

Paths of Justice



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Faith Community Church Justice Mission

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“I walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice...” - Prov. 8:20

Why do we have a Justice Mission at FCC?

Justice is a word that I considered to be in the realm of law enforcement or a political term. When attending the Faith Community Church equipping classes I began to see justice in another way. Once I began to think about justice as something from God, things changed. As I read through the Bible thinking about justice I began to see that justice was a theme throughout God’s word. Justice is in the Psalms, in Ezekiel, Proverbs, Obadiah and throughout the New Testament in that we are unjust and only through

Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross can our unjust acts be wiped away. As we read the Bible we see that justice is a characteristic of God. It is not something that He does, it is what He is. If we are His followers we must not only seek to be just in our activities but we must also seek to undo injustice when it is in our ability to do so. The justice team is here to help us all see the opportunities to be like Jesus, to recognize opportunities to correct injustice.

- Tom Castor

A Choir of Angels

Julie Moore, Director of Operations at Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC) in Columbus, described how Natalie came into PDHC’s North Caring Center with her husband, Shawn (for privacy, these aren’t their real names), for a pregnancy test.¹ They recently married and Shawn was very unsure about having a baby due to financial pressures and his desire to return to school. During the consultation, Shawn asked many questions and was surprised to hear that their baby may already have a heartbeat. Natalie and Shawn are Christians and accepted their consultant’s offer to pray with them about their decision and for the Lord’s provision to meet their needs.



“Rescue those being led away to death...”
- Prov. 24:11

After meeting with their consultant, the couple went in with the nurse for an ultrasound, which showed a baby at 9 weeks of pregnancy. Natalie and Shawn were surprised when the nurse pointed out that their baby was already making wiggling movements, and they both smiled when they could hear their baby’s heartbeat. They accepted the pictures and booties that were offered to them after the ultrasound. As the couple was leaving, they stopped to tell their consultant what they had just seen during the ultrasound. Shawn then said, with tears in his eyes, “I’ve changed my mind, we are going to keep the baby!” Natalie and Shawn both gave their consultant a hug before they left. (over)

¹ <http://tinyurl.com/ThanksPDHC>

At Faith Community Church, it is our desire to have God's heart for victims of injustice. Through our Justice Ministry, we are learning about what God thinks about these problems, how He has called us to be His hands and feet in this sinful world, and how we can help restore the oppressed and broken in our community. In particular, we are focusing on the breakdown of the family and how injustice often starts in one's family of origin, leading to other problems down the road. It is difficult to think of a greater injustice than an abortionist taking the life of an innocent, defenseless, voiceless little baby. Although at least 3,333 lives were lost to abortion in Franklin County in 2015 (the most recent year for which a number is available),² we are encouraged that in 2016, those at PDHC helped to save the lives of 872 little ones.

But babies are not the only ones affected by abortion, and they are not the only ones PDHC helps. Their moms and dads can suffer from a range of harmful physical and psychological consequences that can last for decades, such as increased anger, anxiety, regret, depression, nightmares, inability to become pregnant again, and even death.³ Though a mother sometimes believes that abortion will save her relationship with the father, it typically drives a wedge of resentment between them.

These are some of the ways that abortion leads to a breakdown of the family. PDHC makes a difference through providing a range of services to those who are pregnant and facing a variety of challenging circumstances; abstinence education, helping people make wise choices before getting into a difficult situation; and they have abortion recovery services as well as assistance for parents with newborns.

Through PDHC's Guardian Angel Program, single, pregnant women who are struggling with an unexpected pregnancy are matched with a mentor. As a church, PDHC will pair us with a mom in this program where we can serve as her "Choir of Angels". As a Choir, we will have the opportunity to throw her a baby shower, cook her meals after the baby is born, pray for

her, send her letters of support, and help in other ways that may be needed. Depending on the circumstances, we may find out about someone who needs these things in only a month or perhaps not for several months. Regardless, just as we have come together to give this kind of care for those who have come to our church, we are inviting you to be ready to extend the same kind of compassion to others in our community when they let us know of such a need in our area. It will be a big blessing to help in this way.

Is there someone who could be a point person for a PDHC client baby shower? If so, contact Doug Dunsmoor at dwdunsmoor@hotmail.com.

Definition of injustice: Injustice occurs when someone with greater power deprives someone with lesser power of freedom, dignity, treasure, or livelihood.

Do you want to get involved with righting injustice? Come to our Justice Team meeting. Check with Doug or Tom for dates and times.

² <http://tinyurl.com/OhioAbortions>

³ <https://www.probe.org/the-dark-underside-of-abortion/>