

taboo

A Biblical perspective on
things we don't talk about

Abortion (DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20)

Taboo sermon series

By Pastor David Hillis, 07.07.19

BIG IDEA: Because human life bears the image of God, it is sacred in every state of its existence and we are called always to *choose life*.

God's perspective on human life

1. Human life is vastly different from all other life on earth and is sacred to God.

([Genesis 1, 4:1-16, 9:6; Psalm 8](#))

- a. God created *millions* of different forms of life; yet *only 1* has God ever created as a bearer of His own divine image, and likeness.
- b. *Only 1* did He create with moral awareness, rational capacity, and the ability to choose to make decisions and behave based on that moral awareness.
- c. Genesis 1 & Psalm 8 both say that while God made us stewards of all life, He gave us *dominion* of all life *except* human life.

2. God personally knows and is deeply involved in every human life, long before birth.

([Galatians 1:15; Jeremiah 1:4-5; Job 10:8-12, 31:15; Luke 1:42-45; Psalm 139:13-18, 51:5](#))

- a. *Science* tells us that life and growth are just a biological process but *Scripture* clarifies that it is a biological process that *God* chooses to be intimately involved in; not *figuratively speaking*, but *literally*.
- b. He is involved in making each person physically and emotionally unique with characteristics that set them apart from everyone else who has ever lived.
- c. He plots out a *purpose* for every human life.

3. While God gives us the choice to make human life, He doesn't give us the choice to take it.

([1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Exodus 20:13; Genesis 1:22,28; Job 1:21, 14:5, 33:4](#))

- a. And because God made us so different and sees us as so much more valuable that all other kinds of life, He does not give us the authority to decide how long *anyone* lives, even our own lives.
- b. He is the *giver* of every human life, and *He* wants to decide when it is over.
- c. When we choose to surrender our lives to God, as Christians we do not even have a say over how we use our own bodies. *We surrender* that right.

NEXT STEP: Is there an abortion story in your life that you and/or loved ones are affected by? Talk to God openly about it; allow God to minister to you, and through you to others.

FOR MY PERSONAL TIME WITH GOD THIS WEEK:

1. This week in *TABOO* Pastor Dave talked about abortion and, more importantly, God's perspective on the sanctity of human life. Look back through the sermon notes above and spend some time this week reading through the Scripture references in each section. As you do, ask God who He has called you to encourage, and how to do so with unconditional love. Don't rush this exercise, but spend time praying and considering it, expecting God to speak to you through it.
2. In our main passage today in [Deuteronomy 30:15-20](#), God calls us to choose life. Here he is not talking about avoiding abortion but about choosing obedience in every aspect of life that ultimately brings life to us and those around us. As you read this passage again, consider how God wants to speak to you about your life. Why does God give us these choices to make? Why not make them for us?
3. As bearers of God's image, we have a special calling to be stewards of all life ([Genesis 1:28; 2:15](#)), but especially of human life ([Genesis 9:6](#)). We are our brother's keeper ([Genesis 4:9](#)), our neighbor's servant ([Luke 17](#)), our enemy's intercessor ([Matthew 5:44](#)). In what ways have you tended to not choose life in your life? How has it affected you, and your relationship with God? In what ways is God calling you to choose life in the future?
4. Next week, we will be looking at the taboo topic of immigration. Consider again the passage from this week in [Genesis 1:26-28](#) that speaks to all humanity being reflections of God in the world. How might that inform God's perspective on the immigrant (alien, refugee, asylum seeker, etc.)? How do Scriptures like [Leviticus 19:33-34](#) speak to being "pro-life" here? What other Scriptures can you find that speak to the immigrants among us? Do you find any Scriptures that appear anti-immigrant in any way? Share your thoughts with Pastor Dave this week!

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- **Abortion in the news.** Pastor Dave referenced several abortion-related news items at the top of his message, including:
 - The movie [Unplanned](#) released at the box office in March, stirring emotion and controversy as it tells the story of a Planned Parenthood clinic director who saw too much. [SEE MOVIE TRAILER](#), [ORDER BOOK](#)
 - [Abortion laws outside the U.S. are more pro-life than you might think.](#)
 - Many states are taking up laws restricting abortion in 2019; see details state by state from articles in [The Hill](#) and [NPR](#).
 - [Democrats gear up to make abortion an issue in attacking GOP in 2020.](#)
 - [Millennials have a surprising view on later-term abortions.](#)
- **Grace's stance on abortion and the sanctity of life**, as part of the Evangelical Covenant Church, can be found in these position papers: [ABORTION](#), [PROTECTING & PROMOTING LIFE](#).
- **Hip hop artist speaks to how she helps minister to women considering abortion.** See the [VIDEO](#), and check out other quality resources at [The Village Church](#).
- **Do you want someone to talk to about a future or a past decision around abortion?** Grace is here to help you; feel free to leave a comment to Pastor Dave below. In addition, some local resources include [unplanned pregnancy support](#) & [abortion recovery support](#) at Hands of Hope Tucson. [Answers for Life](#) offers both types of support in Tucson, as well.

NEXT WEEK: TABOO topic Immigration.