

Psalm 139:13–16 (ESV)

- 13 For you formed my inward parts;
you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
- 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
my soul knows it very well.
- 15 My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
- 16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance;
in your book were written, every one of them,
the days that were formed for me,
when as yet there was none of them.

Introduction

Psalm 139 affirms the sanctity of human life by highlighting God's intimate involvement in every aspect of creation. David reflects on God's omniscience and omnipresence, marveling at the deep knowledge and care God extends to each person. The psalm emphasizes that human life is not accidental but a deliberate act of divine craftsmanship, with God intricately forming each individual with purpose and love.

This recognition of life as "fearfully and wonderfully made" underscores the inherent value and dignity of every person. It calls us to honor and protect life at all stages, cherishing each individual as a unique reflection of God's creative work. The psalm inspires a deep reverence for life, affirming that every human being is sacred and precious in God's eyes.

2. Reflection and Discussion:

- 1. How do these verses speak to the way God creates each person?**
 - Think about the intentionality and care with which God formed you and everyone else.

2. What does it mean that you are "fearfully and wonderfully made"?

- Reflect on how God created you with purpose and beauty. How does this affect the way you view your own life?

3. Why is life sacred according to Psalm 139?

- Consider that life is sacred because it is God's work, and He is intimately involved in creating us.

3. Key Ideas from Psalm 139:

- **God is the Creator and Sustainer of Life:** God creates us. He is not distant but intricately involved in our lives from the moment of conception.
- **The Sanctity of Life:** Since God is the Creator, all human life is sacred. Each life has inherent value and dignity because it is designed by God.
- **God's Sovereignty:** God knows us completely. Our life is not a mistake but a purpose-filled creation that God is sovereign over, from beginning to end.
- **Imago Dei (Image of God):** The doctrine of Imago Dei teaches that human life begins at conception. All humans are our neighbors, and we are called to love, protect, and lead them to Christ.

4. Application: How to Honor the Sanctity of Life

Reflect on these questions and apply the truths of Psalm 139 to your life:

1. How can we honor God by respecting the sanctity of life?

- Consider practical ways to treat others with kindness, protect life at all stages, and support those who are vulnerable.

2. What can we do in our community to advocate for the sanctity of life?

- Think about ways you can be a voice for life, whether that's through support for pro-life organizations, speaking out for the unborn, or caring for the elderly, disabled, or marginalized.

5. Personal Prayer and Reflection:

End your study time by reflecting in prayer. Use these prompts to guide your prayer:

- Thank God for creating you with such care and purpose.

- Ask God to help you respect and honor the sanctity of life in your actions.
- Pray for wisdom in how to support and protect life in your community.

Memory Verse:

Psalm 139:14 – "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."

Resolution: On The Sanctity of Human Life

The Southern Baptist Convention 2015

WHEREAS, Biblical revelation clearly and consistently affirms that human life is formed by God in His image and is therefore worthy of honor and dignity (Genesis 1:27; 9:6); and

WHEREAS, God alone is the Author of life and He alone numbers our days, from the moment of conception until natural death (Job 14:5–7; Psalm 39:4); and

WHEREAS, The Bible commands us to honor our parents and the aged (Exodus 20:12; Leviticus 19:32; Ephesians 6:2); and

WHEREAS, The Baptist Faith & Message (2000) affirms that “children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord” and calls us to “speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death”; and

WHEREAS, An estimated fifty-seven million unborn babies have been aborted since the legalization of abortion in 1973 (Roe v. Wade); and

WHEREAS, Legislation or court rulings have effectively legalized physician-assisted suicide in several states and additional states are considering similar action; and

WHEREAS, Recent federal directives seek to compel religious organizations to provide coverage for abortifacient technologies and services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Columbus, Ohio, June 16–17, 2015, affirm the dignity and sanctity of human life at all stages of development, from conception to natural death; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we reaffirm our repudiation of the genocide of legalized abortion in the United States and call on civil authorities to enact laws that defend the lives of the unborn; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we welcome and commend legislation that ensures that all mothers will be fully informed by medical providers of the life development of their unborn children; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call on our fellow citizens of good will to collaborate with us on behalf of justice, the protection of human life, and the cause of human flourishing; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage Southern Baptists to continue and to expand their local ministries that care for and protect the unborn, the vulnerable, and the aged; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call on Southern Baptist churches and entities to show the love of Christ through appropriate means to those women most vulnerable to the victimization of the abortion industry, and to show grace and mercy to those individuals who grieve with repentance over past abortions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call on our churches and all believers to care for the elderly among us, to show them honor and dignity, and to prayerfully support and counsel those who are providing end-of-life care for the aged, the terminally ill, and the chronically infirmed; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we commend the efforts of our denominational entities, especially The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, in the defense and protection of human life at every stage; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we pray and work for the repeal of unjust laws and inhumane practices that degrade human life, all the while looking toward the day when our Lord will make all things new and “Death will no longer exist; grief, crying, and pain will exist no longer, because the previous things have passed away” (Revelation 21:4).