## PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

## Human Life is Sacred

(Life matters is not enough)

## This is <u>NOT</u> political!

**S.O.H.L.** is womb to tomb, and beyond

Today we'll consider more than abortion & euthanasia...

- Taking life from the youngest, the oldest & the infirmed
- It is about holding life as sacred for those who remain alive
- What is **the essence** of that sanctity & sacredness?

Why is **human life sacred**... above all others?

- Only people are made in God's image & likeness

**Genesis 1:26-27**, Then God said, "Let Us make mankind in Our image, according to Our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth." So God created mankind in His own image; He created them in the image of God; He created them male and female.

Which phase of Human Life is **most sacred**?

- Earthly or Eternal?

The answer is of enormous importance!

*Matthew 10:28* – Jesus said, "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

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I don't believe in Zombies. I do believe in **the living dead**.

Our question is – **Who alone** has the power & authority **to give and define life and death**, both earthly & eternal?

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**God**, who loves us, **has defined both plainly** for us to understand

The primary threats to preserving the sanctity of human life today are:

- 1) Those who don't believe God (or that He even is)
- 2) Those who claim to **redefine God** more to their liking

Although, this is not a new problem... but a very old one

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Deuteronomy 30:15-20, "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil... to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the LORD your God will bless you... But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, I announce to you today that you shall surely perish... I call heaven and earth as witnesses today that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; **that you may love the LORD your God**, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, **for He is your life** and the length of your days"

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The essence of the sacredness of human life is Love!

- God IS love!
- Sadly, our world is seeking to redefine **who God is**...
- By redefining what love is
- .....

As Moses said, not hearing & obeying God **brings** death

What did satan say to Eve when tempting her to disobey God?

- "You will not surely die... You will be like God"
- He accused God of not being true.

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When she & Adam took for themselves what God had warned them not to,

- They did not drop dead on the ground
- But **death** entered the human race...
- And their Oneness with God died

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God's Word still warns us of what causes death ...

- And still exhorts us to choose life instead!

What is our world promoting as **the blessings of** *life*?

- That in reality **cause death!** 

I Corinthians 6:9-11, "Don't you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God's kingdom? Do not be deceived: No sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, or anyone practicing homosexuality, no thieves, greedy people, drunkards, verbally abusive people, or swindlers will inherit God's kingdom. And some of you used to be like this. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." Galatians 5:19-21, "Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar. I tell you about these things in advance—as I told you before—that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

"And some of you used to be like this. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God"

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*Can we love people* as God loves them, by encouraging them in lifestyles that will **exclude** *them from eternal life*?

We are **not** here to condemn them. **That's not our job**.

- Neither are we here to deceive them

What if they turn to us at the judgement and ask...

- Why did you encourage me in **what you knew would be my death?** 

Which phase of Human Life is **most sacred**?

- Earthly or Eternal?
- The rich man & Lazarus (Luke 16)

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"And some of you used to be like this. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God"

What is the difference between life & death? - Confession & Repentance

I John 1:8-9, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." **Romans 10:14**, "But how can they call on Him to save them unless they believe in Him? And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them?"

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Acts 1:8, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Live like every life is as sacred as your own