

LOVE. NO MATTER WHAT

Love, No Matter What You Think About Abortion
February 8-9, 2020

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Series Verse – Proverbs 19:11 (TPT)

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A wise person demonstrates patience, for mercy means holding your tongue. When you are insulted, be quick to forgive and forget it, for you are virtuous when you overlook an offense.

1 John 4:7-8 (NLT)

Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

We are unloving, no matter what, towards those who participate in abortions when:

- We stand in condemnation of the person rather than the practice.

Romans 2:1-3 (TPT)

No matter who you are, before you judge the wickedness of others, you had better remember this: you are also without excuse, for you too are guilty of the same kind of things! When you judge others, and then do the same things they do, you condemn yourself. We know that God's judgment falls upon those who practice these things. God is always right, because he has all the facts. And no matter who you think you are, when you judge others who do these things and then do the same things yourself, what makes you think that you will escape God's judgment?

- We shout hateful rhetoric instead of seeking out loving conversations.

Ephesians 4:29 (ESV)

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

- We sever our ability to share the gospel with the world.

Proverbs 10:12 (GW)

Hate starts quarrels, but love covers every wrong.

God's View of Ungodly People

Romans 4:4-5 (TPT)

When people work, they earn wages. It can't be considered a free gift, because they earned it. But no one earns God's righteousness. It can only be transferred when we no longer rely on our own works, but believe in the one who powerfully declares the ungodly to be righteous in his eyes. It is faith that transfers God's righteousness into your account!

God's View of Life

Psalm 139:13-15 (TPT)

You formed my innermost being, shaping my delicate inside and my intricate outside, and wove them all together in my mother's womb. I thank you, God, for making me so mysteriously complex! Everything you do is marvelously breathtaking. It simply amazes me to think about it! How thoroughly you know me, Lord! You even formed every bone in my body when you created me in the secret place, carefully, skillfully shaping me from nothing to something.

- Personhood begins when life begins – at conception.

John 4:21a, 26 (TPT)

"Believe me, dear woman, the time has come when you won't worship the Father on a mountain nor in Jerusalem... Jesus said to her, "You don't have to wait any longer, the Anointed One is here speaking with you—I am the One you're looking for."

We love those who participate in abortions, no matter what, when we:

1

Pursue our own personal holiness before trying to persuade others.

Romans 12:1-3 (TPT)

Beloved friends, what should be our proper response to God's marvelous mercies? I encourage you to surrender yourselves to God to be his sacred, living sacrifices. And live in holiness, experiencing all that delights his heart. For this becomes your genuine expression of worship. Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God's

will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes. God has given me grace to speak a warning about pride. I would ask each of you to be emptied of self-promotion and not create a false image of your importance. Instead, honestly assess your worth by using your God-given faith as the standard of measurement, and then you will see your true value with an appropriate self-esteem.

2

Promote compassion and provide a listening ear.

Romans 12:14-15 (TPT)

Speak blessing, not cursing, over those who reject and persecute you. Celebrate with those who celebrate, and weep with those who grieve.

3

Practice humility and proclaim the love and forgiveness of Jesus.

Romans 12:16-18 (TPT)

Live happily together in a spirit of harmony, and be as mindful of another's worth as you are your own. Don't live with a lofty mind-set, thinking you are too important to serve others, but be willing to do menial tasks and identify with those who are humble minded. Don't be smug or even think for a moment that you know it all. Never hold a grudge or try to get even, but plan your life around the noblest way to benefit others. Do your best to live as everybody's friend.

Mark 16:15 (ESV)

And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation."

**Recommended Reading for Love. No Matter What Series:
Unoffendable by Brant Hansen**



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