

Jesus Creates Life

John 1:1 - 4

Big Idea – Life begins with Jesus!

Last week looked at Jesus statement “I AM the Light of the world”. I think it’s significant that John 8:12 ends with this statement, “He who follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of LIFE.”

Look now at the Gospel of John chapter 1

1 In the beginning there was the Word. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 He was with God in the beginning.

3 All things were made by him, and nothing was made without him.

4 In him there was life, and that life was the light of all people.

5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overpowered it.

1. Jesus Christ is the Creator of all life.

John 1:3 All things were made by him, and nothing was made without him.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

26a Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image and likeness.

27 So God created human beings in his image. In the image of God he created them. He created them male and female.

2. Life begins in the mother’s womb.

Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

Luke 1:41 When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the unborn baby inside her jumped, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

42 She cried out in a loud voice, “God has blessed you more than any other woman, and he has blessed the baby to which you will give birth.

43 Why has this good thing happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

44 When I heard your voice, the baby inside me jumped with joy.

Psalms 139: 13 You made my whole being; you formed me in my mother's body.

14 I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way. What you have done is wonderful. I know this very well.

15 You saw my bones being formed as I took shape in my mother's body. When I was put together there,

16 you saw my body as it was formed. All the days planned for me were written in your book before I was one day old.

3. Abortion kills a life.

Amos 1:3b "I will not turn away its punishment, because they ripped open the women with child in Gilead, that they might enlarge their territory."

Leviticus 17: 14a The life of every creature is in its blood.

This verse tells us that life is in the blood, not the birth!

Doctors inform us that, generally, by the 18th day, there is a heartbeat. So in less than three weeks, there is blood flowing through the body of the baby.

At 42 days, brain waves can be recorded using an EEG device.

At 7 weeks, the baby has fingerprints, which he will carry for the rest of his life.

At 8 weeks, the baby responds to touch and moves away from painful contact

At 9-10 weeks (barely over 2 months), the body is virtually complete; it's just a matter of size.

You see, THE LIFE IS IN THE BLOOD! At the moment of conception, he is a human being.

4. Jesus wants to give everyone new life.

2 Corinthians 5: 17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Ephesians 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down

the middle wall of separation,

15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace,

Ephesians 4: 23 But you were taught to be made new in your hearts,
24 to become a new person. That new person is made to be like God—made to be truly good and holy.

Colossians 3:10 You have begun to live the new life, in which you are being made new and are becoming like the One who made you. This new life brings you the true knowledge of God.

What does this look like? He makes all things new! Gives you:

New freedom – John 8: 32 And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

34 Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin.

35 A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever.

36 So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.

From guilt of sin and shame of sin - Romans 10:11 11 For the Scripture says, *“Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.”*

Romans 8:1 So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

From penalty of sin – Romans 6:23 “penalty for sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

From power of sin – John 8:34 Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. 35 A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.

In Heaven, from the very presence of sin – 1 John 3:2 “...when He shall appear we shall be like Him...”

New purposes and plans

Psalm 139:16b All the days planned for me were written in your book before I was one day old.

17 God, your thoughts are precious to me. They are so many!

18 If I could count them, they would be more than all the grains of sand. When I wake up, I am still with you.

For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not disaster, to give you a future and a hope. Jeremiah 29:11

Jesus will give anyone who believes in Him a brand new life!

Just like He did for Norma McCorvey. McCorvey is "Jane Roe," the pseudonym she assumed to remain anonymous as the lead plaintiff in the case that legalized abortion in the United States.

Once an abortion-rights supporter, the 50-year-old McCorvey has switched sides: She's now a vocal anti-abortion activist. She has started a ministry called Roe No More to fight against abortion rights with the aim of creating a mobile counseling center for pregnant women in Dallas.

She began her association with one of the United States' most contentious lawsuits filed to challenge the strict anti-abortion laws in Texas.

The case was appealed to the Supreme Court, which handed down its controversial ruling on January 22, 1973. The decision legalized the right to an abortion in all 50 states and sparked a political debate that remains charged to this day.

However, McCorvey, who was 21 when the case was filed and was on her third pregnancy, never had an abortion and gave birth to a girl, who was given up for adoption.

McCorvey went public with her identity in the 1980's and wrote a book about her life titled I Am Roe: My Life, Roe v. Wade, and Freedom of Choice.

In the book, McCorvey, a ninth-grade dropout, describes a tough life, explaining that she suffered physical and emotional abuse as a child, spent some time in reform school in Gainesville, Texas, and was raped as a teenager. She was later beaten by a husband whom she married at age 16. She also tells of her alcohol and drug abuse and experiences with lovers of both sexes.

Her first child, Melissa, was raised by her mother; her second child was raised by the father, and the couple agreed that McCorvey would never contact her.

She drifted through a series of dead-end jobs, including work as a bartender and a carnival barker. Once she went public with her story, she worked in several clinics where abortions were performed and did some public speaking, garnering publicity and a little bit of celebrity.

But in 1995, it all changed, because of the grace of God, and the witness of born again believers. McCorvey was working at a Dallas women's clinic when the anti-abortion group Operation Rescue moved its offices next door. Initially, McCorvey hurled insults at the protesters.

The Rev. Philip Benham, Operation Rescue's national director, described her as being "super hard-core" in her support of abortion rights. "She couldn't stand us. She hated us."

But then she and Benham struck up a relationship across the protest lines, when she would go outside "They couldn't understand this strange relationship with the head of Operation Rescue and the poster child of the pro-abortion movement," Benham said.

Benham, an evangelical preacher, started McCorvey on her change of heart by discussing Christianity with McCorvey. She became friendly with some of Operation Rescue's office staff, and then she accepted an invitation from the daughter of the group's office manager to attend church. That night, she converted to Christianity and was baptized in a swimming pool on national television.

Anti-abortion activists immediately heralded her conversion.

"She's like Harriet Beecher Stowe, who wrote that book about slavery," Benham said, referring to the author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. [Norma McCorvey: Saul to Paul! I thought about that. What a forgiving God!] Just this last week she filed a motion with the Supreme Court asking them to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

Norma McCorvey, once famously known as "Jane Roe," has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn its landmark decision that legalized abortion in 1973. McCorvey, a Christian since 1995, stated that she was "used" at that time by abortion-rights attorneys in their quest to legalize the procedure.

The suit was filed by Allan Parker, president of the Justice Foundation. "We're asking the Supreme Court to reverse and vacate the original judgment the court made in the 1970s," Parker explained. "As an original party to the *Roe v. Wade* judgment, Norma McCorvey can ask the court to vacate or modify her judgment on the grounds it is no longer just. In order to get that relief, we have to show the court that there has been a substantial change in factual or legal

conditions that make it no longer just." Parker is appealing a lower court's rejection of the lawsuit. Armed with 5,437 pages of evidence, McCorvey will present more than 1,000 affidavits from women who testify that having an abortion has had devastating emotional, physical and psychological effects. "I've worked in abortion facilities, and I've seen firsthand the horrific nature of abortion and its devastation to women and girls," she said.

