

Bible Study:

God's Word Calls Us to Speak Up

The Bible directs us to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves and gives us the message to share. This Bible study considers the directives we have to speak up and what to say when we do.

A. SPEAK UP! - AGAINST THOSE WHO OPPOSE AND UNDERMINE GOD'S WORD AND WILL

GOD'S DIRECTIVE:

Leviticus 5:1: *"If anyone sins because they do not speak up when they hear a public charge to testify regarding something they have seen or learned about, they will be held responsible."*

WHAT GOD SAYS IN HIS WORD:

Exodus 20:13: *"You shall not murder."*

- What is God protecting by the 5th Commandment? What is he forbidding?
- How can Christians become partakers of breaking the 5th Commandment without the actual taking of human life?
- What impact has the *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision had on society over the years?

Genesis 9:6: *"Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made mankind."*

- What does it mean that mankind was created in "the image of God"?
- What does this teach us about God's reason for wanting to preserve human life?
- What is our main purpose in taking a pro-life stand against the taking of human life?

B. SPEAK UP! - FOR THE TRUTH OF GOD'S GIFT OF LIFE

GOD'S DIRECTIVE:

Proverbs 31:8: *"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute."*

- Who are some of those "who cannot speak for themselves"?

WHAT GOD SAYS IN HIS WORD:

Acts 17:25b,28a: *"He (God) himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else... 'For in him we live and move and have our being.'"*

Deuteronomy 32:39b: *“There is no god besides me. I put to death and I bring to life.”*

- What do these verses say about the origin of all life? What do they say about the end of all life?

Isaiah 55:6: *“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.”*

Hebrews 9:27: *“Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face the judgment.”*

- What will be some of our main goals in speaking up for the unborn (i.e. counseling expectant mothers who may be considering an abortion)?
- How long does a person have to “find the Lord” and be saved?

John 14:6: *“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”*

Acts 4:12: *“‘Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.’”*

Acts 16:31: *“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.”*

- Is there more than one way for a person to be saved and get to heaven?
- How do “life issues” relate to our mission as Christians?

1 John 4:7, 20: *“Let us love one another, for love comes from God... For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:14b,15: *“Be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and to everyone else.”*

Ephesians 4:31,32: *“Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger... Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”*

- Name some things mentioned in these passages which will help to speak up to others about God’s gift of life.

1 John 1:9: *“If we confess our sins, he (God) is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”*

Romans 5:20: *“...where sin increased, grace increased all the more.”*

- What hope do these verses give for a person who has had an abortion or taken human life into their own hands in some way?
- How will this help us in speaking up to those who are willing to listen?

C. SPEAK UP! - AS A SUPPORTER OF LIFE ISSUES

GOD'S DIRECTIVE:

Proverbs 31:9: *“Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.”*

- Name some things that might cause people to be less than active supporters in speaking up for life.
- What are some alternatives we can offer to people who are faced with important life decisions?
- Make a list of ways we can “speak up” in support of life issues?

Additional Discussion:

Why is it also important for everyone to become involved in speaking up on life issues?

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