

Decisions, Decisions Base Them On God's Word

Your Decision About Abortion

Lesson One

Memorize this verse:

"...let God be true, and every man a liar;..."
Romans 3:4

Abortion is one decision that is made by millions of people. The decision is often based on false or very little information. It is sometimes made on the assumption that it is of little consequence.

Some believe there is no God. Some who believe there is a God, feel that He does not see, care or react to concerning abortion.

You may decide to have, or encourage, or even force someone else to have an abortion. You may know of someone planning to have an abortion and you will choose to speak for or against it or keep silent.

You may believe in your heart that abortion is acceptable. You may believe that it is wrong but you simply do nothing to oppose it.

We trust that after working through these lessons you will make the decisions about abortion that **God** would have you make.

In order to help you, we have carefully sought out: **1.** True, reliable information from God's Holy, unchanging Word. **2.** We have also put together a collection of facts and figures and gathered factual medical information on abortion. **3.** We have included true testimonies to help you make the right decisions concerning abortion, how to join in the battle against abortion and how to deal with your own guilt or grief you may bear.

I. Base your decisions concerning abortion on the Word of God.

A. God reveals truth through His word while Satan and his servants present us with lies.

The following Scriptures will help you to see that life begins at conception and is nurtured within the womb from that moment in time. The following is Job's testimony found in the Book of Job, the oldest Book of the Bible. Job was going through a time of deep sorrow and he cried out in his misery "Wherefore then, _____
_____?" Oh that I had _____
_____, and no _____
_____! (Job 10:18)

He speaks of having been alive in the womb and feels at that time he would have been better off if no eye had seen him. People could have seen his dead body if he had been still-born, so he meant that no one would have seen him alive outside of his mother's womb!

B. Job was under a testing and transforming work, as you can see in Job 1:1-12. Whom did God allow to bring adversity into Job's life?

1. In truth, Job lived to experience wonderful blessings from God. Read Job 42:1-17 and initial when done. _____ *He certainly would not have been better off dead in the womb.*

2. Job's writings are from about 1500 years before Jesus. He had many riches and a family. His children had houses. They had birthday celebrations. He was a normal, hard-working man. He had adversity but he honored God, who was able to say in Job 1:22. "In all this Job _____."

You may be going through adversity, trying times, or a frightening time because of an

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unplanned pregnancy. Come to know God's way, follow it, and know that God will help you, as you look to Him.

*Do you want to be godly in your decisions in relation to abortion? Believe as Job did, **you are alive once conceived in the womb.***

C. In approximately 4000 B.C., God created a man named Adam, and of his rib he made a woman, Eve. God is the creator of all things, (Genesis 1:1; Psalm: 6 and 7; Isaiah 45:18; John 1:1-3; I Corinthians 8:6, Ephesians 3:9) therefore only God himself can direct us and show us the righteous ways of life, the ways that will bring eternal blessings.

1. In Genesis 1:28, God said to Adam and Eve “. . . , Be _____, and replenish (means “fill”) the earth . . .”

2. Genesis 3:20, “And Adam called his wife's name Eve; _____.
(Eve means “life-giving”).

D. Of course, sin changed the original state of everything including human views.

1. The most immediate change for the life-giver was found in Genesis 3:16, “. . . I will

_____;
_____;
_____ in _____;
_____ and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.”

2. Genesis 4:1 & 2 say that Eve conceived and _____ Cain, and then his brother Abel.

3. Genesis 5: 3 & 4 reads that Adam begat _____;
_____ and called his name Seth. And the days of Adam, after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he _____.”

In Genesis 5:6-32, there is a continuing account of births. Never was there given a provision for, nor a record of, abortions in God's Word. God ordained the continuing of human life through child bearing.

II. After the world-wide flood, when only Noah and his family remained alive on the earth, God spoke again on His will concerning childbearing. Please note that God calls pregnancy childbearing in I Timothy 1:15. She is not fetus-bearing or blob-bearing?

A In Genesis 9:1, God speaks to Noah following the worldwide flood. What is the first commandment God gave to Noah and his sons? “And God blessed Noah and his sons and said unto them, be _____
_____.”

Genesis 10 records their generations.

B. Please read Genesis 9:2-6 and Leviticus 17:11. Initial when done. _____
What did God say the life was in?

Did you know that the blood comes from the father of a child? Here is an amazing discovery – the heart of a newly conceived baby begins to

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beat at three weeks. He or she has his father's blood being pumped through him/her. He or she is alive and nobody knows it. It is in secret. We will give more biological information in the next lesson.

III. Another vital truth to insert here is that sinless blood was provided by the Heavenly Father when Jesus' body was formed within the womb. The blood that flowed through Jesus was pure just as Adam's was when God formed him from the dust of the earth, before Adam sinned.

A. This is explained in Luke 1:35. "And the angel answered and said unto her, _____ and the power of the _____: therefore also that _____ which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

The creation of an earthly body for Jesus was spiritual.

B. Jesus was sinless as we read in II Corinthians 5:21 "For he hath made him to be sin for us, _____; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

That is how He was able to be a sacrifice for sin once and for all.

C. Hebrews 10:10-12 says "By the which will we are sanctified through _____

_____."

And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered _____, sat down on the right hand of God;"

In closing, if you have not yet confessed your own sinful state to God Almighty and asked the Heavenly Father to wash away your sin by the blood of Jesus, you should do that now.

This scripture urges you to come to him. "For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)" II Corinthians 6:2

Romans 10:13 shows that salvation is available to all for the asking. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Jesus died on a cross and shed His blood for every person. He extends His offer of forgiveness and eternal life to "whosoever will". He is willing and able to save you from the penalty of sin Romans 10:9&10 says "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Confess your guilt and sin to the Heavenly Father, asking for forgiveness. Ask Jesus into your heart. If you do not know how to pray, speak to God in your own words and tell Him

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you now repent and turn to Him. Tell Him you want that forgiveness for all your sins. Tell Him you want Jesus in your heart.

If you have just now made this decision, please tell us so we may rejoice with you.

We can also send Bible lesson helps for you to grow in your new life in Christ. We will be glad to provide those free of charge.

This space is provided for questions or comments:

Do you know someone who would like to receive Bible lessons?

Name:

Check if Adult: _____ If child, age _____

Address _____

Name:

Check if Adult: _____ If child, age _____

Address _____

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Memorize this verse:

Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being
imperfect; and in thy book all my members were
written, which in continuance were fashioned,
when as yet there was none of them.
Psalm 139:16

**In this lesson we will travel through
recorded history in the Bible to see more of
how God views the subjects of “when life
begins” and “how God sees the unborn”.**

**We will see one of God's laws written
expressly for the unborn.**

**There is a warning included as to the
consequence of defying God and governing
our selves by our own thinking and laws.**

I. Let's now travel through time and take some
clips from God's recorded history.

A. Travel now in time to about 1300 BC and
meet a lady named Ruth and a man named Boaz.

1. Ruth 4:13 records the natural set of events
following their marriage which was: Verse 13 “So
Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he
went in unto her, the _____ gave her
_____, and she _____.”

2. Now see how God had a wonderful plan
for the offspring of these two. In Ruth 4:17 we
read: “And the women her neighbours gave it a
name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and
they called his name _____: he is the father
of Jesse, _____.”

*This is King David who was the ruler over
Israel and the writer of the Psalms! Read Matthew*

*1:1-16 and you will also see that through this
lineage came Mary who bore Jesus, the Christ.
Can you imagine what would have happened if
Obed had been aborted?*

B. Time continued and a lady named Hannah
who lived about 1170 BC found that she could not
conceive. Read I Samuel 1:1-2:21 and initial when
done. _____

We will note some important highlights.

1. I Samuel 1:19&20: Who gave Hannah the
power to conceive? _____

2. Verse 24 reveals that Hannah literally gave
her son away so to speak. She took him to the
_____.

*Dear ladies, if you are carrying an unwanted
child, why not give it to God? Seek out a godly
family who desires a child and cannot have one. If
you do not know of a way to do so, contact our
ministry or a godly pastor. Perhaps there is a
BIRTHRIGHT agency in your area. You may also
call or email a pregnancy helpline. Seek God's
help; He will guide and comfort you.*

C. Now let's go to about the year 1143 BC.
The nation of Israel had suffered at the hands of
the Philistines for 40 years. Because of their sin,
God prepared to give Israel a righteous judge,
who would begin to deliver Israel out of bondage
from the Philistines. (Judges 13:5)

Before this judge, who was named Samson,
was born, God knew him.

God planned his conception and foretold it.
God spoke to his parents through an angel. Read
Judges 13 and initial when done. _____

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1. In Judges 13:3 and 4, the angel of the Lord told Manoah's wife, who was barren (could not conceive), that she would conceive and bear a son. He also told her not to drink _____ nor _____, and not to eat any _____.

Because the child was set apart for God he was to be protected by his mother even while she carried him. Her food and drink would have an effect him.

2. In verse 5, the angel says that the _____ shall be a Nazarite unto God from _____. He is to be considered a child whose body is to be kept from those things

While his earthly father's blood was in Samson, his mother's body provided the nourishment for him. Even in the womb, he was living, thriving and growing, and was not to be nurtured with alcohol and unclean foods.

D. Consider here Psalm 139: 13-16 in which David, who was a prophet, priest, and king wrote many Psalms. David praises God for his very existence.

1. David, in verse 13 spoke of his own existence in his _____ as well as God's presence and involvement in his growth.

2. David praised God for his development in the womb. In verse 14 David said "...I am _____: marvelous are _____; and that _____."

3. What does God, in His foreknowledge record in a book, as seen in verse 16? "...and in thy

book all _____, which in continuance were fashioned _____.

David worshipped God as the creator and giver of life. So must we if we are to be blessed.

E. Jeremiah the prophet recorded God's conversation with him. Jeremiah believed God; we should too.

1. God said this to Jeremiah in Jeremiah 1:4&5 "Before _____

thee;

2. Again in Jeremiah 1:5 God said "...and before thou camest forth out of the womb _____, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

This man was alive in the womb. He was known before that time by Almighty God. He was consecrated as a babe, though not yet born.

God knows our babies by name before we do! God revealed to us that life on earth begins the moment a child is conceived, for God knows him or her just as He knew Jeremiah.

II. When God gave the Law to his people he included one particular law that gave recognition to the unborn child. The unborn child was recognized as a living soul and therefore he or she was given the right to live.

A. Read Exodus 21:22 & 23 and fill in the blanks (Carefully read the notes following sections "1" and "2").

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1. Verse 22 says "If men strive, and hurt a _____, so that her _____,

and yet no mischief follow (*the child is not delivered dead but live*): he shall be surely punished, according as the woman's husband will lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges determine."

The man who caused the woman to deliver prematurely was tried and required to make restitution for the early birth.

Remember that in Genesis, God said to be fruitful. Children are a gift from God. See Genesis 33: 5 and; Psalms 127:3. Here her fruit is called "a child" while yet in the womb. The life of the unborn is so real and so much a human within the womb that God ordered punishment for causing a premature birth due to a fight between men.

2. Verse 23 : "And if any mischief follow (The baby dies, before or after delivery, even if it was too young to live outside of the mother's womb, as in an early trimester), then thou shalt give _____."

The man was to be put to death! There is no doubt that God's wonderful plan for reproduction was set in motion by His own hand and that He calls the unborn a child, verifying that a child exists and so has a right to continue living as well as the right to protection and respect, governed by law!

God has given the ability to conceive. It is the natural result of the union of a man and woman. It is expected by God that it be in holiness, within the bonds of marriage.

That is not always when and how a child is conceived but once conceived it is a child and must be cared for as a child. Here you may ask, "What if the child is the result of incest or rape? Must it be born in shame." Answer this question, "Is killing the child going to punish the guilty party or bring the peace of God into your heart?"

*Destroying the child is never the righteous choice. It is murder. Dear mothers and fathers, uphold righteousness, confess and forsake sinful ways. **Protect the life of the unborn.***

III. Consider carefully what happens when mankind defies God and governs himself by his own thinking and laws.

A. I Samuel 2:2 says this about our God?
"There is _____,
for there is _____:
neither is there any _____.

A rock signifies solidness and a place of safety. God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present. He is our keeper if we will allow Him to be.

B. Consider this from I Samuel 2:25 "If one man sin against another, the judge shall judge him: but if _____, who shall _____?"

There is a warning here not to sin against God for there is no god or man who can defend you before God. Of course there is forgiveness through Jesus Christ but there are also consequences. It is better not to sin in the first place.

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C. Man is a sinner by nature and apart from seeking God's way, and living by it, we are destined to have much sorrow either on this earth or in eternity. God makes this clear in Proverbs 14:12: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, _____." This is repeated in Proverbs 16:25.

D. Satan and sin bring us into bondage. Finish the verses below.

1. II Timothy 2:26 "And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil,

_____.

2. John 8:34 "Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, _____."

3. Proverbs 5:22 "His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and _____"

_____."

E. When we try to excuse ourselves we find, through God's Word, that we are without excuse. The remedy for this is to repent and turn to God for help; then follow these scriptures.

1. I Corinthians 10:13 teaches that "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able;

_____."

2. James 4:7 "_____ yourselves therefore to God. _____, and he _____."

Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

Proverbs 3:7 & 8

Do you know someone who would like to receive Bible lessons?

Name: _____

Adult ___ Child ___ (Check one)

Age If child: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Adult ___ Child ___ (Check one)

Age If child: _____

Address: _____

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Because this lesson includes personal testimonies that depict the horror of abortion, we feel it inappropriate for children to read.

Memorize this verse:

Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. Psalm 127:3

In section I of this lesson we can zoom into the secret place of the newly conceived life and experience in word, the miracle of conception and the beginning of life.

In section II we will find that God used a physician to write of life in the womb.

Section III gives warnings included against those who promote, or choose, or perform abortions.

Section IV covers mistaken thinking, false information and the resulting cost of following such.

Section V is made up of testimonies of true events.

I. The following is scientific information from a work named *When You Were Formed in Secret* by Gary Bergel.

A. As the nuclei of the ovum and the sperm unite during the **first hours of fertilization**, they bring together twenty-three chromosomes from the mother and twenty-three chromosomes from the father. These chromosome sets carry some fifteen thousand genes from each parent cell.

B. In these **first quiet hours of human conception**, the genes, like letters of a divine alphabet, spell out the unique characteristics of the new individual. The color of the eyes, hair, and skin; the facial features, body type, and certain qualities of personality and intelligence are all determined by this genetic coding. Whether the

baby just begun will be a boy or girl is determined by an X (boy) or a Y (girl) chromosome carried in the father's sperm cell.

C. This quiet, yet sacred, act of conception has produced **not a "potential human being," but rather a human being with vast potential.** A new human life has begun and will continue until natural or violent death.

D. **Your heart began beating at three weeks** and has set the "rhythm of life" for all your days. Your brain began to form and soon would send out impulses throughout your body. In a mere four weeks you looked every bit like a tiny baby and even began to react and respond like one.

E. **This unborn child has been able to experience pain from the sixth week (a month and a half) and can even be taught conditioned responses...**The fetus (a living child) now sleeps and wakes, breathes amniotic fluid regularly to exercise and develop the respiratory system, and also drinks, digests, and excretes portions of the fluid. He will drink more fetal fluids if sweetened and less if they are made bitter or sour.

F. **At four months the baby now begins to seek comfortable positions when preparing to sleep...** Bone marrow is now forming and is beginning to produce and supplement the red blood cells which up until now have been made by the liver and spleen. The heart can now be plainly heard and is pumping up to twenty five quarts of blood a day.

G. **On the day of birth, the child, already a living and active person as we have seen makes a change in his place of residence**, in his external life support system, and his eating habits. As he has already gone through many progressive and overlapping stages of growth and development, so will he, from birth, continue the life begun nine months ago, moving through childhood,

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adolescence, maturity, old age, and death. Once again, all that is needed is nourishment, loving care and time to grow.

H. Now also the jelly in the umbilical chord begins to swell immediately upon contact with air restricting flow to the placenta and forcing the infant's blood to its own lungs for oxygen. As the baby gasps and air sweeps into the lungs and fills the thousands of tiny air sacs, a first cry is vocalized.

II. Is there proof of life upon conception in the New Testament? Yes, there surely is! Read Matthew 1:18-25. Understand also that conception is defined as the act of conceiving; the first formation of the embryo or fetus, as found in Noah Webster's dictionary.

A. Luke 1:30-31 says "And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt _____, and shalt call his name JESUS."

The first formation of the embryo was a son named Jesus. When you were conceived you were immediately a boy or a girl and God knew what you would be named.

B. In Matthew 1:25 it says that Mary brought forth her first born son but what is the son called in Matthew 1:18? "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, _____."

He was a child!

C. Read Luke 1:5-45 Initial when done _____

1. Luke 1:24 speaks of another miraculous

conception, that of an older lady who had not been able to conceive. "And after those days _____"

2. In Luke 1:13&14 the angel told Zacharias that many would rejoice at John's birth. What does Luke 1:15b say about John while he is still in the womb? "...he shall be filled _____"

The Holy Ghost is alive; He is God. God's Spirit would fill John while yet in his mother's womb. He could not fill something that was not yet alive.

3. The prophecy of verse 15 was fulfilled and recorded in verse 41. "...when Elisabeth heard the salutation, the _____." See also verse 44.

*Do you see again that God, speaking through Luke, called the unborn a babe! By the way, look at Colossians 4:14. Luke was a **Physician**. A doctor of Jesus' day and he knew that a living soul was in the womb!*

III. Many have believed that abortion is acceptable because there has been so much counsel in favor of it. Much of the secular information however is deceptive, downright false, or simply withheld from those making decisions.

A. We find strong warnings against those who give out false information, go along with the unrighteous witness or follow the majority when they are wrong. God gives commandments to His people along with the warnings.

1. Exodus 23: 1 warns people: "Thou shalt not _____; put not _____."

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2. Exodus 23:2 commands: "Thou shalt not

_____;
_____ ; neither shalt thou _____
_____ ;"

Can you understand what this means? If you have followed the crowd concerning abortion, you have put yourself in the previously mentioned categories, and God is not going to ignore it. There will be serious consequences.

Women often report that they were given very little information prior to an abortion. Some were assured that their child was a blob at the time of their abortion, but saw its little body carried away afterward.

Resulting health issues and mental health issues are masked over, or help is offered that cannot truly repair the damages done. Men and women alike report ongoing grief and sorrow after an abortion. Some women are left sterile. The link to breast cancer exists, and the list goes on!

This is a warning statement from a pamphlet called Forgotten Fathers/Men and Abortion by Life Cycle Books "FOR MEN AND WOMEN ALIKE, THE FEELING OF EMPTINESS MAY LAST A LIFETIME, FOR PARENTS ARE PARENTS FOREVER, EVEN OF A DEAD CHILD"

II Peter 2:19 fits our network of government officials who call for abortion rights, our laity who approve it, our medical family who practice it, and our people who want it. It says "While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage."

B. There are fearful warnings to those who promote, perform or have abortions.

1. This warning sounds in Exodus 23:7. "Keep thee far from a false matter; and the

_____ and righteous _____
_____ : for I will not _____
_____."

2. Here is a second warning from Jeremiah 2:32-37. Read these verses and fill in the blanks. Verse 34 "Also _____
is found _____

_____. I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these."

C. Believing you are innocent is not justification, you are accountable to God.

1. See Jeremiah 2:35a "Yet thou sayest,

_____ from me." But God said to sinning Israel in Jeremiah 2:37 "Yea, thou shalt go forth from him, and thine hands upon thine head: for

_____ in them."

2. Compare the New Testament warning found in Galatians 6:7 "Be not deceived; _____

_____."
How many bloodstained hospital gowns, nurses' uniforms and doctors' clothes hold the blood that testifies to God "I am the blood of poor innocents"?

IV. The following are actual statements from doctors as copied from a pamphlet called "Children... Things We Throw Away" by Melody Green.

A. Dr. John Szenens, at age 36, has this to say: "You have to become a bit schizophrenic. In one room you encourage the patient that the slight irregularity of the fetal heart is not important-that she is going to have a fine, healthy baby. Then in the next room you assure another woman, on who

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you just did a saline abortion that it's good that the heart is already irregular...she has nothing to worry about; she is **not** going to have a live baby."

Dr. Szenens continues, "At the beginning we were doing abortions on smaller fetuses...and the kicking and heartbeat did not manifest itself so much.

I think if I had started with 24-weekers right off the bat, I would have had much greater conflict in my own mind if this was the same as murder or not. But since we started off slowly with 15 to 16-weekers, the fetus just never got consideration. Then gradually the whole range of cases started to become larger.

Notice that this doctor used the word baby with the mothers but used the term fetuses otherwise. He spoke of kicking and heartbeats but what has a heart beating and legs that kick and is not alive? He deceives the mothers and deceives himself.

B. The following is a testimony Susan Lindstrom, MSW, from *Children, Things We Throw Away*. It should be sufficient to send the murderers of the innocents to Death Row.

At age 27 she said "I am having a lot of difficulty with my feelings about late abortions-and all the pain that's there so much of the time after the baby is moving. So one day, in need to arrive at a measure of clarity, I went into the room where they keep the fetuses (*so called*) before burning them. They were next to the garbage cans in paper buckets, like the take-home chicken kind. I looked inside the bucket in front of me. There was a small naked person in there, floating in a bloody liquid. He was purple with bruises and his face had the agonized tautness of one forced to die too soon. I then took off the lids of all the buckets and with a pair of forceps lifted each fetus (*so called*) out by an arm or a leg; leaving, as I returned them, an additional bruise on their acid soaked bodies.

Finally I lifted out a very large fetus and read

the label:

Mother's name: <u>C. Atkins</u>	Doctor's name: <u>Saul Marcus</u>
Sex of the item: <u>Male</u> ;	Time of gestation: <u>24 weeks</u> (<u>six months</u>)

I remember Miss Atkins. She was 17- a very pretty blond girl. So, this was Master Atkins-to-be burned tomorrow for the sake of his mother.

V. Some contraceptives are also deadly but you will not be told that by your medical advisors.

A. An IUD can allow a child to be conceived and then terminate the pregnancy!

B. The first stage of a medical abortion uses RU-486 abortion pills which actually cut off the blood and nutrients to the developing embryo. The second, two days later uses another drug to expel the fetus (*child*).

These are two of many such deathtraps for the innocents.

We have presented sufficient proof to verify that abortion is ending a life at any point from conception on. **Abortion is murder!**

Perhaps you need forgiveness and healing from past decisions. You cannot go back but you can repent, find forgiveness, and go on in and for the Lord.

Please read Psalms 51:1-17, and I John 1:9. Let them be your guide and your prayer as you take it to God in the name of Jesus. Also consider John 8: 1-12.

If we can be of any further help do not hesitate to contact us.

Children are a gift from God And he lifted up his eyes, and saw the women and the children; and said, Who are those with thee? And he said, The children which God hath graciously given thy servant. Genesis 33:5

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Decisions, Decisions

Base Them On God's Word

Your Decision About Abortion

Lesson One

Memorize this verse:

"...let God be true, and every man a liar;..."
Romans 3:4

Abortion is one decision that is made by millions of people. The decision is often based on false or very little information. It is sometimes made on the assumption that it is of little consequence.

Some believe there is no God. Some who believe there is a God, feel that He does not see, care or react to concerning abortion.

You may decide to have, or encourage, or even force someone else to have an abortion. You may know of someone planning to have an abortion and you will choose to speak for or against it or keep silent.

You may believe in your heart that abortion is acceptable. You may believe that it is wrong but you simply do nothing to oppose it.

We trust that after working through these lessons you will make the decisions about abortion that **God** would have you make.

In order to help you, we have carefully sought out: **1.** True, reliable information from God's Holy, unchanging Word. **2.** We have also put together a collection of facts and figures and gathered factual medical information on abortion. **3.** We have included true testimonies to help you make the right decisions concerning abortion, how to join in the battle against abortion and how to deal with your own guilt or grief you may bear.

I. Base your decisions concerning abortion on the Word of God.

A. God reveals truth through His word while Satan and his servants present us with lies.

The following Scriptures will help you to see that life begins at conception and is nurtured within the womb from that moment in time. The following is Job's testimony found in the Book of Job, the oldest Book of the Bible. Job was going through a time of deep sorrow and he cried out in his misery "Wherefore then HAST THOU BROUGHT ME FORTH OUT OF THE WOMB ?" Oh that I had GIVEN UP THE GHOST, and no EYE HAD SEEN ME ! (Job 10:18)

He speaks of having been alive in the womb and feels at that time he would have been better off if no eye had seen him. People could have seen his dead body if he had been still-born, so he meant that no one would have seen him alive outside of his mother's womb!

B. Job was under a testing and transforming work, as you can see in Job 1:1-12. Whom did God allow to bring adversity into Job's life?

SATAN

1. In truth, Job lived to experience wonderful blessings from God. Read Job 42:1-17 and initial when done. N.A. *He certainly would not have been better off dead in the womb.*

2. Job's writings are from about 1500 years before Jesus. He had many riches and a family. His children had houses. They had birthday celebrations. He was a normal, hard-working man. He had adversity but he honored God, who was able to say in Job 1:22. "In all this Job

SINNED NOT NOR CHARGED GOD FOOLISHLY."

You may be going through adversity, trying times, or a frightening time because of an

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unplanned pregnancy. Come to know God's way, follow it, and know that God will help you, as you look to Him.

*Do you want to be godly in your decisions in relation to abortion? Believe as Job did, **you are alive once conceived in the womb.***

C. In approximately 4000 B.C., God created a man named Adam, and of his rib he made a woman, Eve. God is the creator of all things, (Genesis 1:1; Psalm: 6 and 7; Isaiah 45:18; John 1:1-3; I Corinthians 8:6, Ephesians 3:9) therefore only God himself can direct us and show us the righteous ways of life, the ways that will bring eternal blessings.

1. In Genesis 1:28, God said to Adam and Eve "... Be **FRUITFUL, AND MULTIPLY,** and replenish (means "fill") the earth ..."

2. Genesis 3:20, "And Adam called his wife's name Eve; **BECAUSE SHE WAS THE MOTHER OF ALL LIVING.** (Eve means "life-giving").

D. Of course, sin changed the original state of everything including human views.

1. The most immediate change for the life-giver was found in Genesis 3:16, "... I will **GREATLY MULTIPLY THY SORROWS AND THY CONCEPTION;** in **SORROW THOU SHALT BRING FORTH CHILDREN** ; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee."

2. Genesis 4:1 & 2 say that Eve conceived and **BARE** Cain, and then his brother Abel.

3. Genesis 5: 3 & 4 reads that Adam begat **A SON IN HIS OWN LIKENESS , AFTER HIS IMAGE ;** and called his name Seth. And the days of Adam, after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he **BEGAT SONS AND DAUGHTERS."**

In Genesis 5:6-32, there is a continuing account of births. Never was there given a provision for, nor a record of, abortions in God's Word. God ordained the continuing of human life through child bearing.

II. After the world-wide flood, when only Noah and his family remained alive on the earth, God spoke again on His will concerning childbearing. Please note that God calls pregnancy childbearing in I Timothy 1:15. She is not fetus-bearing or blob-bearing?

A In Genesis 9:1, God speaks to Noah following the worldwide flood. What is the first commandment God gave to Noah and his sons? "And God blessed Noah and his sons and said unto them, Be **FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY , AND REPLENISH THE EARTH** ."

Genesis 10 records their generations.

B. Please read Genesis 9:2-6 and Leviticus 17:11. Initial when done. **N.A.** What did God say the life was in?

THE BLOOD

Did you know that the blood comes from the father of a child? Here is an amazing discovery – the heart of a newly conceived baby begins to

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beat at three weeks. He or she has his father's blood being pumped through him/her. He or she is alive and nobody knows it. It is in secret. We will give more biological information in the next lesson.

III. Another vital truth to insert here is that sinless blood was provided by the Heavenly Father when Jesus' body was formed within the womb. The blood that flowed through Jesus was pure just as Adam's was when God formed him from the dust of the earth, before Adam sinned.

A. This is explained in Luke 1:35. "And the angel answered and said unto her THE HOLY GHOST SHALL COME UPON THEE ." and the power of the HIGHEST SHALL OVERSHADOW THEE ; therefore also that HOLY THING which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

The creation of an earthly body for Jesus was by God through the Holy Spirit.

B. Jesus was sinless as we read in II Corinthians 5:21 "For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, WHO KNEW NO SIN ; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

That is how He was able to be a sacrifice for sin once and for all.

C. Hebrews 10:10-12 says "By the which will we are sanctified through THE OFFERING OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST ONCE FOR ALL .

And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered ONE SACRIFICE FOR SINS FOREVER , sat down on the right hand of God;"

In closing, If you have not yet confessed your own sinful state to God Almighty and asked the Heavenly Father to wash away your sin by the blood of Jesus, you should do that now.

This scripture urges you to come to him. "For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)" II Corinthians 6:2

Romans 10:13 shows that salvation is available to all, for the asking. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Jesus died on a cross and shed His blood for every person. He extends His offer of forgiveness and eternal life to "whosoever will". He is willing and able to save you from the penalty of sin Romans 10:9&10 says "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Confess your guilt and sin to the Heavenly Father, asking for forgiveness. Ask Jesus into your heart. If you do not know how to pray, speak to God in your own words and tell Him

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you now repent and turn to Him. Tell Him you want that forgiveness for all your sins. Tell Him you want Jesus in your heart.

If you have just now made this decision, please tell us so we may rejoice with you.

We can also send Bible lesson helps for you to grow in your new life in Christ. We will be glad to provide those free of charge.

This space is provided for questions or comments:

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Lesson Two

Memorize this verse:

Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

Psalm 139:16

In this lesson we will travel through recorded history in the Bible to see more of how God views the subjects of “when life begins” and “how God sees the unborn”.

We will see one of God's laws written expressly for the unborn.

There is a warning included as to the consequence of defying God and governing our selves by our own thinking and laws.

I. Let's now travel through time and take some clips from God's recorded history.

A. Travel now in time to about 1300 BC and meet a lady named Ruth and a man named Boaz.

1. Ruth 4:13 records the natural set of events following their marriage which was: Verse 13 “So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the **LORD** gave her **CONCEPTION**, and she **BARE A SON**.”

2. Now see how God had a wonderful plan for the offspring of these two. In Ruth 4:17 we read: “And the women her neighbours gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name **OBED**: he is the father of Jesse, **THE FATHER OF DAVID**.”

This is King David who was the ruler over Israel and the writer of the Psalms! Read Matthew 1:1-16 and you will also see that through this

lineage came Mary, who bore Jesus, the Christ. Can you imagine what would have happened if Obed had been aborted?

B. Time continued and a lady named Hannah who lived about 1170 BC found that she could not conceive. Read I Samuel 1:1-2:21 and initial when done. **N.A.**

We will note some important highlights.

1. I Samuel 1:19&20: Who gave Hannah the power to conceive? **THE LORD**

2. Verse 24 reveals that Hannah literally gave her son away so to speak. She took him to the **HOUSE OF THE LORD IN SHILOH**.

Dear ladies, if you are carrying an unwanted child, why not give it to God? Seek out a godly family who desires a child and cannot have one. If you do not know of a way to do so, contact our ministry or a godly pastor. Perhaps there is a BIRTHRIGHT agency in your area. You may also call or email a pregnancy helpline. Seek God's help; He will guide and comfort you.

C. Now let's go to about the year 1143 BC. The nation of Israel had suffered at the hands of the Philistines for 40 years. Because of their sin, God prepared to give Israel a righteous judge, who would begin to deliver Israel out of bondage from the Philistines. (Judges 13:5)

Before this judge, who was named Samson, was born, God knew him. God planned his conception and foretold it. God spoke to his parents through an angel. Read Judges 13 and initial when done. **N. A.**

1. In Judges 13:3 and 4, the angel of the

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Lord told Manoah's wife, who was barren (could not conceive), that she would conceive and bear a son. He also told her not to drink WINE nor STRONG DRINK, and not to eat any UNCLEAN THING.

Because the child was set apart for God he was to be protected by his mother even while she carried him. Her food and drink would have an effect him.

2. In verse 5, the angel says that the CHILD shall be a Nazarite unto God from THE WOMB. He is to be considered a child whose body is to be kept from those things

While his earthly father's blood was in Samson, his mother's body provided the nourishment for him. Even in the womb, he was living, thriving and growing, and was not to be nurtured with alcohol and unclean foods.

D. Consider here Psalm 139: 13-16 in which David, who was a prophet, priest, and king wrote many Psalms. David praises God for his very existence.

1. David, in verse 13 spoke of his own existence in his MOTHER'S WOMB as well as God's presence and involvement in his growth.

2. David praised God for his development in the womb. In verse 14 David said "I am FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE : marvelous are THY WORKS : and that MY SOUL KNOWETH RIGHT WELL."

3. What does God, in His foreknowledge record in a book, as seen in verse 16? "...and in thy

book all MY MEMBERS WERE WRITTEN, which in continuance were fashioned, WHEN AS YET THERE WAS NONE OF THEM.

David worshipped God as the creator and giver of life. So must we if we are to be blessed.

E. Jeremiah the prophet recorded God's conversation with him. Jeremiah believed God; we should too.

1. God said this to Jeremiah in Jeremiah 1:4&5 "Before I FORMED THEE IN THE BELLY I KNEW thee;..."

2. Again in Jeremiah 1:5 God said "...and before thou camest forth out of the womb I SANCTIFIED THEE, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

This man was alive in the womb. He was known before that time by Almighty God. He was consecrated as a babe, though not yet born.

God knows our babies by name before we do! God revealed to us that life on earth begins the moment a child is conceived, for God knows him or her just as He knew Jeremiah.

II. When God gave the Law to his people he included one particular law that gave recognition to the unborn child. The unborn child was recognized as a living soul and therefore he or she was given the right to live.

A. Read Exodus 21:22 & 23 and fill in the blanks (Carefully read the notes following sections "1" and "2").

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1. Verse 22 says "If men strive, and hurt a **WOMAN WITH CHILD**, so that her **FRUIT DEPART FROM HER**, and yet no mischief follow (*the child is not delivered dead but alive*): he shall be surely punished, according as the woman's husband will lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges determine."

The man who caused the woman to deliver prematurely was tried and required to make restitution for the early birth.

Remember that in Genesis, God said to be fruitful. Children are a gift from God. See Genesis 33: 5 and; Psalms 127:3. Here her fruit is called "a child" while yet in the womb. The life of the unborn is so real and so much a human within the womb that God ordered punishment for causing a premature birth due to a fight between men.

2. Now look at Exodus 21: 23. "And if any mischief follow (The baby dies, before or after delivery, even if it was too young to live outside of the mother's womb, as in an early trimester), then thou shalt give **LIFE FOR LIFE**."

The man was to be put to death! There is no doubt that God's wonderful plan for reproduction was set in motion by His own hand and that He calls the unborn a child, verifying that a child exists and so has a right to continue living as well as the right to protection and respect, governed by law!

God has given the ability to conceive. It is the natural result of the union of a man and woman. It is expected by God that it be in holiness, within the bonds of marriage.

That is not always when and how a child is conceived but once conceived it is a child and must be cared for as a child. Here you may ask, "What if the child is the result of incest or rape? Must it be born in shame." Answer this question, "Is killing the child going to punish the guilty party or bring the peace of God into your heart?"

*Destroying the child is never the righteous choice. It is murder. Dear mothers and fathers, uphold righteousness, confess and forsake sinful ways. **Protect the life of the unborn.***

III. Consider carefully what happens when mankind defies God and governs himself by his own thinking and laws.

A. I Samuel 2:2 says this about our God? "There is **NONE HOLY AS THE LORD** : for there is: **NONE BESIDE THEE** : neither is there any **ROCK LIKE OUR GOD** ."

A rock signifies solidness and a place of safety. God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present. He is our keeper if we will allow Him to be.

B. Consider this from I Samuel 2:25 "If one man sin against another, the judge shall judge him: but if **ANY MAN SIN AGAINST THE LORD**, who shall **INTREAT FOR HIM** ?"

There is a warning here not to sin against God for there is no god or man who can defend you before God. Of course there is forgiveness through Jesus Christ but there are also consequences. It is better not to sin in the first place.

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C. Man is a sinner by nature and apart from seeking God's way, and living by it, we are destined to have much sorrow either on this earth or in eternity. God makes this clear in Proverbs 14:12: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, **BUT THE END THEREOF ARE THE WAYS OF DEATH** ." This is repeated in Proverbs 16:25.

D. Satan and sin bring us into bondage. Finish the verses below.

1. II Timothy 2:26 "And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, **WHO ARE TAKEN CAPTIVE BY HIM AT HIS WILL** ."

2. John 8:34 "Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **WHOSOEVER COMMITTETH SIN IS THE SERVANT OF SIN** ."

3. Proverbs 5:22 "His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and **HE SHALL BE HOLDEN WITH THE CORDS OF HIS SINS** ."

E. When we try to excuse ourselves we find, through God's Word, that we are without excuse. The remedy for this is to repent and turn to God for help; then follow these scriptures.

1. I Corinthians 10:13 teaches that "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able;

BUT WILL WITH THE TEMPTATION ALSO MAKE A WAY TO ESCAPE, THAT YE MAY BE ABLE TO BEAR IT ."

2. James 4:7 "**SUBMIT** yourselves therefore to God **RESIST THE DEVIL** , and he **WILL FLEE FROM HIM** ."

Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

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Lesson Three

Because this lesson includes personal testimonies that depict the horror of abortion, we feel it inappropriate for children to read.

Memorize this verse:

Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. Psalm 127:3

In section I of this lesson we can zoom into the secret place of the newly conceived life and experience in word, the miracle of conception and the beginning of life.

In section II we will find that God used a physician to write of life in the womb.

Section III gives warnings included against those who promote, or choose, or perform abortions.

Section IV covers mistaken thinking, false information and the resulting cost of following such.

Section V is made up of testimonies of true events.

I. The following is scientific information from a work named *When You Were Formed in Secret* by Gary Bergel.

A. As the nuclei of the ovum and the sperm unite during the **first hours of fertilization**, they bring together twenty-three chromosomes from the mother and twenty-three chromosomes from the father. These chromosome sets carry some fifteen thousand genes from each parent cell.

B. In these **first quiet hours of human conception**, the genes, like letters of a divine alphabet, spell out the unique characteristics of the new individual. The color of the eyes, hair, and skin; the facial features, body type, and certain qualities of personality and intelligence are all determined by this genetic coding. Whether the

baby just begun will be a boy or girl is determined by an X (boy) or a Y (girl) chromosome carried in the father's sperm cell.

C. This quiet, yet sacred, act of conception has produced **not a "potential human being," but rather a human being with vast potential.** A new human life has begun and will continue until natural or violent death.

D. **Your heart began beating at three weeks** and has set the "rhythm of life" for all your days. Your brain began to form and soon would send out impulses throughout your body. In a mere four weeks you looked every bit like a tiny baby and even began to react and respond like one.

E. **This unborn child has been able to experience pain from the sixth week (a month and a half) and can even be taught conditioned responses...**The fetus (a living child) now sleeps and wakes, breathes amniotic fluid regularly to exercise and develop the respiratory system, and also drinks, digests, and excretes portions of the fluid. He will drink more fetal fluids if sweetened and less if they are made bitter or sour.

F. **At four months the baby now begins to seek comfortable positions when preparing to sleep...** Bone marrow is now forming and is beginning to produce and supplement the red blood cells which up until now have been made by the liver and spleen. The heart can now be plainly heard and is pumping up to twenty five quarts of blood a day.

G. **On the day of birth, the child, already a living and active person as we have seen makes a change in his place of residence,** in his external life support system, and his eating habits. As he has already gone through many progressive and overlapping stages of growth and development, so will he, from birth, continue the life begun nine months ago, moving through childhood,

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adolescence, maturity, old age, and death. Once again, all that is needed is nourishment, loving care and time to grow.

H. Now also the jelly in the umbilical chord begins to swell immediately upon contact with air restricting flow to the placenta and forcing the infant's blood to its own lungs for oxygen. As the baby gasps and air sweeps into the lungs and fills the thousands of tiny air sacs, a first cry is vocalized.

II. Is there proof of life upon conception in the New Testament? Yes, there surely is! Read Matthew 1:18-25. Understand also that *conception* is defined as the act of conceiving; the first formation of the embryo or fetus, as found in Noah Webster's dictionary.

A. Luke 1:30-31 says "And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt **CONCEIVE IN THY WOMB, AND BRING FORTH A SON**, and shalt call his name JESUS."

The first formation of the embryo was a son named Jesus. When you were conceived you were immediately a boy or a girl and God knew what you would be named.

B. In Matthew 1:25 it says that Mary brought forth her first born son but what is the son called in Matthew 1:18? "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, **SHE WAS FOUND WITH CHILD OF THE HOLY GHOST**."

He was a child!

C. Read Luke 1:5-45 Initial when done **N. A.**

1. Luke 1:24 speaks of another miraculous conception, that of an older lady who had not been able to conceive. "And after those days **HIS WIFE ELIZABETH CONCEIVED...**"

2. In Luke 1:13&14 the angel told Zacharias that many would rejoice at John's birth. What does Luke 1:15b say about John while he is still in the womb? "...he shall be filled **WITH THE HOLY GHOST, EVEN FROM HIS MOTHER'S WOMB**."

The Holy Ghost is alive; He is God. God's Spirit would fill John while yet in his mother's womb. He could not fill something that was not yet alive.

3. The prophecy of verse 15 was fulfilled and recorded in verse 41. "...when Elisabeth heard the salutation, the **BABE LEAPED IN HER WOMB**." See also verse 44.

*Do you see again that God, speaking through Luke, called the unborn a babe! By the way, look at Colossians 4:14. Luke was a **Physician**. A doctor of Jesus' day and he knew that a living soul was in the womb!*

III. Many have believed that abortion is acceptable because there has been so much counsel in favor of it. Much of the secular information however is deceptive, downright false, or simply withheld from those making decisions.

A. We find strong warnings against those who give out false information, go along with the unrighteous witness or follow the majority when they are wrong. God gives commandments to His people along with the warnings.

1. Exodus 23: 1 warns people: "Thou shalt not **RAISE A FALSE REPORT**; put not **THINE HAND WITH THE WICKED TO BE AN UNRIGHTEOUS WITNESS**."

2. Exodus 23:2 commands: "Thou shalt not **FOLLOW A MULTITUDE TO DO EVIL** neither shalt thou **SPEAK IN A CAUSE TO DECLINE AFTER MANY TO WREST JUDGEMENT**;"

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Can you understand what this means? If you have followed the crowd concerning abortion, you have put yourself in the previously mentioned categories, and God is not going to ignore it. There will be serious consequences.

Women often report that they were given very little information prior to an abortion. Some were assured that their child was a blob at the time of their abortion, but saw its little body carried away afterward.

Resulting health issues and mental health issues are masked over, or help is offered that cannot truly repair the damages done. Men and women alike report ongoing grief and sorrow after an abortion. Some women are left sterile. The link to breast cancer exists, and the list goes on!

*This is a warning statement from a pamphlet called *Forgotten Fathers/Men and Abortion* by Life Cycle Books "FOR MEN AND WOMEN ALIKE, THE FEELING OF EMPTINESS MAY LAST A LIFETIME, FOR PARENTS ARE PARENTS FOREVER, EVEN OF A DEAD CHILD"*

II Peter 2:19 fits our network of government officials who call for abortion rights, our laity who approve it, our medical family who practice it, and our people who want it. It says "While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage."

B. There are fearful warnings to those who promote, perform or have abortions.

1. This warning sounds in Exodus 23:7. "Keep thee far from a false matter; and the **INNOCENT** and righteous **SLAY THOU NOT** : for I will not **JUSTIFY THE WICKED** ."

2. Here is a second warning from Jeremiah 2:32-37. Read these verses and fill in the

blanks. Verse 34 "Also **IN THY SKIRTS** is found **THE BLOOD OF THE SOULS OF THE POOR INNOCENTS** : I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these."

C. Believing you are innocent is not justification, you are accountable to God.

1. See Jeremiah 2:35a "Yet thou sayest, **BECAUSE I AM INNOCENT** , **SURELY HIS ANGER SHALL TURN** from me." But God said to sinning Israel in Jeremiah 2:37 "Yea, thou shalt go forth from him, and thine hands upon thine head: for **THE LORD HATH REJECTED THY CONFIDENCES** , **AND THOU SHALT NOT PROSPER** in them."

2. Compare the New Testament warning found in Galatians 6:7 "Be not deceived; **GOD IS NOT MOCKED : FOR WHATSOEVER A MAN SOWETH, THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP.**"

How many bloodstained hospital gowns, nurses' uniforms and doctors' clothes hold the blood that testifies to God "I am the blood of poor innocents"?

IV. The following are actual statements from doctors as copied from a pamphlet called "Children... Things We Throw Away" by Melody Green.

A. Dr. John Szenens, at age 36, has this to say: "You have to become a bit schizophrenic. In one room you encourage the patient that the slight irregularity of the fetal heart is not important-that she is going to have a fine, healthy baby. Then in the next room you assure another woman, on who you just did a saline abortion that it's good that the heart is already irregular...she has nothing to worry about; she is **not** going to have a live baby."

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Dr. Szenens continues, "At the beginning we were doing abortions on smaller fetuses...and the kicking and heartbeat did not manifest itself so much.

I think if I had started with 24-weekers right off the bat, I would have had much greater conflict in my own mind if this was the same as murder or not. But since we started off slowly with 15 to 16-weekers, the fetus just never got consideration. Then gradually the whole range of cases started to become larger.

Notice that this doctor used the word baby with the mothers but used the term fetuses otherwise. He spoke of kicking and heartbeats but what has a heart beating and legs that kick and is not alive? He deceives the mothers and deceives himself.

B. The following is a testimony Susan Lindstrom, MSW, from *Children, Things We Throw Away. It should be sufficient to send the murderers of the innocents to Death Row.*

At age 27 she said "I am having a lot of difficulty with my feelings about late abortions-and all the pain that's there so much of the time after the baby is moving. So one day, in need to arrive at a measure of clarity, I went into the room where they keep the fetuses (*so called*) before burning them. They were next to the garbage cans in paper buckets, like the take-home chicken kind. I looked inside the bucket in front of me. There was a small naked person in there, floating in a bloody liquid. He was purple with bruises and his face had the agonized tautness of one forced to die too soon. I then took off the lids of all the buckets and with a pair of forceps lifted each fetus (*so called*) out by an arm or a leg; leaving, as I returned them, an additional bruise on their acid soaked bodies. Finally I lifted out a very large fetus and read the label:

Mother's name: <u>C. Atkins</u>	Doctor's name: <u>Saul Marcus</u>
Sex of the item: <u>Male</u> ;	Time of gestation: <u>24 weeks</u> (<u>six months</u>)

I remember Miss Atkins. She was 17- a very pretty blond girl. So, this was Master Atkins-to be burned tomorrow for the sake of his mother.

V. Some contraceptives are also deadly but you will not be told that by your medical advisors.

1. An IUD can allow a child to be conceived and then terminate the pregnancy!

2. The first stage of a medical abortion uses RU-486 abortion pills which actually cut off the blood and nutrients to the developing embryo. The second, two days later uses another drug to expel the fetus (*child*).

These are two of many such deathtraps for the innocents.

We have presented sufficient proof to verify that abortion is ending a life at any point from conception on. **Abortion is murder!**

Perhaps you need forgiveness and healing from past decisions. You cannot go back but you can repent, find forgiveness, and go on in and for the Lord.

Please read Psalms 51:1-17, and I John 1:9. Let them be your guide and your prayer as you take it to God in the name of Jesus. Also consider John 8: 1-12.

If we can be of any further help do not hesitate to contact us.

***All answers are found in the Bible (King James Version).**

For information contact: "Bible To You"™
P.O. Box 114 Shelocta, PA 15774

Decisions, Decisions

Base Them on God's Word

Your Decision about Fasting

Lesson 2a

Fasting is often overlooked or misunderstood by Christians today. It does not seem to be taught or practiced much, however it may be a *life preserver* that we are throwing aside, when the sea of life is raging, and the waves threaten to overcome us.

We desperately need God's presence in our daily walk and His power for our trials. A human, even a Christian, lacks the power needed when coming against Satan and his demonic world.

God's mighty men in times past turned to fasting and praying together. Jesus fasted and prayed. Jesus told his disciples that there would be a time to fast. When we pray and fast we are admitting to God our inability apart from Him. We are humbly worshipping our Great God!

We think you may decide to fast from time to time after getting acquainted with the scriptures on it!

Memorize this verse:

Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Isaiah 58:6

I. What is fasting, and is it necessary?

The act of fasting was practiced after the fall of man beginning as early as Moses on Mount Sinai. Biblical fasting is choosing to avoid food for a period of time to share matters with God that are serious or extreme so that we may find help or sustaining grace. Fasting is a time of self-examination and confession of sins. It can also be a time of drawing closer to God or a time of special worship.

The fast is usually joined with only necessary activities and much prayer, in order for us to be more fully concentrated on our Heavenly Father, Almighty God. It disciplines the body and humbles us before God.

Finish the verses to see the Lord's clear teaching.

A. God Himself gave us fasting, supports us while we fast and blesses us for fasting!

Isaiah 58:6" Is not this the _____

_____”

B. The length of the fast varies as does the severity of the fast.

1. Daniel 10:3 “ _____, neither came _____

_____, neither _____, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.” *Daniel was amazed by the things God had revealed to him and wanted to talk to the Lord in earnest about them.*

2. I Samuel 7:6 “And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured it out before the LORD, _____, and said there, We have sinned against the LORD...”

3. I Chronicles 10:12 “They arose, all the valiant men, and took away the body of Saul, and the bodies of his sons, and brought them to Jabesh, and buried their bones under the oak in Jabesh, and _____.”

4. Jeremiah 36:6 “...upon the _____...” See also Leviticus 16:29-31

C. Biblical fasting includes prayer.

1. Luke 2:37 Lu 2:37 “And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers _____.”

You may fast a single meal occasionally. Perhaps you would choose to fast lunch one day a week for a missionary or an unsaved person, etc.

2. Matthew 17:21 “Howbeit this kind goeth not out but _____.”

D. Right fasting includes humbling of one’s self and repentance:

1. Psalm 35:13 “But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth:

_____ ; and my prayer returned into mine own bosom”.

2. Daniel 9:3-6 “And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, _____ : 4 And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and _____, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; 5 We have _____, and have done _____, and _____, even by _____

_____ : 6 Neither have we _____, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.”

3. Please read Jonah 3:1-8 and I Samuel 7:1-6 to understand the full meaning of repentance. Initial when done _____. *Fasting and worship go together.*

4. Judges 20:26 “Then all the children of Israel, and all the people, went up, _____, and wept, _____, and fasted that day until even, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.”

5. Nehemiah 1:4-6 “And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that _____, and mourned certain days, and _____, and prayed before the God of heaven, And said, I beseech thee, O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments: Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, _____, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and _____, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.”

E. God’s fast has great purpose.

Isaiah 58:6-7 “ Is not this the fast that I have chosen? _____, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? 7 Is it not _____, and that thou _____? ...”

II. Fasting is for today.

A. Jesus taught fasting.

Matthew 6:16-18 “Moreover _____, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 17 But thou, _____, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; 18 That _____, but _____, which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, _____.” *He expected his followers to fast!*

B. Jesus practiced fasting:

Matthew. 4:2 “And when _____ forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.”

C. Paul fasted:

II Corinthians 6:5 “In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in _____;”

III. Does the Bible show only individuals or groups fasting?

A. These fasted individually:

1. (This refers to Jesus.) Matthew 4:2 “And when _____

2. (Paul is speaking of himself in the next two verses.) II Corinthians 6:5 “In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, _____;”

II Corinthians 11:27 “In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in _____, in cold and nakedness.”

B. These are recordings of people in the Old and New Testaments who fasted and prayed over a common purpose.

1. Zechariah 7:5 “Speak _____, and to the priests, saying, When ye fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh month, even those seventy years, did ye at all fast unto me, even to me?”

2. Joel 1:14 Sanctify ye a fast, _____, gather the elders and _____ into the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the _____,

3. Jeremiah 36:9 “And it came to pass in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, in the ninth month, that they proclaimed a fast before the _____, and _____ from the cities of Judah unto Jerusalem.”

4. Acts 13:2 “As _____, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when _____, they sent them away.” *Fasting was put into practice by the Church leaders before sending forth workers. Since the Church today is no different in strength and wisdom should it be any less dependent on the fast for such a time as this?*



As we can see, fasting is from the Lord. Fasting was practiced in the Old Testament, and is to be practiced today, as seen in the New Testament. Fasting may be practiced by groups of believers or individual Christians. Fasting produces purifying results and blessing and at the same time gives honor to God.

In the next lesson we will discuss what type of fasting is not acceptable and when we should fast. We trust this study has been a blessing to you. It has been good for us as we have studied and put the pieces of this “puzzle” together!

Do you know someone who would like to receive Bible lessons?

Name: _____
Check if Adult: _____ If child, age _____
Address _____

Name: _____
Check if Adult: _____ If child, age _____
Address _____

Decisions, Decisions

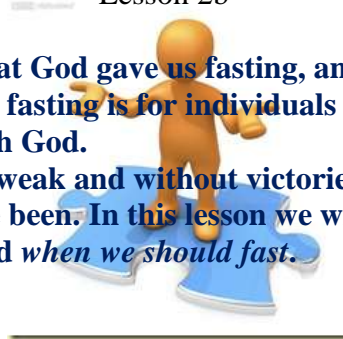
Base Them on God's Word

Your Decision about Fasting

Lesson 2b

In the last lesson we learned that God gave us fasting, and that fasting is still to be practiced today. We also saw that fasting is for individuals and groups who are right with God, or who want to get right with God.

Without fasting we are indeed weak and without victories which could have been, and without comforts that would have been. In this lesson we will cover the subjects of *what type of fasting is not acceptable and when we should fast.*



III. Which kind of fasting is **not acceptable before God**?

A. The fasting of **an unrepentant, or idolatrous Christian, or one who has a hardened heart toward others:**

1. Jeremiah 14:10-12 “Thus _____, Thus have they _____, they have not refrained their feet, therefore _____; he will now remember their iniquity, and visit their sins. 11 Then said the LORD unto me, Pray not for this people for their good. 12 When _____, I _____; and when they offer burnt offering and an oblation, I will not accept them: but _____, and _____, and _____.”

2. Isaiah 58:3 “Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast _____, and _____.” *(Their hearts were not set upon God and as a result God's blessing was not upon them!)*

3. Please read Zechariah chapter 7 and initial when done. Int. _____

B. Fasting **for strife and debate:**

Isaiah 58:3 “ Behold, _____, and _____, ye shall not fast as ye do this day, _____.”

They were contentious and spiteful. Behold, you fast for strife and debate. They pretended to search for sins. They hid their own sins and put the blame on others. In that way they could even falsely accuse others such as Naboth in the day of Jezebel's fast, 1Kings 21:12.

Thus, instead of judging themselves, which is the proper work of a fast-day, they condemned one another, fasting for strife. They also came to blows; “You smite with the fist of wickedness.” The task-masters beat their servants and the creditors delivered their debtors who could not pay to the tormentors, etc.

C. The fasting of the hypocrite:

Matthew 6:16-18 “Moreover when ye fast, _____, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward.”



D. Fasting to the harm of the marital relationship.

1 Corinthians 7:5 “Defraud ye not one the other, _____

_____, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, _____.” (This verse is instructing the husband and wife that they are to be in agreement about the length and abstinence of relationship during the fast.)

Fasting is not to earn the respect of others. Fasting is not used to ensure that you get your own way, nor to get God to do what you want or you think is best. All prayer, even prayer with fasting is to have our will subject to His will. The best example of this was Jesus Himself as He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, “...Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.” Lu 22:42

V. When should we fast?

A. Fast when sorely tempted.

Matthew 4:1&2 “Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness _____ . 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.”



B. Fast when wisdom is earnestly desired.

Daniel 9:3 “And I _____, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:”

C. Fast when help and protection are needed.

1. Ezra 8:21-23 “Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, _____

_____. 22 For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen _____: because we had spoken unto the king, saying, The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him. 23 _____: and _____.”



2. II Corinthians 6:5 2 “In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, _____;” (See also II Cor. 11:27)

3. Esther 4:14-17 “For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; _____: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this? 15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer, 16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, _____, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: _____ likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish. 17 So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.” Esther 5:1&2 “Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house. 2 And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that _____:...”

D. Fast when in mourning for loved ones or the defeat of God's people.

1. II Samuel 1:12 "And they mourned, and wept, and fasted until even, for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the people of the LORD, and for the house of Israel;

_____."

2. Matthew 9:14&15 "Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not? 15 And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bride chamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when _____ and then _____."

E. Fast when new ministries are launched, and when men go forth to proclaim God's Word and battle spiritual enemies.

1. Acts 13:2-3 "As they _____, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. 3 And when _____."

2. Acts 14:23 "And when they had _____, and had _____, they _____, on whom they believed."

F. Fast when involved in spiritual ministry.

II Corinthians 11:27 "In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in _____, in cold and nakedness." *(This is a part of the life Paul lived as a minister of the gospel. One of the ways he was sustained was through fasting.)*

G. Fast when there is demonic control of another.

Matthew 17:21 "Howbeit _____."



As you can see from these lessons, Christians have literally been given the instruction to fast for the work and walk of the godly. It is an act of humble contrition, and it yields God's blessing. Fasting has been practiced by great men of God throughout the ages. Fasting was practiced by God in the flesh, the Lord Jesus Christ, while serving in this sin cursed world where He served His Father and endured the Cross!

God has not told us to put fasting aside. Why not talk to God about your need for fasting, and apply it as He leads. We cannot lose anything good by fasting, and will certainly find blessing and help as found in no other way!

As a soldier of the Cross, could you not use more strength, more protection, and more blessing?

If you are required to take medications or have an inability to fast for health reasons please be sure to follow your doctor's orders. Be wise in choosing the length and severity of the fast. If you cannot fast this does not make you any less a Christian.

Do you know someone who would like to receive Bible lessons?

Name: _____ Check if Adult: _____ If child, age _____

Address _____

Decisions, Decisions

Base Them on God's Word

Your Decision about Fasting

Lesson 2a Answer Key

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The fast is usually joined with only necessary activities and much prayer, in order for us to be more fully concentrated on our Heavenly Father, Almighty God. It disciplines the body and humbles us before God.

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A. **God Himself gave us fasting, supports us while we fast and blesses us for fasting!**

Isaiah 58:6 "Is not this the **FAST THAT I HAVE CHOSEN ? TO LOOSE THE BANDS OF WICKEDNESS , TO UNDO THE HEAVY BURDENS**, and to **LET THE OPPRESSED GO FREE , AND THAT YE BREAK EVERY YOKE?"**

B. The **length of the fast varies** as does the severity of the fast.

1. Daniel 10:3 "**I ATE NO PLEASANT BREAD** , neither came **FLESH NOR WINE IN MY MOUTH**, neither **DID I ANNOINT MYSELF AT ALL**, till three whole weeks were fulfilled." *Daniel was amazed by the things God had revealed to him and wanted to talk to the Lord in earnest about them.*

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4. Jeremiah 36:6 “...upon the **DAY OF FASTING** ...” See also Leviticus 16:29-31

C. Biblical fasting **includes prayer.**

1. Luke 2:37 Lu 2:37 “And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers **NIGHT AND DAY** .”

You may fast a single meal occasionally. Perhaps you would choose to fast lunch one day a week for a missionary or an unsaved person, etc.

2. Matthew 17:21 “Howbeit this kind goeth not out but **BY PRAYER AND FASTING.**”

D. Right fasting **includes humbling of one’s self and repentance:**

1. Psalm 35:13” But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth:

I HUMBLED MY SOUL WITH FASTING ; and my prayer returned into mine own bosom.

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3. Please read Jonah 3:1-8 and I Samuel 7:1-6 to understand the full meaning of repentance. Initial when done ____ . *Fasting and worship go together.*

4. Judges 20:26 “Then all the children of Israel, and all the people, went up, **AND CAME UNTO THE HOUSE OF GOD** , and wept, **AND SAT THERE BEFORE THE LORD** , and fasted that day until even, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.”

5. Nehemiah 1:4-6 “And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that **I SAT DOWN AND WEPT** , and mourned certain days, and **FASTED** , and prayed before the God of heaven, And said, I beseech thee, O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments: Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, **THAT THOU MAYEST HEAR THE PRAYER OF THY SERVANT , WHICH I PRAY BEFORE THEE NOW** , day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and **CONFESS THE SINS OF ISRAEL** , which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.”

E. **God’s fast has great purpose.**

Isaiah 58:6-7 “ Is not this the fast that I have chosen? **TO LOOSE THE BANDS OF WICKEDNESS** , to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? 7 Is it not **TO DEAL THY BREAD TO THE HUNGRY** , and that thou **BRING THE POOR INTO THY HOUSE ? ...**”

II. Fasting *is for today.*

A. Jesus taught fasting.

Matthew 6:16-18 “Moreover **WHEN YE FAST** , be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 17 But thou, **WHEN THOU FASTEST** , anoint thine head, and wash thy face; 18 That **THOU APPEAR NOT UNTO MEN TO FAST** , but **UNTO THY FATHER** , which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, **SHALL REWARD THEE OPENLY** .” *He expected his followers to fast!*

B. Jesus practiced fasting:

Matthew. 4:2 “And when **HE HAD FASTED** forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.”

C. Paul fasted:

II Corinthians 6:5 “In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in **FASTINGS** ;

III. Does the Bible show only individuals or groups fasting?

A. These fasted individually:

1. (This refers to Jesus.) Matthew 4:2 “And when **HE HAD FASTED FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS HE WAS AFTERWARDS AN HUNGRED**

2. (Paul is speaking of himself in the next two verses.) II Corinthians 6:5 “In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, **IN FASTINGS** ;”

II Corinthians 11:27 “In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in **FASTINGS OFTEN** , in cold and nakedness.”

B. These are recordings of people in the Old and New Testaments who fasted and prayed over a common purpose.

1. Zechariah 7:5 “Speak **UNTO ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE LAND** , and to the priests, saying, When ye fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh month, even those seventy years, did ye at all fast unto me, even to me?”

2. Joel 1:14 “Sanctify ye a fast, **CALL A SOLEMN ASSEMBLY** , gather the elders and **ALL THE INHABITANTS OF THE LAND** into the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD,”

3. Jeremiah 36:9 “And it came to pass in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, in the ninth month, that they proclaimed a fast before the LORD **TO ALL THE PEOPLE IN JERUSALEM** , and **TO ALL THE PEOPLE THAT CAME** from the cities of Judah unto Jerusalem.”

4. Acts 13:2 “As **THEY MINISTERED TO THE LORD** , the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when **THEY HAD FASTED AND PRAYED AND LAID THEIR HANDS ON THEM** , they sent *them* away.” *Fasting was put into practice by the Church leaders before sending forth workers. Since the Church today is no different in strength and wisdom should it be any less dependent on the fast for such a time as this?*

Decisions, Decisions

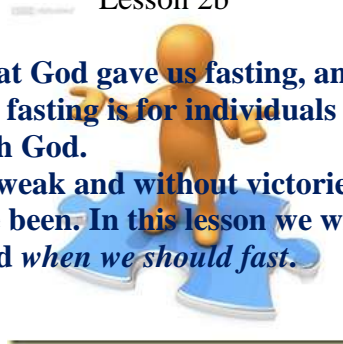
Base Them on God's Word

Your Decision about Fasting

Lesson 2b

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2. Isaiah 58:3 “Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast **YE FIND PLEASURE** , and **EXACT ALL YOUR LABOURS** .” (*Their hearts were not set upon God and as a result God's blessing was not upon them!*)

3. Please read Zechariah chapter 7 and initial when done. Int. _____

- B. Fasting **for strife and debate**:

Isaiah 58:4 “Behold, **YE FAST FOR STRIFE AND DEBATE** , and **AND TO SMITE WITH THE FIST OF WICKEDNESS** , ye shall not fast as ye do this day, **TO MAKE YOUR VOICE BE HEARD ON HIGH.**”

They were contentious and spiteful. Behold, you fast for strife and debate. They pretended to search for sins. They hid their own sins and put the blame on others. In that way they could even falsely accuse others such as Naboth in the day of Jezebel's fast, 1Kings 21:12.

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D. Fasting to the harm of the marital relationship.

1 Corinthians 7:5 “Defraud ye not one the other, **EXCEPT IT BE WITH CONSENT FOR A TIME**, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, **THAT SATAN TEMPT YOU NOT FOR YOUR INCONTINENCY** .” (This verse is instructing the husband and wife that they are to be in agreement about the length and abstinence of relationship during the fast.)

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V. When should we fast?

A. Fast when sorely tempted.

Matthew 4:1&2 “Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness **TO BE TEMPTED OF THE DEVIL** . 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.”



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Daniel 9:3 “And **I SET MY FACE UNTO THE LORD GOD , TO SEEK BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATIONS** , with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:”

C. Fast when help and protection are needed.

1. Ezra 8:21-23 “Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, **TO SEEK OF HIM A RIGHT WAY FOR US , AND FOR OUR LITTLE ONES , AND FOR OUR SUBSTANCE** . 22 For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen **TO HELP US AGAINST THE ENEMY IN THE WAY:** because we had spoken unto the king, saying, The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him. 23 **SO WE FASTED AND BESOUGHT OUR GOD FOR THIS: AND HE WAS INTREATED OF US .**”



2. II Corinthians 6:5 2 “In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, **IN FASTINGS** ;” (See also II Cor. 11:27)

3. Esther 4:14-17 “For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; **BUT THOU AND THY FATHERS HOUSE SHALL BE DESTROYED** : and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this? 15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer, 16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, **AND FAST YE FOR ME** , and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: **I ALSO AND MY MAIDENS SHALL FAST** likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish. 17 So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.” Esther 5:1&2 “Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house. 2 And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that **SHE OBTAINED FAVOUR IN HIS SIGHT :...**”

D. Fast when in mourning for loved ones or the defeat of God's people.

1. II Samuel 1:12 "And they mourned, and wept, and fasted until even, for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the people of the LORD, and for the house of Israel; **BECAUSE THEY WERE FALLEN BY THE SWORD .**"

2. Matthew 9:14&15 "Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not? 15 And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bride chamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when **THE BRIDEGROOM SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY FROM THEM** , and then **SHALL THEY FAST .**"

E. Fast when new ministries are launched, and when men go forth to proclaim God's Word and battle spiritual enemies.

1. Acts 13:2-3 "As they **MINISTERED TO THE LORD, AND FASTED** , the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

3 And when **THEY HAD FASTED AND PRAYED , AND LAID THEIR HANDS ON THEM , THEY SENT THEM AWAY .**"

2. Acts 14:23 "And when they had **ORDAINED THEM ELDERS IN EVERY CHURCH** , and had **PRAYED WITH FASTING** , they **COMMENDED THEM TO THE LORD** , on whom they believed."

F. Fast when involved in spiritual ministry.

II Corinthians 11:27 "In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in **FASTINGS OFTEN** , in cold and nakedness." *(This is a part of the life Paul lived as a minister of the gospel. One of the ways he was sustained was through fasting.)*

G. Fast when there is demonic control of another.

Matthew 17:21 "Howbeit **THIS KIND GOETH NOT OUT BUT BY PRAYER AND FASTING .**"