

Abortion, Week 2: What the Bible Says

Intro

- Secular vs biblical ethical arguments
 - Feb 27 – how to talk about abortion with your neighbor using secular arguments
 - Mar 6 – how to talk about abortion within the church
 - Mar 13 – distinguishing secular and biblical reasons for your positions
- Why Now?
- Resources:
 - *What to Say When?* - Carney & Karlen
 - *Christian Ethics in Plain Language* - Kerby Anderson
 - YouTube: Scott Klusendorf, Stephanie Gray Connors, Abby Johnson (ex-PP worker)
- Goals for Sensitive Topics
 - BIBLICALLY FAITHFUL
 - PASTORALLY SENSITIVE
 - CULTURALLY CONVERSANT
- Basic Secular Pro-Life Argument:
 1. Scientific – the fetus is a human being
 2. Philosophical – it's wrong to kill a human being
- Typical Pro-Choice Arguments:
 1. The fetus is not a human being
 2. The fetus is human but not a person with rights
 3. The baby is a person but with less rights than the mom
- Particular Challenges
 - *Would that apply to a baby that's born? Why not?*

What is an abortion?

Associated Theological Issues:

- Biblical authority
- Applying Old Testament passages in the New Covenant
- Explicit prescripts vs broad principles
 - Applying principles to specific situations
- Christian liberty
- Heart motives
- Church's role in a secular society

What does the Bible actually say?

Ps 139:13-16 -

Ex 21:22-25 -

Ps 51:5 -

Servants called by God in the womb

- Jesus (Lk 1:41-45)

- Samson (Judg 13:7-8)
- Isaiah (49:1)
- Jeremiah (1:5)
- Jacob (Rom 9:10-13)

Bible has a very optimistic view of children

- Ps 127:3

- Dt 25:6; Ruth 4:5; Jer 11:19

- Gen 29:31, 30:17-24; Ruth 4:13; 1 Sam 1:19

What has the church taught through history?

How certain & central should our position be?

1. What should our position be?

2. Where should the line be drawn?