

As you fill your virtual bottle, consider this opportunity to talk about the value of life with your family. We believe it's **never too early or too late to start talking about this important topic.** We've created this packet of age-appropriate discussion guides as a starting point.

Each section is set up for different age groups: 3-7, 8-12, 13-16. You'll find questions and scripture passages that are designed to help get your children thinking about the importance of life and how we should feel about it.

Keep in mind that this is simply a guide. Feel free to read it as is or use it as inspiration for conversations that fit your particular family. You know your kids best!

We hope this is a valuable resource for starting and continuing these important conversations with your kids!

#### **Additional Resources:**

You Are Special by Max Lucado

<u>I Grew With You</u> by Sarah Molitor

God Gave Us You by Lisa Tawn Bergen and Laura J. Bryant

<u>Pro-life Kids</u>\* by Bethany Bomberger

\*We recommend reading this one before reading with your children as there are two pages that depict human rights violations throughout history. You'll find a preview of the book on the website we've linked to above.



# Parents Guide

# **Ages 8-12**

**Prep:** We have 5 question cards for you to work through, starting simple and growing to more complex to help your kids see God's good design for life. With the questions we have conversation prompts and a scripture to read. We encourage you to pray before you have this conversation -- pray that God will work in your children's young hearts to love what God loves and stand up for what is right.

Read Genesis 1 and 2 together. Look at how God has created all things with such detail and intention, how He has a plan for how things should work. Focus on how God designed humans differently from the rest of His creation, that we have been set apart because we are made in the image of God. Because we are made in His image, we are all worthy of dignity, honor and respect, even before we are born.

**Questions 1-2.** Open ended. You can encourage your kids to share what they like about their siblings, cousins or friends too.

**Question 3.** Remind your kids that anyone can find themselves in a scary situation and feel alone. It is important not to judge anyone but to make them feel safe, heard, and cared for as God does for us.

**Question 4.** Read Psalm 139:13-16 with your kids. Remind your kids that the culture doesn't have the final say, but what God says about others is what we need to stand on.

**Question 5.** Involve your kids in ways they can help in the community. Look up different options for you to be involved and pray through your decision together.

#### **Closing Conversation:**

"God has told us that life is precious because He made it, and we know that God delights in His creation. This means He delights in us, the old and the young, health and sick, rich and poor, born and preborn. We know that no one is outside the reach of God's love and care, and it is our job to share his love, care and the hope he brings with as many people as we can.

We talked tonight about how some people get scared and overwhelmed when they find out they are having a baby. They sometimes think a baby is a problem that needs to be solved and they try and fix their problem on their own in a way that breaks God's heart. People can be scared for many reasons -- maybe they don't think they have enough money or they are too old or too young to have a baby. They might not think they will be a good mom or dad or that they won't have anyone to support and encourage them.

We can be people who meet others in their fear and share the hope Jesus offers them. We can be a family who prays for moms and their babies and for the people whose job it is to help these moms everyday. And we can be a family that gives to help those who are in need. That's why we are filling this bottle with money -- all the money we give helps these moms to get help at My Life Clinic for free!"

## **Closing Prayer:**

"Dear God,

Thank you that because you have loved us freely, we can love others. Help us to be a family that loves those others don't see, to reach out when others don't, and to support the friendless. Help us to be a family that values life no matter whose it is and to not be afraid to stand for what is right. Give us opportunities to share the hope you give freely. Help us to share that no matter how scary something may seem, You are with them and You don't make mistakes. When we feel the heaviness of life help us to look to You and find our strength in You. Lord thank you for all You do and who You are. In Jesus' name. Amen."

### **Closing Thoughts:**

Remember that the topic of life is not a one time talk with your kids, but should be an ongoing conversation! When your kids have questions, be ready to talk, and know that lots of little conversations over a lifetime shape who we are.

1. How does it make you feel to know that you were created intentionally by the God of the universe?

**%**-----

2. If you were made in the image of God, do you think everyone else is too?

3. Sometimes when people find out they are having a baby it's scary for them. What do you need when you're scared? What do you think these moms might need?

4. Some people in our culture say that babies only have value if they are wanted by others, but we know this isn't true. How do we know that this isn't true?

5. We know God calls us to care for people who need help. How can our family do this?