

Tennessee Right to Life
SANCITY OF LIFE CURRICULUM
Grade 5 - Week 2
LIFE IS SACRED

PERSPECTIVE FOR THE TEACHER

Last week your students learned the meaning of abortion and God’s call for us to protect life. They will have had a chance to talk to their parents about the day of their own birth, and hopefully will have come to a deeper appreciation of their own preciousness to God and to their family. This week they will share their stories with their classmates. Through this exercise, you will help them come to a deeper appreciation of the preciousness of the lives of others.

You will explore, in greater depth, the awesome mysteries of life before birth using the video *Before You Were Born*, and you will challenge them to pray with their families for an end to abortion. It will be helpful to look over Appendix I, *Questions Students May Ask*, before class in order to be prepared for possible questions. If you are uncertain as to how to answer any questions, please feel free to contact us for assistance. (Our contact information is on the card at the front of your binder.)

They will take home a tiny fetal model which will serve as a reminder of their commitment to pray. Though we have gently opened the door for them to understand the reality of abortion, our primary emphasis has been on the preciousness of each individual, and on the power of prayer.

SCRIPTURE:

Jeremiah 29:11

Psalm 139: 13-15

Memory Verse: *“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”* Ephesians 2:10 (NASB)

LESSON GOALS:

- To re-emphasize what abortion is and its consequences
 - To communicate the wonder of prenatal development
 - To make clear that God’s plan is to care for human life
 - To help them understand the power that their prayers can have in bringing about a greater reverence for life
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THIS LESSON SHOULD HELP THE STUDENT:

- Understand God’s creativity by seeing early prenatal development through a video.
 - Realize that God has commanded that life be protected and valued.
 - Make a commitment to consistent prayer for an end to abortion.
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VISUALS/SPECIAL PREPARATION:

- *The Continuum of Life* banner
 - Video – *Before You Were Born* (It is important to preview the video.)
 - Memory Verse, written on the board
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TAKE HOME MATERIALS:

- *We Are Precious* worksheet
- *Young One* model with card (please email info@tnrtl.org or call 615/298-5433 to receive you complementary Young One fetal model and card by mail).

TEACHING THE LESSON

A. Introduction**1. Review**

(Give the students an opportunity to share what they learned from their parents about their lives before they were born.) Those stories are wonderful reminders of how God knit each one of you together before you were born. Does anyone remember how each person began? *(as a single cell-refer to Continuum)*. When did your heart begin to beat? *(18-20 days after conception)* What were you called at that stage? *(an embryo)* Would someone like to point out that stage on the Continuum? In the next stage you were called a “fetus.” What does “fetus” mean? *(little one)* What were some of the things you could do when you were a fetus? *(suck your thumb, hear very well, hiccup, taste, kick, somersault, swim.)* The Continuum shows us all the stages you’ve already gone through; what is the stage that you will be in next? *(Teen)* And what kinds of things will you be able to do then? *(Drive, vote- at 18, go to high school, etc.)* All of these wonderful stages and ages remind us of our Scripture memory verse. Let’s say it together. *(Ephesians 2:10)*

Last week we also learned about abortion. What is it? *(the intentional killing of an unborn child)* We also learned that unborn children are not protected because abortion is legal in America. Last week we decided that one of the good works we were created to do was to pray for an end to abortion.

2. Prayer

Let’s take a moment right now to pray: Father, we rejoice that we are “fearfully and wonderfully made,” and we thank you for the gift of life. Thank you for all the good works You have created us to do in Jesus. Please bring an end to the evil of abortion in America and help us to be faithful to pray for all of those in danger of abortion. Amen

B. Class Activity**Video**

Today we will see a video of babies before they were born, and all the amazing things they can do. We will hear about how the baby is developing and growing. You will notice that the baby’s skin is transparent, almost clear, so we can see the blood vessels, the heart, skeleton, and the brain. In the video, children will share some interesting facts with us. You may not have seen anything like this before, but I think you will like it.

(Show the video “Before You Were Born.” 26 minutes)

C. Class Discussion***Continuum of Life***

(Use the Continuum of Life to refer to several examples of the images that were in the video and let them share their thoughts using the following questions.)

What was the most interesting thing you learned from the video?

Have you ever seen an ultrasound picture taken of you before you were born?

What did you think about it?

Seeing the amazing way we were created, makes it so sad to think about the babies who are not born because of abortion. It makes us want to do something to stop it. Have you ever seen one of those amazing weapons that heroes have in the movies - weapons like “light sabers?” Well God has given us a mighty weapon like that, and it is prayer. This week you will have a chance to talk with your parents about praying together as a family for an end to abortion. To help you remember to pray, I have a small gift for you. It is a model of a ten week old “little one” or fetus. You can put this little one in a special place, so that it will remind your whole family to pray. Remember, there are many people working very hard to change the laws, so that unborn babies will be protected; when you pray include them and everyone in danger of abortion.

D. Closing

1. Summary

Let’s review what we’ve learned today:

- We know that we were alive long before we were born, and today we saw a video of just how amazing life before birth really is.
- We learned that abortion is a great tragedy in America, and that our laws need to be changed so that all unborn babies are protected.
- We know that prayer is a powerful weapon we can use to help end to abortion.

2. Closing Prayer

Remember to pass out the Take Home Packets.