

WHAT'S YOUR PART IN THE PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT?

Discovering your role in the pro-life movement is a process of discernment that involves prayer, patience and faith. As you seek to understand the role God has chosen for you, consider a few of the ways you can make a difference.

PRAY. Ask God on a daily basis to protect innocent children from abortion, to bring healing to those who have experienced an abortion, to strengthen pro-life ministry workers, to bring conversion to those involved in the abortion industry, to embolden church leaders and to give our lawmakers and judges wisdom.

EDUCATE YOURSELF SO YOU CAN EDUCATE OTHERS. Become knowledgeable on pro-life topics by reading books and literature, listening to audio recordings and attending pro-life events.

BETTER ALTERNATIVES. Provide compassionate help to those at risk of abortion by volunteering for your local pregnancy center, adoption agency or maternity home. Spread the word about the availability of these lifesaving alternatives and support their crucial work.

PREVENTION. Teach young people about the importance of chastity and help them avoid falling into a promiscuous lifestyle that can lead to heartbreak, pain and abortion.

POST-ABORTION HEALING. If you have been through the pain of abortion, seek the help of healing ministries like Rachel's Vineyard.

GET THE WORD OUT. Spread the pro-life message across your community by writing letters to the editor of your local newspaper, joining the discussion on a talk show, writing media releases to get news coverage or by raising money to run a pro-life advertisement.

REMOVE FUNDING FROM ABORTION PROVIDERS. Learn what businesses underwrite Planned Parenthood so you can make better buying decisions. A trustworthy list can be obtained by calling Life Decisions (540 631-0380). Let these companies know what you think and ask them to stop funding the abortion chain that kills their future customer base. Ask your elected officials to stop funding Planned Parenthood every year with \$272 million in taxes by signing the petition at: www.StopPlannedParenthoodTaxFunding.com.

GET INVOLVED AT YOUR CHURCH. Get involved with the Respect Life committee at St. Francis; the local Knights of Columbus Council, and/or Hilton Head Citizens for Life.

LEGISLATIVE EFFORT. Become knowledgeable on candidates and proposed laws. Contact your elected officials to let them know what you think.

ASSIST ORGANIZATIONS. Use your skills from business, government or non-profit work to help grow pro-life organizations. Team-building, strategic planning, working with volunteers, committees and boards, public relations and technology all have tremendous value to the pro-life movement.

TEACHING AND SERVING. Believers must be able to articulate the pro-life message in purely secular, rational truths as well as in Gospel terms. In fact, in every sphere of human knowledge – including psychology, sociology, genetics, medicine, law and philosophy – the arguments line up on the pro-life side. Abortion advocates have run out of arguments, which is why they speak more and more of abortion as a decision “between a woman and her God.” They appeal to God as a *substitute* for any other arguments. We, on the contrary, appeal to God as the *basis* for every other argument. We can adapt our message to our audience.

In serving, we use both word and deed. Providing alternatives to abortion and giving a young woman who is tempted to abort her child the hope and strength to say yes to life does not necessarily start with a religious message. But when we show her who the child is and assure her that she is not alone and that people are ready to help her and her baby, we are introducing her to Christ. When we heal someone of the wounds of abortion, we make use of the best tools and insights psychology has to offer. Even before Christ is proclaimed, she is experiencing His presence. Both before and after His name is used, she is encountering Him.