

“The Condemnation & Acquittal of Innocent Blood”

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday 2025

Sermon Notes

➤ **The 2030 Vision is the perfect moment for our church to put a full-court press on the rescue of the unborn**

**A compelling community believes that...*

1. The shed blood of innocents cries out for condemnation, so let's care with the help of God's grace (Deuteronomy 19:10, 13; 21:8-9; 27:25; Leviticus 20:1-5; Psalm 106:34-39; Proverbs 1:11-16; 6:16-19; Isaiah 59:7; Jeremiah 7:5-7; 19:4; Genesis 4:10)

2. The shed blood of Christ cries out for acquittal, so let's counsel with the hope of the gospel (Matthew 27:4; Luke 23:47; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Hebrews 7:26; 9:14; 12:24)

Next Week: Acts 27:1-12

MEFC Community Group Study Guide

For the week of January 19th-25th

Getting Started

1. Discuss the following statement from Greg Koukl: “If the unborn is not a human person, no justification for abortion is necessary; if the unborn is a human person, then no justification for abortion is adequate.”¹ How might these words be of practical help to you as you have the opportunity to speak with those in your sphere of influence who are on the other side of the abortion issue?

Digging Deeper

2. This observation by Randy Alcorn captures the urgency of the pro-life movement in our nation as well as provides the theological underpinning to Koukl's statement above. Once again, discuss this with your group: “...the forces behind child-killing are demonic...abortion is Satan's attempt to kill God in effigy by destroying the little one's made in his image.”² What does he mean? Why does it matter?

¹ Gregory Koukl, Precious Unborn Persons. Stand to Reason. 2014.

² <https://www.epm.org/blog/2013/Jul/17/satan-child-killing> Accessed 1-17-19 @ 9:15pm.

Open Your Bible to Leviticus 18:21...

3. What is the reason God gives for the prohibition of child sacrifice in Leviticus 18:21? What does it mean to “profane that name of your God”? How does child sacrifice (i.e. abortion) do this?

4. In Leviticus 20:1-5, not only did Molech worship carry with it the penalty of capital punishment for those Israelites who participated, but for those who looked the other way as well. What correlation do you see between this portion of the law of Moses and the situation in which we find ourselves in our nation today? What lessons are present here for the church in our day?

5. If we approach the abortion issue through the lens of texts such as Leviticus 18:21; 20:1-5; 1 Kings 11:7; 2 Kings 23:10 and Jeremiah 32:35, it's clear that Molech worship is alive and well in 21st century America. Considering that abortion is nothing less than modern day child sacrifice, what are the gods of our culture to which our little ones are being offered (think creatively here... some are tangible, others are intangible)?

6. The Guttmacher Institute estimates that nearly one third of women in our country will have an abortion during their lifetime.³ If someone in our church revealed to you that they'd had an abortion, how would you seek to counsel them? What specific gospel truths in Scripture would inform your approach as well as your counsel?

7. If someone in your neighborhood confided in you that they were considering an abortion, what sort of specific biblical and practical help and hope in the gospel would you seek to offer them?⁴

8. Our 2030 Vision of becoming a **compelling community** has everything to do with the rescue of the unborn in our nation. Remember: a compelling community *cares* with the *help* of God's grace...and a compelling community *counsels* with the *hope* of the gospel. In view of the gifts that God has given you (1 Peter 4:10-11), what practical next steps might you take alongside others in our church to make a contribution toward the pro-life cause in 2025?

³ <http://www.johnstonsarchive.net/policy/abortion/uslifetimeab.html> . Accessed 1-17-19 @9:30pm.

⁴ Knowing how to respond in the moment in such a conversation requires careful thought long before such a conversation takes place. One simple tool along these lines is the S.L.E.D. test. Click here: www.str.org/w/the-sled-test to become familiar with this remarkably simple and helpful tool.