

Renewal Ministries of Colorado Springs

A Life of Value

As many of you may know, this is Sanctity of Life Sunday. Across America, people have set aside this time to honor and promote the life of the unborn. This morning we want to do the same, but not just for the unborn. To get a better understanding let us take a closer look at the terms.

1.) **sanc-ti-ty** (sàngk¹tî-tê) *noun*

- a. Holiness of life or disposition; saintliness.
- b. The quality or condition of being considered sacred; inviolability [From the word in-vi-o-la-ble (în-vî¹e-le-bel) *adjective meaning*: 1. Secure from violation or profanation 2. Impregnable to assault or trespass]
- c. Something considered sacred.

All people, unborn and living alike, should be secure from violation, assault and trespass? Why is life to be valued, cherished, and recognized as sacred? Because it is the gift of God!

Genesis 2:7 the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Life App Notes - Genesis 2:7 "From the dust of the ground" implies that there is nothing fancy about the chemical elements making up our bodies. The body is a lifeless shell until God brings it alive with his "breath of life." When God removes his life-giving breath, our bodies once again return to dust. Therefore, our life and worth come from God's Spirit. Many boast of their achievements and abilities as though they were the originator of their own strengths. Others feel worthless because their abilities do not stand out. In reality, our worth comes not from our achievements but from the God of the universe, who chooses to give us the mysterious and miraculous gift of life. Value life, as he does.

Psalms 139:13-14 for you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Life App Notes - Psalms 139:13-15 God's character goes into the creation of every person. When you feel worthless or even begin to hate yourself, remember that God's Spirit is ready and willing to work within you. We should have as much respect for ourselves as our Maker has for us.

2. Here is part of the problem

2 Tim. 3:1-4 (Living) You may as well know this too, Timothy, that in the last days it is going to be very difficult to be a Christian. ²For people will love only themselves and their money; they will be proud and boastful, sneering at God, disobedient to their parents,

ungrateful to them, and thoroughly bad. ³They will be hardheaded and never give in to others; they will be constant liars and troublemakers and will think nothing of immorality. They will be rough and cruel, and sneer at those who try to be good. ⁴They will betray their friends; they will be hotheaded, puffed up with pride, and prefer good times to worshipping God.

In short, people are self-absorbed, self-focused, and self-protecting. The old adage of "What's in it for me," or "If it feels good do it," is the rule of the day.

What was the definition of sanctity? Holiness of life or disposition; saintliness. The quality or condition of being considered sacred; inviolability [Secure from violation or profanation, assault or trespass]; something considered sacred.

How do we combat the world system, our own soulish desires, and the devil?

3. Seek a full life in Christ, not a life full of stuff

Matthew 6:31-33 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

John 20:31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

1 John 5:12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

4. A biblical standard of morality

Philip. 2:1-5 If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. ³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. ⁴Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

Ephes. 5:1-8 Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children ²and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ³But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. ⁴Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. ⁵For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person--such a man is an idolater--has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷Therefore do not be partners with them. ⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light

1 Thes. 5:5-8 You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk

at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

Sanctity of life is more than just concern for the unborn, partial-birth abortion and euthanasia. It is also showing respect for your self in displaying the mind of Christ in our everyday lives. It is demonstrating to the world, that we as Christians, value all life, by living our lives with dignity and showing proper respect to all people. Because we love all human life, we are willing to compromise for the good of others without laying aside biblical absolutes and principles.

© 1999 George M. Stahnke