

CLEAR THE AIR Study Guide

SERMON 2: “ABORTION, FAMILY PLANNING AND IN VITRO FERTILIZATION”

Study Guide Questions:

WORD (A Time for Admonition):

1. Differentiate abortion, family planning and *in vitro fertilization* (IVF) from one another and cite examples or instances of any of the three based on your personal knowledge and experiences? State your position on these controversial reproductive health issues.
2. Is God in favor of abortion, family planning and IVF? When is abortion a murder as prohibited in the 6th commandment (*Exodus 20:13*) and “justified killing”? Is the use of artificial contraception and assisted conception a violation of God’s design for reproduction according to Genesis 1:28? Is birth control consistent with the truth that “children are a heritage from the Lord” (*Psalms 127:3-5*)? When is the use of contraceptives and IVF permissible and when is it not?
3. Why do some mothers (especially in the cases of teen-age pregnancies) commit “pre-natal murder” (*abortion at one’s convenience*) and how can it be prevented? What is the best option for some women who have unwanted pregnancies and other women who are desiring but incapable of having children?

WALK (A Time for Accountability):

1. Is there a sin you need to confess to God right now? (*performed or allowed abortion; attempted to abort one’s child; being an irresponsible parent; having an extra-marital affair; engaging in pre-marital sex, etc.*) Is there a truth you need to believe from God’s Word? Read *Psalms 139:13-16; Jeremiah 1:5; Luke 1:41; and Galatians 1:15*.
2. Are you and your spouse in agreement with regard to decisions concerning averted or assisted conception? How do you manage the use of family planning while trusting the Lord’s plan for your family at the same time (*cf. Proverbs 16:3; 21:5; James 1:5*)? How can the group pray for you?
3. What aspects of our government do you find most difficult to accept in terms of providing reproductive health care services? How can we pray for our local and national leaders?