

Abortion Pt. 2: Why Every Beating Heart Deserves to Live

By Douglas Humphrey

Hard Questions, Honest Answers: What the Bible Really Says

Two pink lines. An empty bank account. A partner who's gone silent.

Behind every abortion statistic is a woman staring at an impossible choice.

By the time you go home today, 90 more lives will be lost.

Last week, we laid the foundation from God's Word: Personhood begins at conception. The unborn are precious to God because He personally knits them together. God hates the shedding of innocent blood. We grounded ourselves in truth—because without truth, we have no anchor.

But today, we need to look at the human side of this issue.

Here's the reality: It's easy to have strong convictions about abortion until you're the one staring at two pink lines and a calendar full of plans. Until your bank account is empty, your partner is gone, and your whole future is suddenly in question.

Today, I want to walk us through six real reasons women give for choosing abortion. Not to judge—but to understand. And to respond like Jesus would—with truth and grace.

If we're going to tell people to choose life, we better be ready to help them live it.

1. "I Can't Afford Another Child" - The Money Argument

Seventy-three percent say "she could not afford a baby now."

Scripture: Psalm 127:3, Philippians 4:19

Money is tight. Groceries cost more. Rent keeps going up. When you're already stretched thin, the thought of another mouth to feed can be terrifying.

But when people use poverty as a reason to end life, they're essentially saying: "Some people are too expensive to live." We're creating a financial test for human worth.

Let me put this in perspective:

Imagine you're sitting around the dinner table with your 85-year-old grandmother. She's on a fixed income. Her medical bills are piling up. She needs help with groceries, medicine, maybe even daily care.

Now imagine someone saying: "You know what? Grandma's just too expensive to keep around. She's a financial burden on the family. It would be better for everyone if we just took care of the problem."

You'd be horrified, right? You'd say, "Are you insane? That's my Grammy! She's worth more than her bank account!"

But that's exactly the logic we're using with unborn children.

Thankfully, God's perspective is radically different. Psalm 127:3 says "Sons (children) are indeed a heritage from the Lord, offspring, a reward."

Notice how God refers to children—ALL children. They're a gift from God that continues your lineage. A reward that is to be cherished. Not done away with or treated like a problem to solve.

And regarding our ability to afford what God has given us, Paul says in Philippians 4:19, "My God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

It says God WILL supply us with what we need—there's no need to worry because God's got you.

However, this is not a license to sin. God doesn't drop money from heaven to cover poor choices. If you're living recklessly—spreading your seed like a careless farmer, offering your eggs to anyone who wants them, actively engaging in sexual sin—don't expect God to finance your mess. Choices have consequences.

But once that child is conceived—once God has authored that life—the financial difficulty doesn't change the child's worth. Children are not a financial liability to a checking account—they're blessings from on High.

2. "This Will Ruin My Future" - The Dreams Argument

Seventy-four percent say having a child would "interfere with education, work or ability to care for dependents."

Scripture: Proverbs 16:9

We live in a culture that worships planning. We make five-year plans, ten-year goals, life maps with every detail plotted out. When something threatens to disrupt those plans—like an unexpected pregnancy—we panic.

But there's a Biblical truth that cuts right through this modern obsession with control.

Proverbs 16:9 tells us: "A person's heart plans his way, but the Lord determines his steps."

This way of thinking is flawed because it assumes that we're in control of our destiny. When we abort a child to protect our plans, we're essentially telling God, "I know You allowed this pregnancy, but my

college schedule is more important than Your timing."

Think about what we're actually doing: We're looking at a pregnancy—which God allowed—and we're saying, "This doesn't fit my plan, so it has to go."

But here's the reality: That pregnancy IS God determining your steps. That unexpected child IS the Lord directing your path.

Instead of "Will this child ruin my future?" we should be asking "What future is God writing for this child—and how does it fit into His perfect plan for my life?"

It's time for us to stop seeing unexpected pregnancies as dream-killers and start seeing them as dream-makers.

3. "I Don't Have Support" - The Relationship Argument

Forty-eight percent don't want to be a single mom or are having relationship problems.

Scripture: Psalm 146:9, James 1:27

What they're really saying is: "Since the man won't step up, the child has to step out."

This really boggles my mind—especially as Christians who are called to see all women as sisters and mothers, not objects.

If he was good enough to sleep with, but now he's not good enough to father the child you created together, then why did you lay with him in the first place?

Poor relationship choices don't justify ending innocent life. The baby didn't make that choice. And the baby shouldn't have to pay the price for it.

Psalm 146:9 says: "The LORD protects resident aliens and helps the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked."

God doesn't run from brokenness—He steps into it. He helps the fatherless. He helps the widow.

But don't miss the second part: He frustrates the ways of the wicked. That includes the men who disappear, the guys who pressure her into getting an abortion, and the culture that shames single moms and then abandons them. God says, "I'll handle that."

James takes this concept further in James 1:27: "Pure and undefiled religion before God the Father is this: To look after orphans and widows in their distress..."

God's solution is not abortion—it's adoption, support, community. The people of God stepping up when men step out.

Every single mother in our church should feel seen, supported, encouraged, and loved. We can control whether these moms feel forgotten—or fought for. We can control whether the child is seen as a burden—or a blessing.

It's time we stopped seeing absent fathers as a reason to end the baby's story and started seeing them as the beginning of God's story of grace in both mom and baby's life.

4. "I Need to Focus on My Other Kids" - The Sibling Argument

Twenty-nine percent say they "needed to focus on other children."

Scripture: 1 Kings 17:10–16

These mothers believe love, resources, and care are finite—that bringing life means taking something away from the children they already have. This argument pits one child's life against another child's well-being.

We're essentially saying—"Kids, mommy and daddy love you so much we ended your baby brother's life so we could give you more attention."

These mothers are making an impossible decision based on scarcity thinking. They believe love, resources, and care are finite—that bringing life means taking something away from the children they already have.

In 1 Kings 17, there's a famine. People are starving. A widow in Zarephath has one child, one meal left, and no plan beyond death.

Elijah the prophet shows up and says, "Make me something to eat first." Surely, she's thinking, "Are you kidding me? I barely have enough for me and my son's last meal."

But she obeys. She trusts God with her lack.

The result of her trust? Verse 16 says "The flour jar did not become empty, and the oil jug did not run dry, according to the word of the LORD..."

God took her scarcity and made it abundance. The mother thought she had to choose between feeding Elijah or feeding herself and her son. God took her scarcity and made it abundance.

When you trust God with what feels like scarcity, He makes it sufficient.

This doesn't mean you should have as many kids as you can with no plan and no wisdom because God will supply your needs. That's foolish, irresponsible, and dangerous. Rather, this is a call to trust God for what you perceive as not enough—especially when life shows up unexpectedly.

Every family I know who chose life—even when they felt overwhelmed—can testify: "We didn't know how, but God made a way." Somehow, there was provision. Love. And attention. Somehow we never ran out of what we needed most.

The issue isn't too many children chasing too few resources. The real issue is a lack of trust in God. God doesn't author a life without also providing the grace to nurture that life.

It's time we stopped seeing new babies as competition for our love and started seeing them as opportunities to watch God multiply it.

5. "My Health is At Risk" - The Medical Argument

Less than 1% of all abortions involve situations where the mother's life is truly at risk.

Scripture: James 1:5

These are real families, in real pain, and real medical emergencies—where every second counts and the decisions are heartbreaking.

As believers, we need to be honest about the tension here: Both mother and child are made in the image of God. Both lives matter. Both are sacred. Both are precious to our heavenly Father.

Yet, we live in a broken, fallen world where tragedy sometimes forces us into impossible decisions. Yes—there are rare moments when medical intervention is necessary to try to save the mother's life, and tragically, the baby may not survive.

But we need to be clear: There's a massive difference between an intentional abortion and a medical procedure that unintentionally results in the loss of the baby. One is a deliberate act to end a life. The other is a heartbreaking outcome while trying to preserve life.

James 1:5 tells us: "Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God—who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly—and it will be given to him."

These families need our prayers, the Lord's guidance, compassionate pastors, the support of their church, and the best medical care available.

One of the hardest talks that Sheila and I ever had was regarding preserving our baby's life over hers if it came down to that. Due to some previous health issues, Sheila was at risk of hemorrhaging during delivery. It was hard for me because I couldn't imagine living in a world without her. And she didn't want to live in a world knowing she lived, but our child died. So, we prayed and trusted God, because ultimately the decision was His despite how we felt.

I get the tension. I felt it then. And I felt it when I wrote this sermon.

But here's what we can't ignore: These cases—which are less than 1%—are being used to justify the other 99% of abortions. They're using the exception to justify the rule. They're taking the most emotionally compelling stories—the ones that tear at your heart—and using them as a smokescreen for abortion on demand.

That's not just wrong. That's manipulative. They're leveraging our compassion to defend convenience. They're pointing to emergency rooms in order to keep the abortion clinics open.

As followers of Christ, we must be both wise and compassionate. We can have deep empathy for families facing genuine medical crises—and still call out the lie that most abortions are medically necessary. They're not.

We must not let the abortion industry blur the lines between tragedy and choice. Because they're not the same thing.

It's time we stopped seeing medical complications as reasons to choose death and started seeing them as opportunities to trust the God of life.

6. "I Was Sexually Assaulted" - The Pain No One Should Bear

Less than five percent of all abortions involve cases of rape or incest.

Scripture: Psalm 147:3

Behind every number is a woman carrying unimaginable pain.

If this is your story, sister, please know that: You are seen. You are loved. What happened to you was not your fault. You deserve justice, healing, and every ounce of support the body of Christ can offer.

God's heart breaks over what you endured. We see this in John 11:35 where it says "Jesus wept" upon hearing the news that His friend had died. He didn't give a sermon. He didn't offer platitudes. He wept. He grieved the loss.

But He also, according to Psalm 147:3, "heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." This is God extending a lifeline in your deepest darkest moments. This is God promising to heal your wounds and to help you get through the pain.

Yet, even as we hold your pain, there's another reality we can't ignore: Just like you were innocent in what was done to you, so is the unborn child.

Let me tell you about Eddie Tait. He's an Associate Leader at Bethel Church in Austin, Texas. When he was just 9 years old, Eddie found out the man who raised him wasn't his biological father. But that wasn't the hardest part—he later discovered he was conceived through rape.

Eddie could've let that define him. He could've believed his life was a mistake. But instead, he embraced the truth that God created him with purpose.

Here's how he puts it: "My children would not be here if it wasn't for my mother's choice to value life over the hurt... Our purpose is greater than our choice and pain. I was always created for a purpose."

That's not just a quote—that's a testimony. That's a man who is grateful his mother chose life.

Whether a woman chooses life or not, our love for her shouldn't change. God's certainly doesn't change.

Here's what women in this position need from the church:

- Unconditional love and support
- Professional trauma counseling
- Help pursuing justice, if they choose to
- Practical care throughout pregnancy, if they choose life
- A safe place to belong
- The assurance that they never have to walk alone

This is where the Church must show up—not with signs or shame, but with open arms of love, ready to walk alongside moms through the darkest valley.

It's time we stopped seeing conception through assault as the end of hope and started seeing it as the beginning of God's greatest comeback story.

Our Call to Action

Every single argument for abortion boils down to the same thing: "This life is inconvenient right now."

Financial pressure? Inconvenient. Career disruption? Inconvenient. Relationship problems? Inconvenient. Other children to care for? Inconvenient.

Even medical complications and sexual assault—tragically, heartbreakingly—are being treated as inconveniences to be eliminated rather than crises to be walked through.

Let me be crystal clear about where this church stands:

- We believe every beating heart deserves to live—no matter how they were conceived, no matter when they arrive, no matter how inconvenient their timing.
- We believe that life is sacred from conception to natural death because God is the Author of life.

- We believe that every child in the womb is fearfully and wonderfully made, knitted together by God Himself. That means they come with built-in worth and purpose.

But we also believe this: If you've had an abortion, there is forgiveness at the cross. God's hate for the sin of abortion doesn't cancel His love for the sinner.

Church, here's our mission: We cannot just believe that life is sacred—we must live it out through our sacrificial love.

- When a woman faces financial fear—we provide
- When dreams feel shattered—we help rebuild
- When she's abandoned—we become family
- When she's overwhelmed—we step in
- When medical crises hit—we pray and support
- When assault victims need healing—we love sacrificially

This is how we choose life. Not just with our words, but with our wallets, our time, our homes, and our hearts.

Because 90 more lives will be lost by the time you get home today. But for every woman who finds us ready to help, one more child gets a chance to live.

Today, we choose life—and we choose to make it livable.

Pastor Douglas Humphrey serves at Bridge Fellowship Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. This message is part of the series "Hard Questions, Honest Answers: What the Bible Really Says." For more resources and to watch the full sermon, visit bridgefellowshipchurch.com.