

## ***This is what Pro-Life looks like***

### **Key Scriptures**

**Psalm 51:5** Indeed, I was guilty of sin from birth, a sinner the moment my mother conceived me.

**James 1:27** Pure and undefiled religion before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their misfortune and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

**Psalm 68:5** A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.

**1 Pet. 2:11-12** <sup>11</sup> Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles (aliens & strangers) to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

**Key Point:** The pro-life position says that the child's life should not be sacrificed through abortion. But the person who lives out the gospel believes that the child's life is worth sacrificing for.

## **TALK IT OVER**

**Start talking:** Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- What does your email inbox look like: 1. Very few emails in there—most have been addressed; 2. Some emails in there, but they are meant to be a reminder of things you need to do; 3. An utter mess—there may be important unread emails you haven't read from 2005.

**Start thinking:** Questions to get your group thinking.

- How do you prioritize **Behaving, Believing, & Belonging** in your own Christian journey, and how does this order impact your interactions with others in the church?
  - Is there a correct order? What happens if you get them out of order?
  - Which of these do non-Christians typically think is most important to Christians?
- The early church held to many “strange” values in comparison to the Romans and Greeks of the 1<sup>st</sup> century. What values and practices do you think Christians today should have in living as aliens and strangers?
- Sunday's sermon expanded the idea of being pro-life beyond opposing abortion. In what ways does the pro-life stance extend to actions, attitudes, and care for individuals after birth? How can we practically live out a pro-life worldview?

**Start sharing:** Questions to create openness.

- Reflecting on the story about the woman who attended church despite her previous abortions, how do you think the church can create an environment where people feel a sense of belonging before embracing certain Christian beliefs or behaviors?
- The sermon emphasized the importance of being unstained, removing hypocrisy from our lives, and actively showing sacrificial love. How can you personally work towards living a life that aligns with these principles?

**Start doing.**

Is there some way that you know you have been hypocritical or been stained by this world that you need to confess and change?  
How are you involved in helping the helpless?

**Prayer Requests.** It may be helpful to pray the scriptures back to God.

- Ask God to open your eyes to see those children/orphans around you and to open your heart to care for them.
- Ask God to empower Christians around the world to protect the most vulnerable.
- Ask God to remind you of the way He adopted you as His Child in Christ.
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