

Every Life is God's Workmanship

In the summer of 1999 an unborn child (24 weeks) named Marie Switzer, was operated on for spina bifida. A photograph of her tiny hand grasping the surgeon's finger was published in Life magazine. Sarah was put back inside her mother and was born two months later, nine weeks premature. That same year there was another baby, Samuel Armas, operated on for the same condition. As the surgeon was closing the womb, baby Samuel pushed his hand out of the womb and grabbed the surgeon's finger. Photographer Michael Clancy caught this astonishing act on film and in that instant went from being pro-choice to being pro-life. As he put it, "I was totally in shock for two hours after the surgery. . . . I know abortion is wrong now – it's absolutely wrong."

God is the creator of Life

Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Job 33:4 - The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.

Psalms 95:6 - O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

Psalms 100:3 - Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Psalms 119:73 - Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments.

Jeremiah 1:5 - Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Acts 17:24-25 - God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

God forbids the taking of human life

Genesis 9:6 - Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

- There are many reasons that abortion is wrong. But ultimately, abortion is wrong because it is an assault on the person-forming work of God in the womb. This is God doing what he alone can do creating a person in his own image; and to attack this little person being completed by God is to attack God.

Exodus 20:13 – Thou shalt not kill

Exodus 21:22-25 - If men strive, and hurt a woman with child, so that her fruit depart from her, and yet no mischief follow: he shall be surely punished, according as the woman's husband will lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges determine. And if any mischief follow, then thou shalt give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

- OCTOBER 15, 2007 NEW YORKER MAGAZINE (Edited) - Ten years ago, Adrian Owen, a British neuroscientist, used scanning technology to map areas of the brain, including those involved in recognizing human faces. The imaging center was next to the hospital's neurological intensive-care unit, and Owen heard about a patient there named Kate Bainbridge, a twenty-six-year-old schoolteacher who had become comatose after a flulike illness, and was eventually diagnosed as being in a vegetative state. Owen decided to scan Bainbridge's brain. For four months, Bainbridge had not spoken or responded to her family or her doctors. Owen placed Bainbridge in a scanner, and, on a screen in front of her, projected photographs of faces belonging to members of her family, as well as digitally distorted images, in which the faces were unrecognizable. Whenever pictures of Bainbridge's family flashed on the screen, an area of her brain called the fusiform gyrus, which neuroscientists had identified as playing a central role in face recognition, lit up on the scan. "We were stunned," Owen told me. "The fusiform-gyrus activation in her brain was not simply similar to normal; it was exactly the same as normal volunteers'."

He took brain scans of thirty-four healthy volunteers who were instructed to picture themselves playing tennis for at least thirty seconds. Their brains showed activity in a region of the cerebrum that would be stimulated in an actual match. "This was an extremely robust activation, and it wasn't difficult to tell whether somebody was imagining tennis or not," Owen said. He then repeated the experiment using one of the vegetative patients. The woman had to be able to hear and understand Owen's instructions, retrieve a memory of tennis—including a conception of forehand and backhand and how the ball and the racquet meet—and focus her attention for at least thirty seconds. To

Owen's astonishment, she produced a beautiful activation, indistinguishable from those of the group of normal volunteers,"

For decades, doctors assumed that patients who have been diagnosed as vegetative lack any capacity for conscious thought or willed activity.

Kate Bainbridge, has made considerable progress, recovering the use of her arms, and much of her mental function. She still has difficulty talking, and uses a letter board to communicate. "Most scans show what is wrong with your brain, which doctors need to know." "But Adrian Owen's scans show what is working. It really scares me to think what might have happened to me if I had not had the scans. They show people it was worth carrying on even though my body was unresponsive."

We are to defend and protect life

Deuteronomy 27:19 - Cursed be he that perverteth the judgment of the stranger, fatherless, and widow.

Psalm 10:17-18 - LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear: To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the man of the earth may no more oppress.

Psalm 41:1 - Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.

Proverbs 31:9 - Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

Birth "defects" do not justify taking the life of the child

Isaiah 45:9-10 - Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherd of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands? Woe unto him that saith unto his father, What begetteth thou? or to the woman, What hast thou brought forth?

Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

- In 1967, the New Jersey Supreme Court rejected a "wrongful birth" claim and framed its decision in an eloquent affirmation of human dignity: "The right to life is inalienable in our society. A court cannot say what defects should prevent an embryo from being allowed life such that the denial at the opportunity to terminate the existence of a defective child in embryo can support a cause of action . . . A child need not be perfect to have a worthwhile life . . . The sanctity of the single human life is the decisive factor in this issue in tort. Eugenic considerations are not controlling. We are not talking here about the breeding of prize cattle. It may have been easier for the mother and less expensive for the father to have terminated the life of their child while he was an embryo, but these alleged detriments cannot stand against the preciousness of the single human life to support a remedy in tort."

God forgives all sin

Roman 5:20-21 - Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Galatians 6:1 - Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Our life is our time of grace

Isaiah 55:6 - Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2 Corinthians 6:1-2 - We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

Hebrews 9:27 - And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: