# The Role of the Church In the world

The Church is *not* a building or a service; instead, it includes all people who have been saved from their sins *by* grace *through* faith

in Jesus for eternal life!

The Church has

◆God's Word as its foundation and ◆Jesus Christ as its chief corner stone!



The Church exists \*to be the light in the darkness and \*to proclaim God's truth about sin and salvation without compromise, so that all people might receive Jesus as Savior!

These words of Paul express the *right*attitude of pastors: "...we speak as men
approved by God to be entrusted with the
gospel. We are not trying to please men but
God, who tests our hearts. (1 Thess. 2:4 NIV)

These words of the Lord describe the *best* attitude for all Christians, even all people:

"For My hand made all these things, Thus all these things came into being," declares the LORD. "But to this one I will look, To him who is **humble** and **contrite of spirit**, and who **trembles at My word.**" (Isaiah 66:2 NAU)

# Should ALL Christians Be Pro-Life?

Think about who we are in Christ: \*saved, \*righteous in God's sight, \*members of God's holy family, and \*heaven-bound! Then, for all who know Christ as Savior (John 17:3), it's time to grow to maturity, to learn what pleases the Lord; then to put such things into practice — never to be saved, but because we are saved!

These are good words of instruction: "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) <sup>10</sup> and find out what pleases the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them." (Ephesians 5:8-11 NIV)

Some well-intentioned, immature Christians may be pro-choice for a while; however, as they grow in understanding God's Word of Truth, they will also become pro-life! Then they will say "no" to abortion and "yes" to God's precious gift of human life!

Now, knowing we are forgiven through Jesus – even for supporting or participating in the horrors of abortion, let us go forth to: "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves..." (Proverbs 31:8 NIV)

#### You Are Invited to Attend and Benefit

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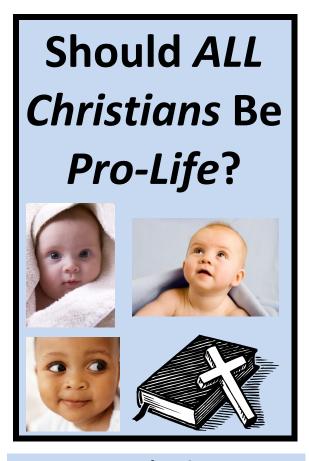
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### Introduction

Abortion – it has been a hot topic for decades! Some are strongly in favor – believing that every woman has the personal right to choose what happens within her body; however, others are strongly opposed – wanting to protect every human life!

#### This brochure will touch on:

- ✓ Abortion's toll in the USA since 1973.
- ✓ Knowing God's truth.
- ✓ God's perspective on the beginning of life.
- ✓ The role of the Church in the world.
- ✓ Should all Christians be pro-life?

## Abortion's Toll in the USA Since 1973

The numbers are absolutely staggering!

Let's compare → Americans who died in war with → Americans who died in abortion:

- Americans fought in these wars during a total of 63 years:
   ◆Revolutionary War, ◆War of 1812,
   ◆Mexican-American War, ◆Civil War,
   ◆Philippine-American War, ◆WWI,
   ◆WWII, ◆Korean War, ◆Vietnam War, and ◆Iraq War. In all ten of those wars combined,
   approximately 1.3 million Americans died; thus 21,000 per year, 57 per day!¹
- Americans have been legally aborted over a total of 37 years (1973-2010): In all 37 of those years combined, approximately 50 million have been aborted; thus 1.3 million PER YEAR, 3,700 PER DAY!

<u>Summary</u>: War is sometimes necessary, but it is also expensive – both in dollars and in lives! But the cost of American lives in war is extremely low in comparison to the cost of American lives in abortion. Compare these figures; then cry out to the Almighty God for His forgiveness!

<u>War</u>: 21,000/year, 57/day

Abortion: 1.3 million/year, 3,700/day

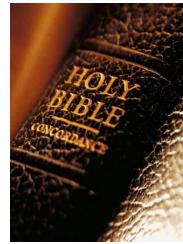
## **Knowing God's Truth**

It is so important, yet many are so confused! Some confusion springs from this reality: We have all sinned, so our thoughts, words, and deeds can easily be tainted by sin. Therefore, to know the truth, we must go beyond ourselves to something free from sin and fully reliable. That something is the Holy Bible:

- <u>The Psalmist prayed</u>: "All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal." (Psalm 119:160 NIV)
- Jesus prayed: "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth." (John 17:17 NIV)

Therefore, by the Bible ◆we know we are

sinners (Rom.
3:10), \*We
know we
cannot make
ourselves
righteous (Rom.
3:20), and \*we
know we have
earned death
(Rom. 6:23);
nevertheless,
"God, who is
rich in mercy,



made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions..." (Eph. 2:4-5 NIV)

We know we are saved – not because of what we think or feel or say but – because of God's Spirit working through His Word of Truth to assure us of His forgiveness in Jesus! In a similar way, we must look to God's Word to know the truth about abortion!

# God's Perspective On the Beginning of Life

There are a wide variety of opinions about the beginning point of life; however, the right answer must come from God's Word of Truth: "The God who made the world and everything in it... 25 ...he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else." (Acts 17:24 NIV) Here are some key Bible passages:

- God knew us before conception: "For [God] chose us in [Christ] before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight." (Eph. 1:4 NIV)
- The LORD was intimately involved in making us: "For you [LORD] created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb." (Psalm 139:13 NIV)
- Pre-natal life is valuable: "If men who are fighting hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely but there is no serious injury, the offender must be fined whatever the woman's husband demands and the court allows. <sup>23</sup> But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life..." (Exodus 21:22-23 NIV)
- <u>David was a sinful human life from</u>
   <u>conception</u>: "Surely I [King David] was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me." (Psalm 51:5 NIV)

<u>Comment</u>: It is not what WE think or WE feel or WE say that determines the beginning of life; instead, we humbly look to **God's Word of Truth** for all that is good and right!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United States casualties of war