

Sanctity of Human Life

Sunday, January 16, 2022

On Sanctity of Human Life Sunday,
Today we celebrate God's gift of life,
commemorate the lives lost to
abortion, and commit to protecting
human life at every stage.

Human Life has Intrinsic Value

Scripture: Genesis 1:27, So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them.

Monday, January 17th is Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Day

As we honor Dr. King's legacy, you are encouraged to spend MLK Day in remembrance of all that he worked for and, if possible, by participating in an act of service. Also take advantage of the virtual opportunities that will be made available.

January Sermon Series:
ABIDING IN CHRIST

Scripture Lesson

John 15:2,5

John 15:2,5, Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. “I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

Lesson Three:
**Pruning for Spiritual
Fruitfulness**

Pruning is simply to trim by cutting away dead or overgrown branches or stems, especially to encourage growth.

**1. Critically and
Honestly Examine Your
Life.**

If you can't see your own failings,
you can't make progress.

I Corinthians 11:28, As the apostle Paul said,
“Let a man examine himself.”

II Corinthians 13:5, Examine yourselves as to
whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves.
Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ
is in you? —unless indeed you are disqualified.

“No detail of your life is too insignificant for your heavenly Father’s attention.”

Joshua 22:5 But take careful heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways, to keep His commandments, to hold fast to Him, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul.

**2. Confess any Sin in
Your Life.**

Jeremiah 17:9, The heart is deceitful
above all things, and desperately wicked;
Who can know it?

“Don’t cover up what God has called you to confess and turn away from.”

I John 1:9, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

James 5:16, Therefore, make it **your** habit to **confess your sins** to one another and to pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

**3. Repent of any Routine
or Habitual Sins in Your
Life and Remove Them.**

Revelation 2:5, “Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works”

Revelation 3:19, As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten be zealous therefore, and repent.

Hebrews 12:1-2, Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.”

“If it stops you from
getting closer to God,
then it needs to go.”

4. Discard the Doubtful

Romans 14:1-3, Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over **doubtful things**. For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him.

Romans 14:21, It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumble, or is offended, or is made weak.

“Unless you are fully convinced
that something is acceptable, it is
wrong for you.”

Romans 14:23, But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because the eating is not from faith. For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin. As Christians, let us seek to operate from a position of faith.

I Corinthians 10:31, Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

5. Diminish Distractions

Even good things can be
bad if they keep you from
doing what is best.

1 Corinthians 6:12, All things are lawful, but not everything is expedient. Not everything edifies us or makes us better. And we should not let anything bring us under its power.”

1 John 2, “Love not the world, neither the things in the world”

“You can’t do big things if you are
distracted by small things.”

“Starve your distractions feed
your focus.”

6. Filter Your Friends

Psalm 1:1-2, Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the Law of the LORD; and in His Law doth he meditates day and night.

Proverbs 13:19, He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

“Characterize people by their actions and you will never be fooled by their words.”

7. Replace What You Remove

Ephesians 4:29, Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

REFLECT, FOCUS, PRUNE