

The Sanctity of Life & Abortion

Introduction: A Tender and Sacred Conversation

This topic is deeply personal. For many, it's not just political or theological — it's connected to pain, shame, confusion, or conviction. Some carry regret. Others carry judgment. Many carry silence.

At **Love Church**, we want to hold space for **grace and truth** — where real questions can be asked and real healing can begin. Our heart is to reflect the compassion of Jesus, the wisdom of Scripture, and the sacred value of every life — born and unborn.

We don't speak about this from a place of superiority, but from a deep awareness that **God meets us in our brokenness, and His love is bigger than our past.**

“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”
– Psalm 34:18

This is not a paper about political sides. This is a declaration that **life is sacred** because God created it — and that includes the life of the unborn, the struggling mother, and every person reading this.

Section 2: What the Bible Says About Life and the Womb

From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible speaks with consistent clarity: **life is sacred because it comes from God.**

1. Life Begins with God

“Then the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life...” – Genesis 2:7

Life is not random. It is breathed into existence by a loving, intentional Creator. Every heartbeat begins because God wills it.

2. Life in the Womb Matters to God

“For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” – Psalm 139:13–14

David’s words aren’t poetic exaggeration — they’re spiritual truth. The womb is not a waiting room. It’s a workshop of divine design. God is intimately involved in the life of the unborn.

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you...” – Jeremiah 1:5

God’s calling on a life doesn’t begin at birth — it begins before birth.

3. Jesus Himself Was Known in the Womb

**“When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb...”
– Luke 1:41**

John the Baptist, still unborn, recognized the presence of the unborn Jesus. The womb was not a place of potential—it was a place of presence.

Section 3: Understanding the Complexity and Pain Around Abortion

At **Love Church**, we don't talk about abortion as an abstract issue. We speak with **empathy, humility, and a deep awareness** that this topic touches real lives, real pain, and real stories. We know that many people:

- **Feel torn between what they believe and what they've experienced**
- **Carry shame from a past decision—or fear from a present one**
- **Are afraid to open up because of how the Church might respond**

So before we say anything else, we want to say this clearly:

If you've had an abortion, you are not beyond God's love, healing, or grace. You are welcome here. You are loved. Jesus meets you with compassion, not condemnation.

Why People Choose Abortion

We recognize that abortion is often tied to:

- **Economic pressure**
- **Fear of being alone**
- **Lack of support or stability**
- **Past trauma or abuse**
- **Feeling unprepared or overwhelmed**

These aren't just political talking points. These are emotional realities. And instead of reacting in judgment, we respond in love and offer to walk alongside people who feel stuck or scared.

A Note from a Pastor Who Was Adopted

As someone who was adopted, this conversation hits close to home. I often think:

- "What if my birth mother hadn't chosen life?"
- "What if fear or shame had spoken louder than hope?"

I wouldn't be here. I wouldn't have experienced the love of God, the joy of family, or the chance to help others. My life is living proof that what feels like a crisis moment can give birth to something eternally beautiful. And because of that, I can say with all sincerity:

"You may not feel ready to be a parent. But God is ready to write a story through that child's life."

Section 4: God's Heart for Every Life — Born and Unborn

At the center of this conversation is one simple truth: **Every human life is made in the image of God.**

“So God created mankind in his own image... male and female he created them.”
— Genesis 1:27

That means from the **very beginning of life**—even in the womb—there is **dignity, worth, and divine purpose.**

When Does Life Begin?

While Scripture doesn't give a biology textbook, it does consistently point to life beginning in the womb:

- “You knit me together in my mother's womb.” — Psalm 139:13
- “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.” — Jeremiah 1:5
- John the Baptist leapt in the womb when Mary approached with Jesus in her womb.
— Luke 1:41

God doesn't wait for birth to know someone. He sees. He forms. He calls.
That's why we believe life—**both born and unborn**—deserves protection, care, and compassion.

But It's Not Just About the Unborn

Defending life means more than opposing abortion. It means:

- Supporting single moms and scared parents
- Providing resources and care for vulnerable families
- Fighting poverty, racism, and systems that pressure people toward abortion
- Loving people before and after the decision

A “pro-life” culture isn't just political. It's personal. It's practical. And it's not just about saving babies—it's about loving people.

At **Love Church**, we want to be a place where:

- Women feel safe, not shamed
- Men take responsibility, not retreat
- Families are supported, not isolated
- Every child—born or unborn—is celebrated as a gift from God

Section 5: What Grace Looks Like After an Abortion

We know this topic is deeply personal. For some, it's not theoretical—it's part of your story. If you've had an abortion, we want you to hear this clearly:

| **You are not alone. You are not beyond grace. You are deeply loved by God.**

At **Love Church**, we don't shame people for their past. We point them to Jesus, who meets us in our pain and brings healing to every wound.

| **"There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."
— Romans 8:1**

We believe the Church should be the **safest place** to process regret, grief, or confusion—**not a place of guilt or judgment**. Jesus didn't come to condemn the world but to save it (John 3:17).

If abortion is part of your past, we want to say:

- **You are not disqualified from God's love or purpose.**
- **There is healing for your heart and your story.**
- **You are not defined by a moment—you are defined by your Maker.**

| **Walking with You Toward Healing**

We are committed to walking with people through healing:

- **Confidential conversations with pastors or trusted leaders**
- **Referrals to faith-based counseling and post-abortion care ministries**
- **A church community that values people, not performances**

Because **the grace of God doesn't run out—it runs toward you.**

Section 6: What About the Grey Areas?

We understand that conversations around abortion aren't always black and white. There are painful, complex situations that deserve compassion and thoughtful, biblical wisdom—**not easy answers**.

| What if the mother's life is at risk?

We believe all life is sacred—including the life of the mother. In rare cases where a pregnancy threatens her survival, it's not an "abortion of convenience" but a tragic medical emergency. These decisions are heartbreaking, and in such moments, we believe wise counsel, prayer, and compassion must guide the way forward—not cold judgment or legalism.

| **We don't believe God asks anyone to choose between two lives—He meets us with grace when life is fragile and complex.**

| What about rape or sexual abuse?

This is where empathy matters most. No one should ever have to walk through the trauma of rape or abuse. These are horrific evils—and anyone facing a pregnancy from such violence is not just "a case to debate," but a human being to love.

We affirm:

- **God grieves over every act of abuse.**
- **The woman's pain matters. Her healing matters. Her dignity matters.**
- **Abortion in these moments is often a desperate response to unspeakable trauma—not a flippant choice.**

At the same time, we also believe the life in the womb—though conceived in brokenness—**is still a life God sees and loves**. This doesn't minimize the trauma of the mother. It highlights how God can bring **beauty from ashes**, even in the hardest stories.

We don't give easy answers.

We sit with people. We listen.

We point them to Jesus—the One who heals and redeems both **mother and child**.

| A Gentle, Pastoral Posture

Our job isn't to win an argument; it's to **walk with people**, carry their burdens, and show them a better way—the **way of Jesus**, full of grace and truth.

So when people ask the hard questions:

- **"What about my friend who was raped?"**
- **"What if it's not clear whether the baby or mom will survive?"**
- **"Isn't it more loving to not bring a child into trauma?"**

We don't shout back. We lean in with empathy, say "That's a fair and heartbreaking question," and we respond with the **love of Christ**—who never turns away from broken stories.

Section 7: What Are the Other Options? How Do I Make the Best Decision?

If you're facing an unplanned pregnancy—or walking with someone who is—you may feel overwhelmed, scared, or unsure. You may be wondering: What are my options? What's the right thing to do?

This is a holy moment. A deeply personal one. And we want you to know:

- **You are not alone.**
- **You are not forgotten.**
- **You are not trapped.**

There are real, life-giving options beyond abortion. And we want to walk with you as you navigate them.

1. Choosing to Parent

This may feel impossible right now. Maybe you don't have support. Maybe your financial situation feels overwhelming. But there is hope.

Parenting is hard, yes—but it is **also deeply sacred**. You're not expected to do it alone. There are churches, nonprofits, mentors, and families who are ready to support you—physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

You don't have to be perfect. You just have to say yes—and let God fill in the rest.

2. Choosing Adoption

As someone who was adopted, I (Matthew) know what this path can mean. It's not easy—but it's **incredibly redemptive**.

Adoption is a beautiful, brave choice. It's not “giving up”—it's **giving forward**. You're giving a child the gift of life and love, and you're making space for another family to grow through your selfless decision.

I don't know my birth mother's full story. But I know she made a courageous decision. And because of that, I've experienced the love of a family and the love of God.

**If you feel like you can't raise this child yourself, know this:
There are families who are praying to welcome a child just like yours.**

3. Choosing Support and Community

Sometimes the biggest fear isn't the pregnancy—it's being alone in it. At **Love Church**, we want to be a church that walks with people through the whole journey. That includes:

- Helping connect with pregnancy resource centers
- Offering mentorship, meals, and prayer
- Surrounding you with grace, not shame

Whatever choice you're facing, **you don't have to face it in isolation**. We are here. God is here. You are not invisible.

How Do I Make the Best Decision?

Not in panic or pressure, but in **prayer, wise counsel, and God's love**.

Here are steps we encourage:

1. **Pause and Pray** – Give yourself time to breathe and bring your heart to God.
2. **Talk to Trusted People** – Don't carry the decision alone. Talk to a pastor, mentor, counselor, or mature believer.
3. **Seek Practical Support** – Explore what resources are available to help you through parenting or adoption.
4. **Let Scripture Speak** – The Word of God is a light in the darkness. Let it guide, comfort, and steady you.
5. **Let Love Lead** – Not fear, not shame—but **love**. What does love look like for the child? For your own heart? For your future?

Final Response from Love Church

At **Love Church**, we believe every life—born and unborn—is sacred, created in the image of God, and deeply loved. We believe that **God is the Author of life**, and that **His heart beats for both the baby and the mother**.

But we also believe in a **Gospel of grace**.

We know the topic of abortion can feel deeply personal, painful, and complex. For some, it's theoretical. For others, it's part of their past. Maybe that's your story. If it is—we see you. God sees you. And this is not the end of your story.

At the heart of the Gospel is a Savior who meets us in our brokenness—not with condemnation, but with compassion.

We want to be a church where:

- **Women who are scared can find hope and support.**
- **Men who feel helpless can find courage and purpose.**
- **Families who feel overwhelmed can find community and care.**
- **Those who carry regret can find healing, forgiveness, and restoration.**

Our message is not shame on you—it's **Jesus is with you**.

Whether you're facing an unplanned pregnancy, walking with someone who is, or healing from a decision in your past, **we are here for you**. We want to listen. We want to love you. We want to walk with you toward life—abundant, grace-filled, Spirit-led life.

A Closing Scripture

**“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart.”
- Jeremiah 1:5**

God's love is not conditional. His grace is not limited. And His arms are always open.
You are not alone. You are deeply loved. And there is always a way forward—together.

Recommended Resources

Books

- **Pro-Life Answers to Pro-Choice Arguments** by Randy Alcorn - A clear and compassionate guide addressing common questions and objections about abortion from a biblical and logical standpoint.
- **Why Pro-Life?** by Randy Alcorn (shorter and more accessible) - A condensed, easy-to-read book that gently helps readers understand the sanctity of life in a Gospel-centered way.
- **The Ethics of Abortion: Women's Rights, Human Life, and the Question of Justice** by Christopher Kaczor - A philosophical and moral argument for life, written respectfully for dialogue with secular thinkers.
- **The Gospel & Abortion – part of the Gospel for Life series** by Russell Moore & Andrew T. Walker - A helpful theological and pastoral resource grounded in Gospel-centered conviction and care.

Organizations & Support Networks

- **Save the Storks – savethestorks.com** - A pro-life organization that partners with pregnancy centers to offer compassionate care to women. Provides mobile ultrasound units, counseling, and support.
- **Heartbeat International – heartbeatinternational.org** - Offers support to local pregnancy centers and provides free resources to women in crisis pregnancies.
- **Embrace Grace – embracegrace.com** - A church-based support group for young, single women who find themselves unexpectedly pregnant and want to be surrounded by love, not shame.
- **Care Net – care-net.org** - Offers a network of pregnancy resource centers and life-affirming tools and education.

Messages & Videos

“Abortion and the Heart of God” – Sermon by Pastor Levi Lusko - Compassionate and Gospel-focused, with a powerful testimony of loss and healing.

“A Conversation on Abortion, Grace, and Truth” – The Porch (Watermark Church) - A panel-style conversation that models how to handle this issue with biblical integrity and empathy.