country. I understand that it has been proposed to Congress that parents be allowed three days after birth to kill their newborn if he/she is seriously disabled or unwanted or... Euthanasia so far has been heatedly protested but even so Oregon, declared it legal... for now at the person's request. But when will it be allowed in order to make more room in nursing institutions for the aged or the terminally ill or do away with warehousing of the infirm altogether? Where does it all stop?

Peter Singer, an internationally renowned ethics philosopher, wrote, "Whatever the future holds, it is likely to prove impossible to restore in full the sanctity of life view. The philosophical foundations of this view have been knocked asunder. We can no longer base our ethics on the idea that human beings are a special form of creation, made in the image of God, singled out from all other animals, and alone possessing an immortal soul. *Pediatrics*, 'Sanctity of life or quality of life?', July, 1983.

Is abortion ever right for a Christian? No with the exception noted of a life-threatening condition.

When will life—life, created and given us by God—be of utmost importance again?

Resources & Info

<http://www.hopefortheheart.org/>

<http://www.optionline.org/>

<http://www.healinghearts.org/>

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Helping you find genuine joy!

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Sometimes you come up with really hard, tough questions that you don't have the answers to.

At times you're too embarrassed or uncomfortable to ask your friends and family... and when you are brave enough to ask the questions, even they don't always have the answers.

You don't think you have anyone that you can talk to... well now you do.

Genuine Joy Ministries is dedicated to helping you find the answers to life's hardest questions.

Call us—Write us—Fax us—Email us

Just for Fun

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of religious service when she was startled by an intruder. As she caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables, she yelled, "Stop - Acts 2:38!" (..turn from your sin...) The burglar stopped dead in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done.

As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, "Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a scripture to you."

"Scripture?" replied the burglar, "She said she had an AXE and two 38's!"



"I can see, and that is why I can be happy, in what you call the dark, but which to me is golden. I can see a God-made world, not a manmade world."

Helen Keller

