



Created • Redeemed • Called

A Foundational *For Life* Bible Study

[This study follows closely the Life Sunday bulletin insert (Item LFL210BI) available at www.cph.org. If you used this, you may want to refer to it or even use it in class.]

Introduction

Foundations are important. Things stand or fall based upon foundations. Jesus' "house on the rock" illustration spoke of the importance of the foundation of His Word (Matthew 7:24-27). When it comes to the life issues, the Christian's approach builds upon the Word of Life. Other foundations exist—political, economic, social, moral—but these shift and change. The Word of Life stands forever (1 Peter 1:24-25).

This study will look at the bedrock—the foundational—truth of what *God does* that gives value to human life—with His hands.

Foundational Truth #1

Human life has value because God creates life.

"I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them."

What do these verses—Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7; 2:22—say about the value of human life from the beginning of time?

God now uses biology to create life. When does life begin?
(Psalm 139)

So what do the above say about the value of human life?
(See also Psalm 8:5)

Foundational Truth #2

Human life has value because God redeemed life.

"I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death."

What was the price for our redemption? (1 Peter 1:18-19; Galatians 3:13; Matthew 27:46)



Read Genesis 2:17, Ezekiel 18:20a, and Romans 6:23a and fill in the blank.

God is above all else holy and perfectly just. Thus, He must _____ sin.

Read 1 John 4:10 and then fill in the blank.

God is above all else holy and perfectly loving. Thus, He must _____ the sinner.

So what does this say about the value of life? (1 Corinthians 6:20)

Foundational Truth #3

Human life has value because God desires to call us and hold us forever.

"I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith."

Are we holding or held? (Isaiah 42:6a)

Where are we held? (Isaiah 49:14-16)

When did the holding begin? (Romans 6:3-4)

How long have we been held? (John 10:28-30)

So what does this say about the value of life? (Romans 8:37-39)

So what? (Discuss some practical applications to the life issues.)

Conclusion

Foundations are important. *For Life* Lutherans base their message of life, not upon political or economic or social or moral foundations, but upon the foundation laid with God's hands. He created us with His hands. He redeemed us with His hands. He holds us in His hands. This message is one of power and love and forgiveness and hope. This message changes hearts. This message leads us to influencing our culture.

So what does this say about our actions? (1 John 4:11; Luke 10:27; Matthew 5:13-16; Proverbs 31:8-9)

