



# Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

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*Psalm 139:13-14, CSB*



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# How Pregnancy Resource Centers Offer Help and Hope in Jesus' Name

*by Lisa Spence*

**W**hen Rosa\* first visited the pregnancy center where I volunteer, she was accompanied by her husband. He spoke only a little English, she none at all. She stood somewhat behind him as he and I attempted to communicate, her gaze fixed on the ground. After much gesturing and pointing, on my part as well as her husband's, we were able to figure out what size diapers and clothing they needed for their children. Rosa never said a word.

Over the next few years, Rosa and her husband would come by regularly for diapers and other things. We learned that they were believers active in a local Hispanic church. Her husband would sometimes ask us for a Spanish Bible he could give away to someone in their church.

Our pregnancy center, like others across our nation, advocates for the life of the unborn. We counsel women in crisis pregnancies about their options: abortion, adoption, or parenting. Increasingly these conversations are occurring on the telephone, particularly with abortion-minded clients as women search online for abortion providers and land on our site.

As advocates for life, we also provide resources to help moms with items they need throughout their pregnancy and the first year of their baby's life: maternity clothes, diapers, wipes, etc. We offer free pregnancy tests and sonograms, parenting classes, post-abortion counseling, Bible studies, and a fatherhood class.

Our need is real, and it is great, but greater still is the life and hope Jesus offers.

Diapers, wipes, clothing, car seats—these are our cups of cold water that we give in the name of Jesus. Each visit, each pack of diapers, each pregnancy test are opportunities to develop a relationship as well as to share the gospel. Every client who walks in our door is a divine appointment sent by God for the help and hope we offer.

I've discovered that my clients and I are the same in so many ways. Certainly there are differences in ethnicity and background and socioeconomic status. But, we have much in common: we've made bad decisions, done wrong, had people do wrong against us. What we—all of us—need is hope, forgiveness, and grace. We need Jesus.

*\*Names and details changed for privacy*

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