

# Sanctity of Life

SUNDAY

"For it was you who created my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I will praise you because I have been remarkably and wondrously made."

PSALM 139:13-14, CSB

## 3 Small Pro-Life Steps Churches Can Take

BY ASHLYN PORTERO

ur call as Christians to love our neighbors and our belief that every person is created in the image of God compels us to live pro-life. However, the more I consider how churches can foster a pro-life culture, the more I'm convinced that the steps are small and doable for almost any pastor, leader, or member to begin today. Here are a few that come to mind.

## LOOK FOR AND SUPPORT THE PRO-LIFE EFFORTS ALREADY HAPPENING IN YOUR CHURCH.

There is a good chance that church members in your congregation are already engaged passionately in fighting for life. Begin having conversations with your members, asking around for anyone who is involved in ministries like foster care, pregnancy center support, or serving those with special needs.

#### TEACH A WHOLE-LIFE, PRO-LIFE VIEW TO YOUR CHURCH MEMBERS.

It is impossible to teach the Word of God accurately and miss God's desire for human flourishing. Genesis to Revelation reveal that he is the author of our lives, faith, and salvation; so, we must obey his commands. From the senior pastor down to the small group Bible study leader, the local church needs to teach a pro-life ethic that is consistent with and rooted in Scripture.

#### COMMIT TO EDUCATING YOURSELF AND YOUR PEOPLE TOWARD A FULLER PRO-LIFE ETHIC.

In the same way that we grow in the understanding and knowledge of God when we read and learn his Word, we have an opportunity to grow in understanding on many issues surrounding the protection and flourishing of life. As leaders or members in the church, we need to be learners, not to be inflated by knowledge but to live and work for the good of those around us who might see our good deeds and give glory to God (Matt. 5:16).



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