

# STUDY GUIDE

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## **[set up]**

Why is abortion such a controversial topic in culture?

Do you know anyone who has had an abortion? Can you explain what line of thinking led them to that choice? Did you have an opportunity to care for them afterwards, and if so, how?

## **[digging deeper]**

If you were to define abortion in one word, what word comes to mind?

Look up each of the following passages of Scripture and briefly state how they relate to abortion:

Psalm 139:13-16 \_\_\_\_\_  
Proverbs 6:16-19 \_\_\_\_\_  
Psalm 22:10 \_\_\_\_\_  
Ecclesiastes 11:5 \_\_\_\_\_  
Job 31:15 \_\_\_\_\_  
Luke 1:41 \_\_\_\_\_  
Deuteronomy 5:17 \_\_\_\_\_  
Psalm 82:3-4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Proverbs 31:8-9 \_\_\_\_\_  
Proverbs 24:11-12 \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew 18:14 \_\_\_\_\_  
Isaiah 44:24 \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeremiah 1:5 \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the verse above that resonates with you the strongest on the topic of abortion?

Read Genesis 1:26-27, Genesis 9:6, and Genesis 5:1. How does each person being made in the image of God give us the primary reason to be pro-life?

Why is it inaccurate for people to say that the Bible is silent about abortion?

What are your observations and reactions to this article by a female journalist from 2013?  
[https://www.salon.com/2013/01/23/so\\_what\\_if\\_abortion\\_ends\\_life/](https://www.salon.com/2013/01/23/so_what_if_abortion_ends_life/)

Read these snippets from the laws of our country. How do they relate to abortion and where do you see contradiction?

*From the Preamble to the U.S. Declaration of Independence* - "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

*Ohio State law* - Cruelty to companion animals is defined as: "knowingly torture, torment, needlessly mutilate or maim, cruelly beat, poison, needlessly kill, or commit an act of cruelty against a companion animal." The first offense is a 1st degree Misdemeanor with a fine up to \$1000 and/or imprisonment up to 90 days. A second or subsequent offense is a 5th degree Felony with a fine up to \$2500 and/or imprisonment up to 12 months. Any fines collected from this offense shall be paid to the society or association for the prevention of cruelty to animals, if there be such in the county, township, or municipal corporation where such violation occurred. Exemptions are made for scientific research, veterinary care, dogs used for hunting or field trials, farming and veterinary care. Abandoning an animal is a minor Misdemeanor with a fine up to \$100.

<http://www.straypetadvocacy.org/PDF/AnimalCrueltyLaws.pdf>

*Ohio fetal homicide law* - Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2903.01 et seq. define aggravated murder, murder, voluntary manslaughter, involuntary manslaughter, negligent homicide, aggravated vehicular homicide, aggravated vehicular assault, felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault and negligent assault. The law applies to a person, which includes an "unborn member of the species Homo sapiens, who is or was carried in the womb of another."

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/fetal-homicide-state-laws.aspx>

Consider this statement: "Abortion leaves one dead and one wounded." Do you agree? Why or why not?

How is being "pro-life" different from being "anti-abortion"?

What are a few things Christians say and do that do NOT help when discussing abortion?

What can a Christian say or do that is most helpful when discussing abortion?

How does abortion work against the care of women? Another way to ask this: How is being pro-choice actually "anti-woman"?

How can we apply the Gospel to women who have experienced abortion?

## **[living it out]**

The Christian has a responsibility to not just say no to death, but yes to life. Here are some ways you can be involved in pro-life efforts.

Pray.

- Pray for women who are facing unplanned pregnancies and are abortion-determined and abortion-vulnerable—that God would intervene and lead their hearts.
- Pray for the pro-life crisis pregnancy centers who are on the front lines of caring for these women and families.
- Pray that abortion becomes unattainable and unthinkable in our city and nation.
- Download the Human Coalition prayer app and pray for women in real-time who are interacting with crisis centers.

Serve.

- Serve at one of our local pro-life crisis pregnancy centers—there are needs for administrative help, client advocates, medically trained nurse managers or ultrasound technicians, mental health professions for post-abortive needs, support for those who choose to parent, connect women to such centers for post-abortive care.
  - Alternaterm - <http://alternaterm.org/>
  - Cleveland Pregnancy Center - <http://cvcmissions.org/local-initiatives/cpc/>

Give.

- Give to pro-life efforts locally (at the pregnancy centers above) and nationally.
- Help raise funds for local pregnancy centers.

Learn.

- One effective way to become proficient at engaging the defense of innocent unborn children is to learn the “SLED” argument (Size, Level of development, Environment, and Degree of dependency). Watch the video, read the link and practice.
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tL\\_R0y1Utnw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tL_R0y1Utnw)
  - <https://www.str.org/articles/the-s.l.e.d.-test#.WgX4IFtSypo>