

“Happy Birthdays”

I. WHAT ABOUT LIFE?

The first question is when does life begin?

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”
Psalm 139:13-16 (NIV)

Three truths about everyone before they are born:

God created Me.

God saw Me.

God planned my days.

What does the Bible say about life in the womb?

1. The unborn are called “babies” in the Bible.

*“When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the **baby** leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.”*
Luke 1:41 (NIV)

*“This will be a sign to you: You will find a **baby** wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”*
Luke 2:12 (NIV)

The same Greek word, brephos, is used in both verses.

2. The unborn are created of God. (Psalm 139)

3. The life of the unborn is protected by the same punishment for death as a child or an adult.

“If men who are fighting hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely but there is no serious injury, the offender must be fined whatever the woman’s husband demands and the court allows. But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life.” Ex. 21:22-23 (NIV)

4. Unborn children possess distinctive human traits: **JOY** (Luke 1:44) **SIN Nature** (Ps. 51:5)

5. The unborn are said to be known **intimately** and personally by God just as He would know any other person. (Psalm 139)

“But God had special plans for me and set me apart for His work even before I was born.”
Galatians 1:15 (NCV)

II. WHAT ABOUT CHOICE?

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own.”
1 Corinthians 6:19 (NIV)

“In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit.”
Judges 21:25 (NIV)

“There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to Him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.”
Proverbs 6:16-19 (NIV)

III. WHAT ABOUT FORGIVENESS?

1. Begin with a request for **mercy** according to God’s love. (Ps. 51:1-2)

2. Say your **sin** to God **aloud**. (Ps. 51:3-9)

3. Ask for **renewal** as you ask for **forgiveness**. (Ps. 51:7-12)

4. Tell **others** what God has done for you. (Ps. 51:13-15)

“Create in me a new, clean heart, O God, filled with clean thoughts and right desires. Don’t toss me aside, banished forever from Your presence. Don’t take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me again the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.”
Ps. 51:10-12 (TLB)