

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:

<u>10 Questions Every Teen Should Ask (and Answer) about Christianity</u> (Chapter 4) by Rebecca McLaughlin



Parents Guide

For 13-16

Prep: We have a mini Bible study and question worksheet for you and your teens to do. We encourage both parents and children to fill out the worksheets on their own and then come together to discuss their responses.

These questions are designed to help your teens think through the topic of life. In this season they will begin facing these ideas as realities with classmates, friends, or even themselves. We want to help you prepare them for these situations and most importantly, help them think through what God has to say on this topic and what His heart is for His people.

We encourage you to be in prayer over this conversation with your teens. Pray for their hearts and minds as they think through this important issue, and pray for your heart as you get ready to talk. And remember that this isn't a one time discussion. Keep talking about it, ask questions, allow your kids to ask questions, and give them a space to process what's going on around them.

Closing Thoughts:

Conversations like this can be hard. We recognize that this could be an awkward season to be talking about topics like abortion. Brainstorm some safe and creative ways for your kids to approach you with any questions they might have. Be praying over your own heart and mind to be prepared to have these conversations when they come up.

This is also a great opportunity for you to pray about how you would respond if your teen or one of their friends was to find themselves facing an unexpected pregnancy. We encourage you to discuss your reflections with them when appropriate. We believe that knowing your support is ready and waiting for them can make all the difference in what might come next. Remind them that nothing can separate them from the love of Jesus (Romans 8:31-39).

Read Genesis 1-2 What does this passage teach us about God? What does it teach us about His creation?

How do you think God feels about the people he has made? How should what God thinks inform how we think about others?

Read Psalm 139:1-18

How is God involved in humans being formed? Does this seem intentional?

How are we made?

Do you think God sees everyone before they are born? Do you think He has a plan for them?

Read Matthew 18:1-5

What does Jesus say about children?

How does Jesus want us to treat children?

Read John 8:1-11 Who does Jesus show compassion to? Is this what you'd expect?

What does Jesus say to the woman?

How can we look to the way Jesus treats the woman in this passage as a model for how we can treat somebody facing an unexpected pregnancy?

Take some time to pray over what you've learned about how God sees people. Thank Him for His intentionality in creation and for how He cares for His people. Ask Him to give you the same heart he has for others.

Answer the following questions on your own, then come together to discuss your answers.

1.What takeaways do you have from the passages you read? How do you think they relate to life and how we should feel about women and children?

2. What do you already know about abortion?

3. How would you feel if your friend told you that they were pregnant or that their girlfriend was pregnant? What wouldyou do if somebody told you they were pregnant and wanted to have an abortion?

4. How would you feel if you found yourself in this situation?

5. Do you think somebody would feel welcome at your church if they were unexpectedly pregnant? How would they know?

6. Some people think that abortion should be legal because the child born might have a hard life due to disability, or poverty. Others believe if the mom is in a hard place financially, physically, or mentally that abortion should be an option. Do you think that these should be exceptions? Why or why not?

7. Our culture says there are many good reasons why we should have abortion be legal. Do you think this fits with God's word?

8. How should you treat others who feel differently about abortion than you?