



Today at Southland, we are recognizing “**Sanctity of Human Life Sunday.**” This particular Sunday on the calendar is significant because of its nearness to the anniversary date of the Supreme Court’s landmark decision in the Roe vs. Wade case: January 22, 1973.

This day provides an opportunity to declare our opposition to *any* way society diminishes the sanctity of *any* human life based on a person’s race, state, condition, etc. Originally, this day has primarily been about opposition to the taking of an unborn life through abortion. At the same time, it also extends to *any* issue of BIBLICAL injustice: the concern for those being mistreated and/or oppressed – concern for those who are

defenseless, yet who still have value and dignity as people made by our Creator. We can see this day from a **POSITIVE** angle as well (not just what we’re against). **This is a day to affirm our commitment to LIFE – to celebrate God’s brilliant design, to proclaim His rightful place as the Giver of life and to value/honor all human life as sacred.** Scripture declares that God is in fact the Creator of life, making humans “in His own image” (Gen. 1:26-27). Because each one is His special creation, every person has intrinsic worth from conception until natural death!

Below, we have provided some suggestions for how you can be active in affirming, promoting and defending the sanctity of human life:

- **PRAY!**
  - ... for the protection of unborn children.
  - ... for those in crisis pregnancy situations as they search for the right thing to do.
  - ... for those suffering from the effects of a past choice (physically, emotionally or spiritually).
  - ... for workers at pregnancy centers actively and compassionately promoting decisions for life.
  - ... for a culture that affirms & values *a//* human life.
  - ... for lawmakers and judges – that they would truly carry-out what is right in God’s eyes.
  - ... for repentance – that as a people we would turn back to God and that we each might turn away from any perspective, attitude or action that devalues *any* human life.
- Cultivate in your mind and embrace in your heart a Biblical worldview that recognizes the value of ALL human life and cares about God’s justice/righteousness in any form – it’s about His concern for those who are truly defenseless and mistreated/ oppressed. Allow God’s Word to determine your perspective.
- Learn the truth about the issues, not being deceived by the misleading information that circulates.
- As God provides opportunities, share with others your commitment to life as part of God’s creation, engaging those with opposing viewpoints with grace and truth.
- Be open to God’s leading regarding foster care or adoption. The presence of those with open, willing and loving arms makes it easier for life to be chosen.
- Find a way to be the hands and feet of Christ, to shine His light in the midst of our world’s darkness and seek what is right/just in His eyes. Be actively involved in helping to bring about God’s righteousness when it comes to the sanctity of life!

One local and very practical way we encourage you to get involved in such “life” issues is through the **Pregnancy Care Center**. We are privileged to count this amazing organization as one of our local ministry partners. One of the PCC’s strengths is the thorough way life is promoted – from initial pregnancy decisions through ongoing ministry to those in challenging circumstances. To volunteer, visit their website ([www.417pcc.org](http://www.417pcc.org) – the site designed more for those wanting to volunteer) or call them directly at 417-877-0800. If God is moving your heart to participate in promoting the value of LIFE, the PCC has a way for you to do just that!

