

BRING YOUR CHILDREN TO GOD

Mark 10:14-15 Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

On January 13, 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation designating January 22 as the first National Sanctity of Human Life Day. Churches around the United States observe the third Sunday of January to celebrate God's gift of life, commemorate the many lives lost to abortion, and commit themselves to protecting human life at every stage. Today Christian churches throughout the United States once again observe the sanctity of life.

In Psalm 134:19, the Psalmist praises God for creating him and giving him his life, “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.” The Psalmist wrote in Psalm 139:16 “You (God) saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.” David wrote in Psalm 51:5, “Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.”

I share these passages because there are those in the medical, ethical, secular philosophical community that say life does not begin until the fetus is viable. Today, 37 years later, there are a few states that permit the ending of the life of a baby at birth. Life is not a matter of the choice of a mother, husband and wife, nor laws passed by state or national governments. Life is created by God. He alone is the author of life. He alone is the preserver of life.

“The living but unborn are persons in the sight of God from the time of conception. Since abortion takes a human life, it is not a moral option except to prevent the death of another person, the mother. The severely handicapped, infirm, helpless, and aged are also persons in the sight of God with life given by Him and to be ended only by Him.” (Small Catechism, pp. 75-76)

Even though human beings may try to overrule and override God’s Word, His word is unchangeable, true and sure. It is important for Christians to first personally abide by His word, then to proclaim it to the world, pray for the unborn, support those who have special life needs, call for those who have sinned

to repent and receive God's forgiveness and honor God by protecting the life of the unborn and all until their natural life ends.

Prayer: O LORD, we live in a world and nation where there is not unity in its definition of life and does not acknowledge you as its creator and preserver. Bless me with faith to trust in and believe Your word, witness it through my personal words and actions and provide support to those who struggle with life issues. I ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

How wide the love of Christ! It knows not class or race
But holds our one humanity Within its broad embrace.

How long the love of Christ! Its patience will not cease
Until this broken world is bound In everlasting peace.

How high the love of Christ! Beyond all thought it soars,
And yet upon our passing lives Unmeasured mercy pours.

How deep the love of Christ, Descending to a cross!
He bears within His wounded hands All human pain and loss.

All praise to You, O Christ, For love whose depth and height,
Whose length and breadth fill time and space With endless life and light.
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