

Winter Park Christian Church: Pastor Doug Toller  
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## ***Sanctity of Life Sunday***

January 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### ***Psalm 139:1-18***

This Scripture clearly addresses two issues that we as Americans face today:  
Terminating life at its beginning in the womb and terminating life at any time after birth.

God forms each person in the womb after His image!

*“For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.”*

*Psalm 139:13*

God determines the time a person dies according to His purpose and plan.

*“Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them,  
the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.”*

*Psalm 139:16*

### **I. Terminating life during pregnancy: *Abortion***

- ❖ 500 million dollars of taxpayer's money are given to Planned Parenthood each year!
- ❖ Each year, nearly 1.2 million American women have an abortion to end a pregnancy. The most common reasons women consider abortion are:
  - ◆ [Birth control](#) (contraceptive) failure. Over half of all women who have an abortion used a contraceptive method during the month they became pregnant.
  - ◆ Inability to support or care for a child.
  - ◆ To end an unwanted pregnancy.
  - ◆ To prevent the birth of a child with [birth defects](#) or severe medical problems. Such defects are often unknown until routine second-trimester tests are done.
  - ◆ Pregnancy resulting from rape or incest.
  - ◆ Physical or mental conditions that endanger the woman's health if the pregnancy is continued.<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ The key question is: “Does the life begin at conception and is the baby a living person before birth?”

*Genesis 25:21-23* ☞ The children struggled within her womb when Rebekah was pregnant with Jacob and Esau.

*Luke 1:41* ☞ The baby leaped in her womb when Elizabeth was pregnant with John the Baptist.

*Luke 1:35* ☞ The angel told Mary that the child to be born will be called the Son of God when Mary was about to be pregnant with Jesus.

- ❖ In 2016 the Colorado State Legislature will consider a bill to De-fund Planned Parenthood!
  - ◆ A Gallup poll shows that the majority of Americans support restriction such as waiting periods and parental consent laws. [Kate Pickert, author of *Time Magazine* article “What Choice?” Jan. 14, 2013] says that as public opinion changes, abortion access will continue to erode. She says the fight to preserve access to abortion is more daunting than was the fight to legalize it.
  - ◆ State laws that limit abortion are abounding. In 2011, 92 abortion regulations were passed in 24 states. In each of four states, there is only one abortion facility: North Dakota, South Dakota, Mississippi, and Arkansas. The total number of abortion providers have dwindled from 2,908 in 1982 to 1,793 in 2008. Abortion providers and abortion supporters also fear that bills granting “personhood” to the unborn —

and abortion supporters also fear that this granting personhood to the unborn — the ultimate goal of many pro-lifers — will get a case to the U. S. Supreme Court, which would directly challenge the constitutionality of *Roe v. Wade*. Until then, the state laws just keep coming.<sup>2</sup>

## II. Terminating life at any time after birth: *Right to Die or Assisted Suicide*

❖ God is the giver and taker of life!

*Genesis 1:27-28* “So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

*Job 1:21* “... The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.”

*Job 14:5* “Since his days are determined, and the number of his months is with you, and you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass,”

*Luke 12:25* “And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?”

❖ Three areas to consider...

... Removing Life Support

... Physician Assisted Suicide

Ä The term [Assisted Suicide] is often used interchangeably with **physician-assisted suicide** (PAS), which involves a doctor "knowingly and intentionally providing a person with the knowledge or means or both required to commit suicide, including counselling about lethal doses of drugs, prescribing such lethal doses or supplying the drugs."<sup>3</sup>

Ä Five States have now legalized physician assisted suicide: Vermont, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and California – New Mexico and Colorado are considering legalization in 2016

***Pray for our State Legislators!!!***

... Physician Euthanizing a patient

Ä In cases of euthanasia, the physician administers the means of death, usually a lethal drug.

Ä 23 Countries have legalized Physician Euthanizing people! Many do not require proof of a terminal condition!

❖ Beware of changing the labels...

... Abortion to “Pro-Choice”

... Assisted Suicide to “Aid in Dying”

Ä Emotional arguments include: to reduce people’s suffering; to give people control of their choices when an injury or illness is terminal; to alleviate family financial and emotional burdens.

Ä The Biblical truths of suffering and the dying process: brings people to understand the seriousness of sin (*Romans 5:12*); produces an openness to the hope Christ has brought (*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*; *John 14:1-6*); gives time for reconciliation of relationships (*Colossians 3:13*); causes us to realize that we are not in control of our lives and moves us to rely on God (*2 Corinthians 1:8-11*); provides an opportunity to experience God’s comfort and strength (*2 Corinthians 1:3-7*)

*Search me, O God, and know my heart!  
Try me and know my thoughts!  
And see if there be any grievous way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting!*

Endnotes:

- <sup>1</sup> "Abortion-Reasons Women Choose Abortion." *WebMD.com*. WebMD, LLC., 4 June 2014. Web. <<http://www.webmd.com/women/tc/abortion-reasons-women-choose-abortion>>.
  - <sup>2</sup> Scheidler, Joe. "The Pro-Life Movement Really Is Winning the Abortion Battle." *LifeNews.com*. LifeNews.com, 13 Jan. 2013. Web. <<http://www.lifenews.com/2013/01/07/the-pro-life-movement-really-is-winning-the-abortion-battle/>>.
  - <sup>3</sup> "Assisted Suicide." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, 14 Jan. 2016. Web. <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assisted\\_suicide](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assisted_suicide)>.
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