

# Life Sunday Series #2

## Defend Life

This series for observing consecutive Life Sundays is designed to call Christians to action. Each theme builds on the previous. Last Sunday concentrated on respect and caring for all human life. This second Sunday builds on the issue of respecting all life by defending those who cannot do so. The first lesson from the life of David tells of Jonathan's boldness as he spoke up for David. In the second lesson, Paul gives a strong message that really says, "Faith without words is dead." Finally in the Gospel, Jesus calls the Pharisees on the carpet of truth. He defends the elderly by proclaiming the Word.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Almighty Lord God, You were not content in the Garden of Eden to abandon Your creation, and on Calvary You defended all life by giving up Your only Son. By the power of Your Word, move us to speak the truth in love, by speaking up for those who cannot; we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

### THE WORD

**First Lesson:** I Samuel 20:24-34

Jonathan spoke up respectfully for the life of David. He didn't become argumentative. He didn't remain silent either. Jonathan took a stand for life under difficult circumstances: going against his father, siding against the king, with someone the king saw as an enemy

**Psalm of the Day:** 119c

All Scripture is for our learning, training, and correcting. No aspect is to be neglected and passed over because it is not as important as others. It truly is a lamp to our feet and a light for our path as it trains us today to defend the lives of any age who are defenseless.

**Second Lesson:** Romans 10:8b-10

The Word of God is living and active. The gospel, being active in our hearts, compels and urges us to speak about it. Certainly defending and promoting the value of all human life is a message found in Scripture. Accordingly, may this message not just remain a truth in our hearts, but live on our lips as well.

### Verse of the Day

**Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. [Proverbs 31:8-9]**

**Gospel:** John 17:13-19

The most compelling of concerns for God's people is the protection of souls. In His high priestly prayer, Jesus demonstrates that priority by praying for all His followers.

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

[CW] 289—Preserve Your Word, O Savior

473—Savior, I Follow On

429—What God Ordains Is Always Good

474—Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

521—Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

### **SUGGESTED SERMON TEXTS**

Proverbs 31:8-9

Ezekiel 3:18-21

Galatians 6:2

John 15:31

1 Peter 3:17