

Jan 16, 2011 • Pastor Gregg Matte

Be a Part of the Story: Part 1

John 6: 25-35

January Memory Verse

Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."
John 6:68

- **Check your <u>motives</u>.**
  1 Corinthians 4:5, James 4:3, Psalm 27:8, Matthew 5:6

- **<u>Belief</u> not works.**
  Romans 4:5-6, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 2:8-9

- **The Bread of Life is <u>Jesus</u>.**
  Psalm 78:23-24, Nehemiah 9:15, Psalm 63:4-6, Isaiah 55:1-2

MEMORIZE John 6:68
READ John 6:36-59 to prepare for next week's message
VISIT HoustonsFirst.org for messages via on-demand audio, video & live webcast
STOP BY Corner Books for messages on CD, including today's message
FOLLOW Pastor Gregg ("Gregg Matte") on Facebook & Twitter

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

In 2005, the number of abortions in the U.S. declined to 1.2 million, 25% below the all-time high of 1.6 million in 1990. Despite this decline, slightly more than one in five pregnancies ended in abortion in 2005, giving the U.S. one of the highest abortion rates in the developed world.

Who Has Abortions?

- **56% of women having abortions are in their 20s**
- **61% have one or more children**
- **67% have never married**
- **57% are economically disadvantaged**
- **88% live in a metropolitan area**
- **78% report a religious affiliation, including 13% who identify themselves as "born again" or evangelical**

Source: The Guttmacher Institute, guttmacher.org

The Lingering Effects of Abortion

Women who have had abortions show symptoms that fit the model of post-traumatic stress disorder.

- **Guilt - 92.6%**
- **Depression - 88.2%**
- **Regret - 84.8%**
- **Grief - 84.7%**
- **Loneliness - 83.6%**
- **Loss of self-esteem - 82.3%**
- **Anxiety - 81.4%**
- **Anger - 80.8%**

Source: National Right to Life Committee, nrlc.org

Resources

Surrendering the Secret
Every Mon beginning Feb 7 @ 7-9 pm – Meets Offsite
This 8-week course is designed to bring women together who share abortion in their past. These sessions allow women who need help to connect with other women in a safe and confidential environment. **CONTACT** Becky Turner, Becky@BeckyTurner.com, 713.824.5649. (All inquiries are confidential.)

Legacy685 – Adoption, Foster & Orphan Care Ministry
The desire of this ministry of Houston's First is to support, encourage and come alongside families and individuals as they seek how God is asking them to care for the fatherless. **VISIT** HoustonsFirst.org/Legacy685. **CONTACT** Steve & Mary Klein, Legacy685@HoustonsFirst.org, 281.246.9904.

Julianna Poor Memorial Counseling Center
Houston's First is blessed to have a counseling center that provides biblically-based, clinically-competent, and Spirit-sensitive counseling, promoting the emotional, psychological, and spiritual health of individuals, marriages, and families. **VISIT** HoustonsFirst.org/Counseling. **CONTACT** 713.335.6461

Local Pregnancy Centers
- The Source for Women, TheSourceForWomen.org, 713.780.0030
- Downtown Pregnancy Help Center, DowntownPregnancyHelpCenter.org, 713.942.2100
- Fifth Ward Pregnancy Help Center, FifthWard.org, 713.675.2800

Pray

- Pray for the women and girls who are considering abortion. Pray that they will choose life, even amid difficult circumstances.
- Pray for the millions of women and men who are living with the trauma of having chosen abortion in the past. Pray that they would know that God is able and willing to forgive them.
- Pray for the staff of pregnancy care centers as they minister to those who are pregnant and frightened or experiencing post-abortion trauma.