

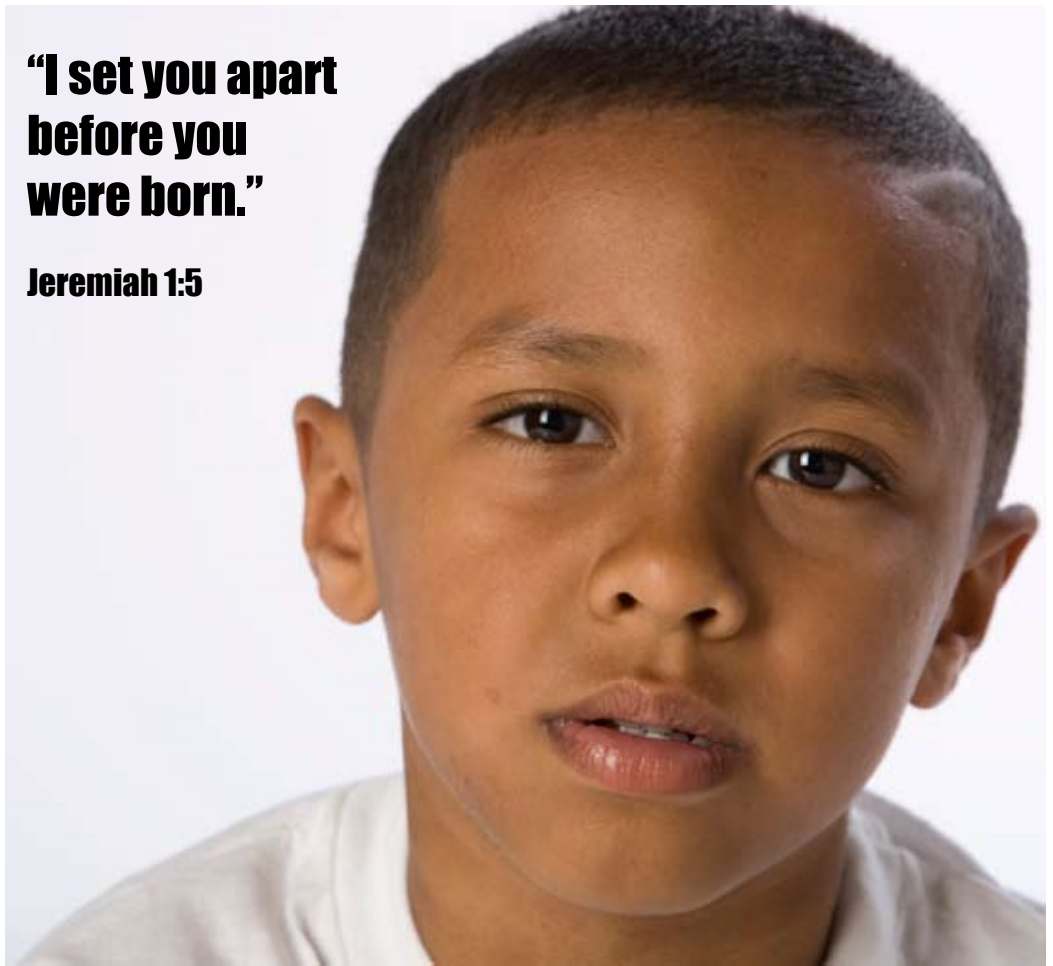
impact

Living
Your Values
Out Loud

www.iLiveValues.com

**“I set you apart
before you
were born.”**

Jeremiah 1:5



WE ARE CALLED TO DEFEND HUMAN LIFE

Christians do not have the option of ignoring the increasing devaluation and destruction of human beings of all ages.

To the casual observer of the give-and-take during the 2008 presidential campaign, it would be reasonable to assume the abortion issue is a settled matter. Except for some unsettling remarks at Saddleback Church, neither of the two major party's candidates focused on this issue of life and death.

There are those in society who would prefer the issue remain far from Americans' minds. In fact, many of these individuals, who believe a woman should have the right to indiscriminately take the life of her unborn child, are hopeful that under a new president the few restrictions on the procedure will be relaxed.

Despite the lack of news coverage, innocent human life is still being taken at the hands of abortionists—most of the time because one or both of the child's parents consider the prospect of a baby to be too expensive, awkwardly inconvenient, or simply poor timing.

A majority of Americans, 54 percent according to an August 2008 Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life survey, believe that abortion should be legal in all or most cases.

Yet as Scott Klusendorf of Life Training Institute writes, “Philosophically there is no morally significant difference between the embryo you once were and the adult you are today.” Abortion is, simply, the taking of a human life.

Those of us who believe that God created us in His image must take seriously this ongoing brutal and deadly assault against the unborn.

Americans and Roe v. Wade

A May 2008 survey asked 1,017 adults:

**“Would you like to see
the Supreme Court
overturn its 1973 Roe
versus Wade decision
concerning abortion,
or not?”**

**Yes
33%**

**No
52%**

**No
Opinion
15%**

Gallup.com, September 3, 2008



“Christians must bear witness in word and deed that every life is a precious, irreplaceable gift from God. Many Americans seem to have forgotten that our country was founded on the sanctity of human life ethic, and that even our Declaration of Independence states that “human beings are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights” and “that among these are Life....”


Richard Land

PRACTICAL WAYS TO BE PRO-LIFE

Teach your children. Explain to your children from an early age that humans are made in the image of God, who loves and has a purpose for every person. In age-appropriate ways, prepare them to defend the pro-life ethic.

Pray for pro-life ministries. Pregnancy care centers, Baptist children’s homes, Christian nursing homes and adoption agencies are just a few of the ministries that depend on God’s grace and the prayers of His people.

Volunteer at a pregnancy care center. Centers typically have a paid director and some paid staff, but they could not function without volunteer receptionists, counselors, medical staff, fund-raisers, board members, etc.

Mentor a child. Many single parents are eager to find Christian role models for their children. You could establish a Christian mentoring organization, being diligent to implement measures to protect the children.

Be a respite caregiver. Parents of special needs children and adult caregivers of the elderly or disabled are grateful for a trustworthy relief caregiver.

Support foster and adoptive families. Promote awareness of the needs of vulnerable children and support foster and adoptive families.

Remember senior adults. Connect the younger families in your church with the senior adults. Encourage them to keep in touch, help with household tasks and errands, and share special days together.

Volunteer with a hospice. These special volunteers can provide companionship, do light housekeeping, or use their skills and talents to improve the quality of life for both patients and their families.

Express your opinion. Sanctity of human life issues are constantly debated in the media and at all levels of government. Policies have been changed because one citizen took a stand, and legislators have voted a particular way after receiving just a handful of correspondence.

Celebrate Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. Host a pro-life speaker on the third Sunday in January and allow local pro-life organizations to promote their work.

Psalm 139 Project

The Psalm 139 Project gives women in crisis pregnancies a “window” into the world of the children they are carrying by helping pregnancy care centers secure sonogram machines.

100% of the funds given to the Psalm 139 Project are used to purchase and place sonogram machines and for the ongoing work of the fund. The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission provides the administrative oversight as a part of our ongoing, Cooperative Program-funded ministry.

Please send your tax-deductible gifts to the “Psalm 139 Project,” c/o ERLC, 901 Commerce St., Suite 550, Nashville, TN 37203. An acknowledgment and proper accounting of your gift will be provided. Visit psalm139project.org (where you can give online through PayPal), or contact the ERLC (800-475-9127) for more information.

