

Romans 8:29-30

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Everyone is pro-life when it involves their lives, and everyone wants the ability to choose their path in life and make their own decisions without being forced, manipulated, or threatened by outside forces or other people. I think most people will agree with my statement; it's like asking who doesn't enjoy breathing air. This is the common ground we can agree to occupy as humans; we're all pro-choice. Thine Universal Church is both pro-choice and pro-life in all matters of life.

Our spirits were preordained and prepared by God to inhabit a body even before our birth because we were predestined to live and breathe. This scripture from Romans suggests that those who belong to Christ, His Church, were chosen by Him before their birth. It's arrogant and foolish to think that God would create a spirit for a fetus in the womb, only for His intentions to be disrupted by humans. Christians who oppose a mother's choice to terminate a pregnancy overlook a crucial aspect regarding our spirits: they were prepared by God prior to our birth, and He doesn't make mistakes. Every human that lives was meant to be born.

Ephesians 1:3-5

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself ..

I agree that God knew both King David and the prophet Jeremiah before they were in the womb (**Jeremiah 1:4-5** and **Psalms 139:13-16**). Both men were predestined to be born and to receive their spirit at the moment God breathes life into a body capable of breathing, specifically when the fetus's lungs have developed sufficiently. I believe that every child born into this world receives their spirit from God's breath of life at the moment of birth. As of 2025, it is generally accepted that a fetus's lungs are capable of breathing at 24-28 weeks after gestation. This provides a valid scientific basis for determining when a fetus can breathe outside the womb and be considered a person with full rights to life.

God knows the exact number of souls He prepared for our world, and all living beings were always predestined and predetermined to exist. Even if a newborn lives for only a short time, as long as it breathes air, it receives a unique spirit that God has prepared for it. All children who die before they can be held accountable for sin enter the Kingdom of Heaven and enjoy eternal life with God. I believe they go to a place far better than this world of sin; what they gain with God is far greater than what they lose on this earth.

Genesis 2:7

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

Thine Universal Church maintains the belief that God bestowed a spirit upon Adam when He breathed life into him. I believe that every child receives their spirit when they are able to breathe outside the womb, even with medical assistance. This perspective on a fetus draws from both scientific understanding and Biblical scripture. I will share my views on the termination of a pregnancy before 24 weeks, but first, I want to highlight several scriptures that discuss the "Breath of Life" from God. Until a fetus can breathe independently with fully developed lungs, it remains a fetus and is not yet considered a person.

Job 32:8

But there is a spirit in man, And the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding.

Job 33:4

The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

Psalms 104:30

You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth.

Ezekiel 37:5

Thus says the Lord God to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live."

Isaiah 42:5

**Thus says God the Lord, Who created the heavens and stretched them out,
Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it,
Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk on it:**

We all receive a spirit, our soul, from God when we take our first breath after we leave the womb. Why would God create a soul for a fetus that will never be born? I would like to offer another perspective: for a new soul to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, they must be born, breathe and live, and then die—even if it is only for a brief moment and a few breaths of air. Every child that breathes, for even a moment, and then dies will enter the Kingdom of Heaven; this viewpoint reflects my Christian faith and belief, supported by the common sense and logic God gave me. Conversely, I believe that every child who never takes a breath and dies in the womb was never intended to receive a spirit from God, as He knew they would not be born and live. I do believe that terminating a pregnancy after 24 weeks may be viewed as murder unless there is a life or death situation or other valid medical reason. A mother usually has the possibility of having another child, and she may have other children. Therefore, the mother's life must always take precedence in these situations. Christians who disagree are wicked people. Bible study has taught me the truth; God wants us to make our own choices!

1 Corinthians 5:12-13

For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? But those who are outside God judges. Therefore “put away from yourselves the evil person.”

I couldn't discover any scripture telling the followers of Christ to impose their beliefs on people outside the church. In fact, Paul is clear in **1 Corinthians 5:12-13** that believers are not supposed to be concerned with the people outside the church. Paul instructs members of the church to avoid communing with wicked people; we are the company we keep. Christians shouldn't impose their laws on unbelievers and we definitely shouldn't waste our time judging them as Paul instructs us not to do. Do Christians really want the drug addicted prostitute to have a child if she becomes pregnant? Will they support policies that help her?

The Great Commission from Jesus Christ in **Matthew 28:18-20** instructs the disciples to spread the Gospel, baptize in His name, and teach others the Gospel—nothing more. The NKJV Bible does say to “make disciples of all the nations.” However, this isn't the authority for Christians to alter the laws of the land to dictate their faith and beliefs on non-believers! If the church wants to impose an abortion ban, it should apply to their congregation and clergy and not people outside the church. In error and deception, anti-abortion activists convinced our courts that a fetus is a person, thus categorizing all abortions as murder. The anti-abortion lobby changed the law of the land, but their position lacks grounding in scripture. The Bible indicates that our spiritual life begins with our first breath. If we receive our spirit at conception, does that mean every fertilized egg has a soul? Nope!

Would a mechanic build a custom engine for a car that could never use it? Perhaps the car is flawed or incomplete, or maybe the owner has changed their mind and no longer wants that design. In reality, nobody builds a custom engine for an unfinished car; that would be foolish. Similarly, God creates a soul only for a body that He knows will breathe and experience life. This logic resonates deeply with me. I believe that my God doesn't make mistakes in anything He creates; everything and everyone that lives has a unique purpose known only to God. I find it astonishing how much hypocrisy exists among those who claim to be Christians and pro-life, particularly when their concern seems limited to the issue of abortion while ignoring other Republican policies that harm our poor children.

While I believe that personhood for a fetus should begin at 24 to 28 weeks, I support a woman's right to choose to terminate a pregnancy before that point. I understand the concerns regarding late-term abortions. I propose using the three trimesters as a framework and requiring a valid medical reason along with a doctor's approval for all abortions conducted after 12 to 13 weeks of gestation. Abortions after 24 weeks would be prohibited unless the mother's life is at risk or there is another legitimate medical reason; this is simply a suggestion.

Matthew 7:4-5

Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

When Jesus recounted the story of the adulteress who faced execution by a mob, he pointed to the hypocrisy of sinners judging and condemning one another. If I ask whether a sinner should judge another person for their sins, the typical follow-up question is, "What were the sins?" This is the wrong question; the type or amount of sin doesn't matter to God. Any sin bars you from the Kingdom, leading to death and judgment unless you repent. Jesus didn't ask about the sins of those ready to execute the adulteress. He said, "He who is without sin (any sin), let him cast the first stone." Each accuser walked away with their own hidden sins. These are the wicked hypocrites who condemn others for their sins while hiding their own **Romans 3:23, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**

I believe that a woman who terminates her pregnancy without medical necessity or the risk of death is committing a sin. However, I recognize that I do not know the full story that led to her pregnancy or the circumstances surrounding her decision. To truly understand her choice, I would need to be a divine being capable of reading hearts and minds, aware of every thought and action that influenced her situation. To judge righteously, every detail of the sin or crime must be fully understood. This divine judge would also need to be free of sin to pass judgment on another person's actions, as stated in Bible scripture. This is why Paul advises church members to focus on their community and other members and not to judge those outside the church, especially the wicked.

I don't feel the need to outline every situation concerning the care women need for childbirth, reproductive rights, birth control, fertility clinics, and Planned Parenthood services. Jesus embodies a pro-choice perspective, so I align with pro-choice principles. At the same time, He is also pro-life, so I align with this belief as well. However, my understanding of pro-life is rooted in the Gospel of Christ and the value of living individuals; this is a conviction I will not debate. My discourses are intended for my family, friends, and anyone else seeking salvation who shares my belief about God.

Thine Universal Church is not a traditional church with walls, members, or clergy; we are a community of knowledge and wisdom for all who seek to understand the God I serve. The Divine law of God is intended for those who choose to follow and serve Him, not for individuals outside the Christian faith. In America, where freedom of religion is paramount, imposing Christian law on people of different faiths, beliefs, and customs does not reflect the true spirit of God or Christianity. Every person on this planet is pro-life when it comes to their life or one they love. Pro-life folk oppose capital punishment and support programs that help children.

Romans 2:21-24

You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal? You who say, "Do not commit adultery," do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law? For "the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you," as it is written.

Republicans in America have branded themselves as the pro-life party, redefining the term to encompass anyone who opposes abortion; this has created a significant voting bloc. Currently, 57% of all adults oppose legal abortion. Examining the religious aspect reveals that 75% of Jehovah's Witnesses, 70% of Mormons, 66% of Southern Baptists, and 61% of members of the Churches of Christ are also opposed. Churches have successfully persuaded their congregations to believe that life begins at conception, arguing that a fetus is alive because it can move or feel pain. That's true; it does need to be alive to receive its soul. I argue that a fetus doesn't transform into a living spiritual human being until it inhales its first breath from God because that's what scripture tells me. A soul needs a living body to inhabit, not an egg or a fetus.

I don't believe that our free will can interfere with God's plan. My girlfriend and I faced this choice as teenagers; we briefly considered our options, but ultimately she decided to have the child. The important thing is that she had the ability to choose and went on to raise a beautiful and wonderful child, even with limited support from me. Our daughter was meant to live; in contrast, an embryo or fetus that is terminated in the womb was never intended by God to live.

My definition of "pro-life" focuses on the living rather than the dead. Pro-life Christians should ensure every child has access to everything necessary for a successful transition into adulthood from the moment they take their first breath. Every white racist person and group votes Republican because their policies oppose social programs that provide food, clothing, medical care and shelter for poor minority children and our black and brown immigrants. The false Christians who stand with these Republicans defy the Gospel of Christ and offend God.

America should legalize abortions up to 12–13 weeks of gestation, including access to the abortion pill. For abortions between 13 and 24 weeks, a valid medical reason confirmed by at least two doctors should be required. Abortions after 24 weeks would be prohibited unless the mother's or child's life is at risk; terminating a pregnancy at that stage without medical justification could be considered murder. Women typically discover their pregnancy between 4 and 7 weeks after conception; I believe that 12–13 weeks is sufficient time for a woman or her family to make their decision. Using Christian doctrine to craft the law of the land in a country of many beliefs and faiths is wicked and evil when it strays from the truth of the Gospel. For example, Jesus abolished the death penalty!

Mathew 18:10

“Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

Atheists and unbelievers do not believe in God or the existence of a soul. So it's understandable that they might view all abortions as murder, even from the moment of conception. In contrast, my Christian faith teaches that God creates a unique, individual soul for every person destined to be born and live.

‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.” Matthew 22:32

The phrase “pro-life” suggests a concern for the welfare of living children; however, one cannot claim to be pro-life while ignoring the needs of children living in poverty or those without a home. The Republican Party prioritizes the interests of the wealthy and the affluent who financially support them over the needs of children. The churches that claim to support life actually endorse policies that harm poor minorities and our immigrant children. The Christian church should prioritize meeting the needs of every child who suffers from neglect and abuse. The eight wealthiest ministers in America collectively possess over \$500 million. The total wealth of our churches is in the hundreds of billions.

There are four types of abuse a child may face. This is from the CDC website:

- **Physical abuse is the intentional use of physical force that can result in physical injury. Examples include hitting, kicking, shaking, or other shows of force against a child.**
- **Sexual abuse refers to any completed or attempted sexual acts or sexual contact with a child by a caregiver. Examples include fondling, penetration, and exposing a child to other sexual activities.**
- **Emotional abuse refers to behaviors that harm a child's self-worth or emotional well-being. Examples include name-calling, shaming, rejecting, and withholding love.**
- **Neglect is the failure to meet a child's basic physical and emotional needs. These needs include housing, food, clothing, education, access to medical care, and having feelings validated and appropriately responded to.**
- **Child abuse and neglect are common. At least one in seven children experienced child abuse or neglect in the past year in the United States. This is likely an underestimate because many cases are unreported. In 2021, 1,820 children died of abuse and neglect in the United States.**
- **Children living in poverty experience more abuse and neglect. Experiencing poverty can place a lot of stress on families, which may increase the risk for child abuse and neglect. Rates of child abuse and neglect are five times higher for children in families with low socioeconomic status compared to families with a higher socioeconomic status.**

Psalm 33:13-15

The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men. From the place of His dwelling He looks On all the inhabitants of the earth; He fashions their hearts individually; He considers all their works.

It's easy for me to accept that each soul inhabiting a body is a unique creation of God, as revealed in several scriptures. Jesus teaches that God is concerned with the living, not the dead. If our churches genuinely followed the path of Christ, they would focus their time and resources on addressing the needs of living children who suffer both in our country and abroad. The Republican Party maintains its power largely due to the church and their shared anti-abortion stance, support for the death penalty, and anti-immigration policies, all while claiming to be pro-life. Pro-life Christians and Republicans both use each other.

One hypocritical argument from these individuals is their objection to tax dollars funding abortions while simultaneously supporting the funding of America's military and defense contractors that produce weapons of war designed to kill. Additionally, they advocate for the use of semi-automatic weapons under the Second Amendment, which results in mass civilian and child casualties and death.

If pro-life Christians can accept that a soul cannot inhabit an egg and that it requires a living body, they may come to accept that a fetus is simply a fetus and not yet a human being. The alternative belief suggests that human decisions can interfere with God's plan for the spirit He formed for a child in the womb.

Advances in medical technology have enabled some premature babies to survive as early as 21 weeks, although such outcomes are not typical. A premature baby outside the womb must still be able to breathe; when they breathe, that is when I believe they possess a soul. I've referenced scripture indicating that the Apostle Paul advises against church members interfering in the lives of those outside the church. Christians shouldn't dictate or force our laws upon others, especially people outside our faith; we should want everyone to choose their path based on what's in their heart. A woman's choice to have a child is meant to be a private and personal decision between God, the parents, family members, and doctors. We are called to abide by the golden rule and spread the Gospel of Christ!

Christians are meant to hold each other accountable rather than trying to regulate a diverse society with many beliefs and faiths. This principle is especially important in the context of freedom of religion, which allows me to hold my beliefs, regardless of how unconventional they may seem to others. I believe that I serve the ONE TRUE GOD of the NKJV Bible; therefore, if I am mistaken in my beliefs, I find myself among countless other churches that are also in error.

Basic logic tells me that if one Christian believes in choice and another believes abortions are murder, they can't have the same Holy Spirit guiding them both. Jesus talks about helping the meek and serving the poor, not abortions.

Psalm 82:3-5

Defend the poor and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy; Free them from the hand of the wicked. They do not know, nor do they understand; They walk about in darkness; All the foundations of the earth are unstable.

The verses from **Psalm 82** present a compelling argument for a “pro-life” mandate among Christians. We are called to defend the poor and our orphans—and to rescue them from the grip of the wicked. One might ask, why are the poor, orphans, and the needy in the hands of the wicked? The answer is that they are not being cared for, protected, and taught by Christian families and churches. Currently, around 117,000 children in the US foster care system are waiting for adoption. That doesn’t include children living on the streets. Many of these children have endured various forms of traumatic abuse and neglect. These vulnerable souls are precisely the ones that the wicked one seeks to claim for a specific reason. Children will do as they’re taught and grow into obedient adults.

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

This proverb applies to both the righteous and the wicked, and I believe most people can grasp this concept. It parallels the idea of a bad tree bearing bad fruit versus a good tree that produces good fruit. Children who lack Christian parents or family members to pray for them are vulnerable to worldly influences. God values them as His treasure, yet the wicked one also pursues them. This is why God has instructed us to care for orphans and guide them in the ways of the Lord. These children will be held accountable for their sins; they need the armor of God to protect them from the wicked. Shouldn’t the primary mission of our churches be the care of our orphaned and homeless children? This issue is not about money; Christian churches are wealthy. One would think our Christian churches could unite and address this problem regardless of the cost. Our mission is to defend, care for, and protect all of our orphans, the poor, and the meek.

Why would Christians support policies that result in the births of more unplanned, children without supporting legislation and social programs that help these children thrive? Many women are not emotionally or financially prepared for parenthood; why would anyone seek to restrict their ability to choose? Do anti-abortion Christians genuinely want lower-income individuals and minorities—who may lack the resources to travel to another state for an abortion—to have children? Republican policies frequently impose additional burdens on these vulnerable newborns. What motivates some Christians to advocate for banning the abortion pill? People with financial means can still access these medications and travel to states where private abortions are allowed. Currently, 22 states have enacted bans on medication abortion, which permits the termination of a pregnancy up to 10 weeks (70 days) of gestation. It’s also important to note that approximately 10–15% of known pregnancies end in miscarriage.

Acts 17:26-28

And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.'

Political battle lines divide the discussion about abortion in America, making it easier to categorize people into opposing camps. I wish there were viable alternatives to the Democratic and Republican parties, but the reality is that a third party is unlikely to win any election. When conflict arises, individuals must choose which side to support, even if they disagree with some of their party's actions; it's impossible to satisfy everyone. History shows that third parties often dilute the votes of the party they most resemble.

My friend, a practicing Catholic, consistently votes Republican due to his "single-issue" stance on abortion. We often engage in heated discussions because I believe the issues he overlooks demonstrate that Republican policies do not align with the Gospel of Christ and they disproportionately harm the poor, particularly black and brown children. He's Hispanic and firmly believes that all abortions are murder. He opposes using his tax dollars to fund the death of a fetus. When I expressed my opposition to my tax dollars being used for weapons of war that kill civilians, he argued that it's simply a numbers game, asserting that more babies are aborted than killed in war. I pointed out that groups like the KKK and Nazis, among other racist and white supremacist organizations, always support Republican candidates. In response, he criticized ANTIFA and Democrats.

As a Christian, I have to ask which political party supports policies and legislation that align with Jesus and the Gospel; I always begin with the Gospel. I also have to speak about our current political environment in 2025. We can see everything happen in real time, right before our very eyes; we're actual witnesses. MAGA Republicans and Trump have shown America who they really are; it's no longer necessary to warn people about them. To join their group, one must believe that abortions are murder and that capital punishment is righteous, all while disregarding the consequences of supporting and promoting weapons of war that kill children in schools and churches. Republicans are cutting food assistance programs while simultaneously raising prices on essential goods. Their treatment of immigrants and marginalized groups is evident. If I were to focus on a single issue, it would be the fact that Republicans have become associated with white racism, particularly among those who identify as Christians. It is contradictory to be both a racist and a Christian; one must choose between the two. The distinction between a white Christian nationalist, a Nazi and the KKK is virtually nonexistent. Thanks to new scientific evidence, white "pure-blood" Americans can learn about the actual race and skin color of their ancestors; they weren't white.

Matthew 25:41-46

“Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ “Then they also will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’ Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Republican policies and laws harm the poor, minorities, and immigrants and are deeply rooted in white racism, bigotry, and greed. Our government favors white immigrants over those of color, highlighting the significant power and influence of white racism in shaping our laws and regulations in 2025. Christ will judge us by how we treat those who are different from us—the stranger, the immigrant, and the alien. Christians are called to look beyond the physical bodies we inhabit and recognize the inner spirit within each individual. Jesus spoke of those who are "cursed"—individuals who turn away from those in need simply because they are strangers. White Christian nationalists who support the MAGA Republican Party are wicked hypocrites who do not truly understand God or the Gospel of Christ.

Which political party reflects the Gospel of Christ? Is it the Democrats or the Republicans? Christians should carefully examine the policies of both political parties to make an informed decision. Each party includes both righteous and wicked elements among its leaders, members, and supporters, but it's crucial to use the Word of God as a guide to differentiate between righteous and wicked policies and legislation. Even if I accept the premise that all abortions are murder and concede the moral high ground to Republicans, I cannot ignore the negative consequences of their other policies that disproportionately impact the poor and minorities. Recently, Republicans have reduced foreign aid to Africa, a region still grappling with an AIDS epidemic. This means that more individuals and children will suffer and die because we are unwilling to allocate American taxpayer money to assist those in need abroad. Additionally, they have reduced food assistance programs like SNAP and cut other social programs that help the poor. While eliminating access to affordable healthcare by making it prohibitively expensive.

Democratic policies tend to align more closely with the teachings of the Gospel of Christ. While I acknowledge that Democrats may not always exemplify Christian moral authority, I believe they offer a better alternative than Republicans. Issues such as racism, sexism, and misogyny are present in both political parties and within most of our churches. How can pro-life Christians ignore the negative impact of other Republican policies that oppose and offend the Gospel of Christ?

Matthew 18:5-6

Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me. "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

I chose this familiar verse from **Matthew 18** that's often used as a death sentence for pedophiles and child abusers to conclude this discourse on abortions. Any person that abuses a child commits a heinous sin; anyone that sexually abuses children is also a perverse, despicable, corrupt, evil sinner and criminal. This verse seems to point to children in the church; however, I'd like to point out that I don't believe anyone is held accountable for sinful acts when they're forced, threatened, or coerced. If a child or youth is abused by anyone, especially a priest, God will not count the assault as a sin against them because they're the victim. The sin and crime will always be held against the abuser. There will come a time when a youth is held accountable for their sins; this is something that only God can determine. Children can be imprinted with righteousness or wickedness depending on who influences them; this is why the devil craves the souls of children. God commanded us to teach our children the Word of God as a way to protect them from sin and the world. God intended a child to have two parents and a family praying over them until they can be held accountable for their sin.

The scripture in **Mark 9:42** states, "**Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble,**" using the word "stumble" in place of "sin." This verse highlights the importance of protecting children who have faith in God. But how can someone cause a child to stumble? There are many ways to do so. Here are statistics from the American SPCC for 2022 and 2023:

4.399 million child maltreatment referral reports received in 2022.

- **89.0%** of victims are maltreated by one or both parents.
- **Only 3.096 million children** received prevention & post-response services.
- **145,449 children** received foster care services.
- **377,742** victims (**72%**) are **neglected**.
- **62,685** victims (**11.96%**) are **physically abused**.
- **44,355** victims (**10.6%**) are **sexually abused**.
- **20,895** victims (**3.98%**) are **psychologically maltreated**.
- **Highest rate** of child abuse in children **under age one** (22.2 per 1,000).
- Annual estimate: **1,968 children died from abuse and neglect in 2023**.
- **Five children die every day from child abuse**.

Neglect and physical abuse kill 5 children every day. 22 out of 1,000 children under the age of one will experience this abuse. These are the living children the church is supposed to focus it's time, money and energy on in the name of Christ.

Luke 17:1-2

Then He said to the disciples, “It is impossible that no offenses should come, but woe to him through whom they do come! It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones.

Neglect is a cruel form of child abuse, evidenced by the deaths resulting from malnutrition, starvation, lack of clean water, inadequate medical care, disease prevention and treatment, poverty, and unmet basic needs. I worry about the child who needs food, clothing, shelter, healthcare, and education while feeling safe and secure in their environment. I want our living children to thrive more than the unborn child in a stranger's womb who has not yet been fully formed or taken its first breath. God created the process to care for the needs of a child in the womb. Orphaned children require loving parents and stable Christian homes. In my Christian faith, the living child takes precedence over the unborn child.

If a sex worker or a promiscuous woman has multiple abortions, why should that concern any church? Is a sex worker the kind of person who should raise a child alone? Maybe our government and church should create other opportunities for her to support herself. Our society glorifies, promotes, and encourages sex. Forcing a woman to carry a child conceived by casual sex is also cruel; she deserves the right to make her own choice and the time to consider it. Sexual immorality, rape, incest, unplanned pregnancies, and medical complications are reasons why a woman or girl may seek an abortion. Forcing a raped child to have an abortion is a form of wicked cruelty; she didn't commit any sin, so why should she be punished for being a victim? Judgment for sin belongs to God, not the church; He is the one who judges those outside the church's doors.

Republican policies will contribute to an increase in children born out of sexual immorality and unplanned pregnancies; this serves the will of the devil and not God. Once a child is born, Republican policies will restrict access to essential programs and services that support the needs of low-income children. Their agenda disproportionately affects black and brown children the most. In this verse from **Luke 17**, Jesus references “offending a child” as the sin.

How can a person offend a child? There are many ways to do so.

You could demean, disparage, and insult a child's nationality, skin color, and heritage. You could also arrest and deport their parents, treating them as common criminals. We can witness this unfolding in real time in 2025. You can show them they're not welcome in America while welcoming white immigrants from South Africa. This is the reality of today's Republican Party, which does not align with my values or beliefs. They should start by denouncing the false racist white Christian nationalism movement that supports them, but they need their votes. As a mixed-race Democrat and a Christian, I choose to be pro-life as defined by the Gospel of Christ. I'm pro-choice when it comes to everyone else!

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Psalm 82:3-5

Psalm 104:30

Psalm 139:13-16

Proverbs 22:6

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Jeremiah 1:4-5

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Romans 8:29-30

1 Corinthians 5:12-13

Ephesians 1:3-5

Written by a servant of the Lord of Thine Universal Church, October 27, 2025