

**We Cannot Separate from God's Mercy**  
**The Effects of Pregnancy Choices on Individuals and the World**  
**Grades 7-9**

**Goal:** Students will learn about the difficult choices facing a woman in an unintended pregnancy and how the effects of her choice change her and the entire world. They will confront personal testimonies to hear what why women chose what they did and what effect that has had on them.

**Lesson:** This lesson deals with the beauty and wonder of development of human life prior to birth. It is important to introduce the subject of abortion and the dignity and beauty of the preborn. Each and every person is created by God out of love, from the very first, tiny moment of their lives before they are born. Even though authors of the Bible didn't have microscopes or ultrasound machines, they knew God had plans for every preborn baby.

**Questions:**

What are some concerns a parent might have for their unborn children?  
Do you think there are any good reasons for not wanting to have a child?  
What if a woman is already pregnant?  
Does she have options? Why?

**Watch one, two or have students watch all:**

[Brianna's Story](#), 3 minute video of Brianna's choice to parent her child after finding resources that supported her and provided her with the practical resources she needed.

["The Story of Jessica and Meghan"](#) Heartwarming story of one college girl who helped a friend through a pregnancy. Students for Life of America. 6.5 minutes.

[Imagining Life if I Had Chosen Abortion](#) Darby's story of becoming a 16 year old mom who reflects on what life would be like now had she chosen abortion instead. Positive and powerful. 3 minutes.

**Discussion:**

These videos share four women's stories about the choices they made for their pregnancies.

What types of things did each consider?

How important was support of their families, friends, and the baby's father in their decisions?

Who seemed the happiest with her decision? Why?

Do any of these decisions seem to be less positive? Which? (Depending on the dynamics of the classroom, students may wish to share personal stories of people they know who have made difficult pregnancy decisions and the effects of those.)

*Abortion is often promoted as a quick and easy decision to a difficult problem, particularly for teens. And, from the outside it can definitely appear that way. But, hundreds of thousands of*

women, from teenagers to old ladies, have shared stories of incredibly pain and grief following abortion—grief and pain they cannot get rid of no matter what they do. Thankfully, we know that God can forgive anything we do, even abortion. While God’s healing will not take away many of the terrible effects of abortion, it can mend the relationship with God and allow the woman to find spiritual strength while she rebuilds the rest of her life.

**Watch:** [This is the Generation that’s Going to End It](#): Chris Stefanick talks about the effects of abortion and the great groundswell of support from today’s young people to stop abortion in their lifetimes. 4 minutes.

**Discussion:**

Why does our generation want to end abortion?

What can we do to end it?

How do we get started?

**Prayer:**

Heavenly Father,

You show your great love to the world  
by sending children to reflect your glory.  
We pray that every child will be welcomed  
with love and joy as a gift from you.

We ask for strength and hope for every woman  
experiencing an unintended pregnancy.  
Allow her to see your face in her unborn baby.  
Send her the support she needs to make the choice for life  
so that she and her baby will live happily in your love.

Allow us to be instruments of your love,  
to encourage life by offering support in any way that we can  
to all mothers and fathers and their children.

AMEN

Additional resources:

["All Things New"](#) Short film about a woman who experiences the hope God offers after abortion. Live Action 5.5 minutes.

Inspirational

[This is the Generation that's Going to End It:](#) Chris Stefanick talks about the effects of abortion and the great groundswell of support from today's young people to stop abortion in their lifetimes. 4 minutes.

*Articles*

["Grace"](#) 13-year old Miriam Stella writes about her friend Grace's pregnancy.

Life-affirming and age appropriate stories from Teen Breaks by [girls who have had abortions](#) and [girls who parented.](#)

["Pro-Life Middle Schooler Shocks Class, Teacher"](#) Article tells the story of a middle schooler who was able to change the minds of her classmates about abortion. Demonstrates the importance of being educated about pro-life issues, especially for young people.

["Pro-Life Leaders Who Used to be Pro-Abortion"](#) Inspiring article shares how former pro-abortion advocates experienced conversion and are now passionate, effective pro-life leaders. National Catholic Register.

Informational

["What Happens From Conception to Birth"](#) Article from Teen Breaks makes the development of a baby in the womb relevant for teens.

Archdiocese of Los Angeles post abortion healing resources [ByYourSideLA.org](#)

*Prayer Opportunities*

[Prayer for Holy Innocents](#) Scroll down for a brief prayer for unborn children and their mothers.

["Intercessory Prayers: Post-Abortion Healing"](#) Pre-written intercessory prayers from the USCCB for use at Mass.

[Spiritual Adoption](#) Spiritually adopt a baby to pray for nine months.

*Scripture and Church Teaching*

[Life Matters: God's Final Word on the Subject](#) LifeTeen article uses Scripture to explain the truth about abortion.