



Dear Friend:

Greetings from Focus on the Family! A new school year is upon us — but it looks drastically different for millions of children around the country. The COVID-19 pandemic remains a concern, cases are spiking in certain states, and researchers are racing to find a vaccine.

Even as we all pray for an end to the coronavirus — and the saving of many lives — our ministry remains as dedicated as ever to defending the lives of preborn babies. Advocating for the sanctity of human life often feels like an uphill battle in our modern-day culture. As I mentioned in last month's letter, the Supreme Court's decision in *June Medical Services v. Russo* struck a tough blow to the pro-life community. By rejecting a requirement that Louisiana abortionists obtain admitting privileges at local hospitals, the Court opted not to safeguard the health of women who might require emergency medical care after suffering complications from abortion procedures.

Developments such as these are heartbreaking, to put it mildly — but they also serve to galvanize us into action. This is the moment where Christians need to stand up, speak up and pray to change the hearts and minds of people. It is happening, but we can do more and this is the time to take your stand for life. Now more than ever, it's imperative that all of us who love and cherish life stand in the gap for preborn babies. Focus on the Family is here to give you the voice to tell those in power that the people they serve value life.

With that goal in mind, we're delighted to offer a "sequel" to last year's "Alive from New York" event. Some 20,000 people joined us in New York City's Times Square for this celebration of life. Many more watched via livestream. In all, over 100,000 people viewed the historic event. Giant digital screens set up in Times Square displayed Abby Johnson's son in utero — and as he waved his tiny arms and legs and even yawned, there was simply no mistaking that we were all watching a living, fully human baby.

SEE LIFE 2020 is September 26

In this very unusual election year, the one-hour special, called SEE LIFE 2020, will be streamed on Saturday, September 26. In addition to sharing powerful stories highlighting the value of preborn life, we'll feature notable guests such as Dr. Alveda King, Candace Owens, Benjamin Watson, Mike Singletary, Abby Johnson, and a number of award-winning musicians.

And, of course, we'll show 4D ultrasound images of a precious baby in the womb.

SEE LIFE 2020 is sure to be an uplifting, inspiring production, and I hope you'll be able to tune in! Please also join us in praying God will use this exciting campaign to **#LoveEveryHeartbeat** to open many eyes to the beauty and priceless worth of preborn life.

Here's what you can do to speak up for life and **#LoveEveryHeartbeat**:

- Sign the Pledge to **#LoveEveryHeartbeat** at FocusOnTheFamily.com/SeeLife. Share the link with friends and family.
- Tune in on September 26 and join us for this life-changing event. You can host a viewing party and invite neighbors, friends and others.
- Give to rescue babies from abortion through our *Option Ultrasound* program. Every \$60 you share saves a life!

(over, please)

As even more people embrace the truth about life from the moment of conception, it stands to reason that greater numbers of women facing unplanned pregnancies will receive compassionate care and support from those around them.

Choosing life!

With that aim in mind, I've spoken many times about my admiration for the dedicated teams working at pregnancy centers around the country. These dynamic ministries are coming alongside frightened mothers-to-be every day, and in doing so they are saving countless lives. Here's just one of many stories showcasing the vital outreach these centers are carrying out:

A young couple first came to us last fall. At ages 18 and 19, they were living alternately in their car and in hotels when they found out they were expecting. Though they were excited about the prospect of having a baby, they were also nervous; after all, many days they had to choose between buying gas and eating. Feeling like they had nowhere to turn and very limited resources, they decided to have an abortion.

After finding our center through an internet search, this young couple came in for an appointment determined to have an abortion. However, as our nurse manager spoke with the expectant mom, she was able to educate her about the different options available other than abortion. She also provided the couple with a free ultrasound, at which point they discovered they were 24 weeks along!

After learning of our supportive services and practical assistance, this couple realized abortion wasn't their only option. They chose life.

As they moved through their Learn & Earn program with a mentor, they made great progress toward being more self-sufficient. The pair moved back to Idaho to be closer to their baby's grandmother, and they married on June 3. The expectant dad found a steady job and was recently given a promotion. And, best of all, on June 24 their daughter was born. The proud mom shared this:

"We couldn't be happier with our little angel. If it weren't for all of the pregnancy center staff members helping us out in our time of need, we wouldn't be parents today. We would probably still be struggling to save our pennies just to get through the days. I'm glad I went into the center and I'm glad that I can say I'm the mother of a very healthy and beautiful baby girl."

Testimonials like this demonstrate the hope that is so often found at pregnancy centers all over the nation – and we're grateful to have equipped many of them with ultrasound machines and sonography training. Through our *Option Ultrasound* program, your support equips pregnancy medical clinics with state-of-the-art ultrasound machines, nurses' sonography training, and more to help moms see the child growing inside of them and hear that tiny heartbeat. Ultrasounds have proven to be one of the most effective ways by which expectant women are coming to realize they're carrying not just a "blob of tissue," but a distinct, precious life.

In addition to stories we receive from pregnancy centers, we often hear directly from young women who tell us that not only did they make the decision to carry their babies to term, but Focus has played a role in helping them raise those babies to love and serve the Lord. Kymberlee from California shared this moving account:

I found out I was pregnant the latter part of my senior year. My family was extremely disappointed. I had been planning to attend a top university on the East Coast — and eventually to go to Europe and have a career in the international business world of accounting and finance. Well, pregnant teenagers don't do that.

(next page, please)

I was given one option by my family and my boyfriend's family: abortion. I refused. I was a Christian. I knew I had sinned, but I knew taking an innocent life was something I could never forgive myself for. Since I took this hard stance I had to find a new place to live.

I was blessed to have a wonderful lady in my life (I call her my "aunt") who took me in and encouraged me. She said I could reside with her and keep my baby. I applied to college very late and had no hope that I would be accepted, but God worked a miracle – I was accepted to a top state university. I ended up going into labor early and delivered at seven months. I was so scared. I had no idea how to take care of a baby. I read every book I could get my hands on. My "aunt" was a great source of help, and my family finally forgave me. However, I still struggled with how to raise a child. I prayed and prayed. A friend babysat my daughter as I attended college.

During the first week of my spring semester I was driving to school and was flipping radio channels. By divine appointment I stumbled upon 99.5 FM (Salem Media's KKLA). John MacArthur was speaking. I was mesmerized and hated to leave my car for class. So after attending my first course I ran back to my car to listen. Lo and behold, Focus on the Family was on. I cried. I cried because I knew God had answered my prayer. He was telling me that I could raise a godly child, and here's how it's done.

I was hooked. I even scheduled my classes so I could listen to Focus on the Family daily. That was 1986. Throughout the ensuing years I would be encouraged by Focus on the Family's broadcasts, books, and resources. The Strong-Willed Child was my "bible" in addition to the Bible!

Thank you for offering hope to a single 18-year-old mother. My daughter is now a beautiful young woman who loves the Lord. On behalf of single moms, I say "thank you" for being a beacon of hope.

I'm so encouraged to know that the Lord orchestrated Kymberlee's divine appointment with Focus' radio broadcast at a time when she was desperately seeking wisdom and guidance. After all, coming alongside those in need of family-related help is the very heart and soul of our mission. We regularly receive testimonials from those who share about a broadcast that spoke powerfully to them at precisely the right moment, or a phone representative who prayed with them during a difficult time, or a counselor who pointed them to relevant and effective referrals and materials during a crisis.

A surprise ending . . .

We consider it a privilege to assist those who contact us for help, and we rejoice every time we learn of babies who have been saved as a result of our partnership with pregnancy centers. Allow me to share one final story, which we received from a medical pregnancy center we've had the privilege of partnering with through the *Option Ultrasound* program:

I love what Ryan Bomberger says: "Sometimes the best things in life are unplanned." Every day we experience the decisions of moms and dads grappling with unplanned children.

"Shirley," a mom in her 30s, drove from northern Florida to have a late-term abortion because they were not available in her city. Little did she know she would have a divine encounter with John Barros, who stands faithfully in front of that clinic. Shirley had a scheduled abortion because her new husband of one year was physically and emotionally abusive and she decided she could not have this child. Her father sent her with the money for a 23-week abortion. She felt drawn to John and his care for her, and after an ultrasound which showed little to no picture she asked for a refund.

As we talked with Shirley about her choices her heart began to soften even more as she considered the decisions she would need to make for a healthier life. Little did she know – and little did we know – that when we performed the ultrasound there would be two babies instead of one. Shirley was shocked and

(over, please)

began to sob. She continued to say over and over, "Look what I would have done. Thank you so much!"

She was so thankful the Lord brought her here and used John to be a voice to make it happen. This was a divine encounter never to be forgotten. We are staying in touch as Shirley gets the help she needs and prepares to deliver her beautiful babies!

What a great way to wrap up this month's update! Shirley's account is especially meaningful to me, because it reminds me that we never know how God might use us to change – or even save! – a life. John was simply standing peacefully in front of an abortion clinic, praying for the women and babies who were entering. He had no idea that he would cross paths with Shirley and have an opportunity to lovingly encourage her to reconsider the abortion she had planned.

Despite an abusive husband and a father who had placed the money in Shirley's hands to pay for an abortion, God had other plans. John's gracious and compassionate witness was used powerfully in a hurting woman's life – and, as a result, two tiny lives were saved and Shirley was spared the pain and remorse that inevitably follow an abortion.

You can save lives!

That's how we want to see the Church as a whole engage with frightened women who mistakenly believe that abortion is their only way forward. And that's what Focus is committed to doing, day in and day out, with the help of friends like you who make our efforts possible. We are winning in this effort, but so many more mothers need to hear this message.

Every \$60 you give helps save the life of one preborn baby through our *Option Ultrasound* program.
And now through a generous \$1.2 Million Matching Gift opportunity from friends like you who value life, your gift today will be DOUBLED, dollar for dollar!

That means your immediate gift will go TWICE AS FAR to save moms and babies from the pain of abortion and help make SEE LIFE 2020 happen! Will you share a generous gift today to help this important lifesaving work continue?

Your gift today will not only save lives through the *Option Ultrasound* program, you'll also reveal to the world a baby through SEE LIFE 2020!

Even as we minister to abortion-minded women, help foster strong marriages, and equip parents in their roles, we want to serve you in any way we're able as well. Would you call us at 1-800-A-FAMILY (232-6459) if there's something we can do to assist you and your loved ones?

May God be with you as we head into the fall season. Blessings and peace to you and yours!



Jim Daly
President

P.S. Will you join us in revealing life to the world through our *Option Ultrasound* program and SEE LIFE 2020? **Remember, your best gift today will be DOUBLED to save even more babies from abortion through our \$1.2 Million Matching opportunity.** I invite you to visit FocusOnTheFamily.com/SeeLife for more information about our exciting event on September 26!

FAMILY FOCUS[®]

FOR OUR PARTNERS IN FAMILY MINISTRY

SEPTEMBER 2020



FOCUS ON THE FAMILY[®]
SEE Life[™]
2020

Double your gift

to end abortion and
#LoveEveryHeartbeat!

There was more than one life at stake when Madison* walked through the doors of the pregnancy medical clinic.

Overwhelmed by her unexpected pregnancy, she was strongly considering abortion. Madison worried she couldn't handle the responsibilities of being a mom and thought abortion was the answer.

What the expectant mom didn't know was that her baby wasn't the only life

an abortion would destroy. She was also placing *her own life* at the mercy of the abortion industry.

At Focus on the Family we've heard from many moms who say the pain, guilt and regret of choosing an abortion stayed with them for the rest of their lives! Their pain is very real . . . and their lives matter, too.

Through your support of Focus on the Family, you can love every

heartbeat — moms like Madison and their babies!

Madison arrived at the pregnancy medical clinic for a free ultrasound confused. Then she saw something that made it all crystal clear. . .

During the ultrasound, she heard two tiny

"SEE LIFE 2020!" continued on page 2 ▶

INSIDE
THIS ISSUE

Daly Focus
by Jim Daly

Life Update: You still have
time to help others SEE LIFE!

Adaptability
in parenting





Daly Focus

By Jim Daly, President

God works in mysterious ways

You never know how God will use your actions to save lives. I've shared this story in a blog before, but I want to bless you with it again.

David* is a police officer and a military veteran. A brave and courageous guy, he's also a husband and father of three children. David's not a Christian.

A friend was only recently telling him about our efforts to save babies from abortion. David listened politely and went on with his day.

After that, David was driving his beat when he saw a young woman speeding. He pulled her over. Emily* was crying. He did his best to calm her down and she told him that she was on her way to a Planned Parenthood clinic to abort the baby she was carrying.

David could tell Emily was in no condition to drive. He offered to drive her to a friend's house.

The police officer remembered his conversation with my friend and asked the young woman if she might consider waiting 24 hours and think over her decision. He told her about Focus on the Family.

David handed Emily his card and encouraged the young woman to let him know what she had decided to do.

One day later, David did receive a call from Emily. She shared that she had decided to not go through with the abortion!

Both a mother and child were saved that day! God can use anyone to accomplish his purposes. How can he use you today?

Jim

“See Life 2020!” *Continued from page 1*

but strong heartbeats and saw not one baby, but two! TWINS!

“I found out I'm having twins and I got to hear the heartbeats!” Madison shares. When she saw the lives growing inside of her, Madison was no longer uncertain. She chose life.

“I am so grateful to everyone,” she says. Three lives were saved that day when Madison was able to see life clearly. That is the difference you are making through your support of the *Option Ultrasound™* program.

Your gifts help equip pregnancy medical clinics like the one Madison visited with ultrasound machines and nurses' sonography training to help moms see the child growing inside of them and hear the heartbeat. This saves lives!

It takes just \$60 to save the life of a preborn baby through our *Option Ultrasound* program. **And now through**

**Name changed to protect identity.*

a \$1.2 Million Matching opportunity, your gift will be DOUBLED, dollar for dollar, to save twice the babies from abortion!

Your gift will also make our SEE LIFE™ 2020 event on September 26 possible. It will be an online transformational pro-life event featuring compelling pro-life stories, speakers, musical guests and an eye-opening ultrasound of a baby.

Go to FocusOnTheFamily.com/SeeLife for more details on the event and to voice your support for God's gift of every life by signing the PLEDGE to *#LoveEveryHeartbeat*.

Every single life is a God-given treasure. He loves every heartbeat! You can stand with us for the sanctity of human life today! ■

He Said, She Said On *Reconnecting*

Pursue your spouse

With Dr. Greg and Erin Smalley



This month, Dr. Greg and Erin Smalley continue the discussion of reconnecting with your spouse by addressing ways you can pursue your loved one.

GREG: Something that has been on our hearts lately is this topic of husbands and wives who have grown apart. So many times the busyness of life can cause couples to lose their special connection and seem more like roommates than soulmates.

ERIN: Many couples say they find themselves in a place of schedules, finances and managing a household without real connection. We've been guilty of that as well. What we've learned is that you have to be intentional about pursuing those deeper places . . . the heart connections. That won't happen spontaneously. You have to pursue each other.

GREG: Erin and I have interviewed about a thousand couples with this in mind and discovered that there are a few different reasons that people feel this distancing, including busyness, exhaustion, neglect, living separate lives, sexless marriage, feeling unsafe and not feeling a spiritual oneness.

ERIN: There are some simple ways you can start rebuilding that closeness. One is make time for each other. It doesn't have to be a lot of time, just time without interruptions—drinking a quick cup of coffee together, reading the Bible together, or even watching a show together.

GREG: Another is to have conversations occasionally that don't involve the kids or managing the household. Don't just “administrat[e] your marriage” during these moments. Talk about your dreams, passions and visions. And show an interest in what is important to your spouse.



FOCUS ON THE FAMILY® BROADCAST

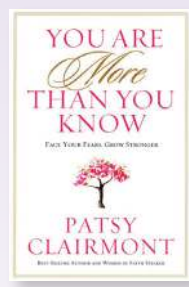
The broadcast schedule is subject to change. Listen to the Focus on the Family® Broadcast on your local radio station, your mobile device or online. If you've missed one of these broadcasts, listen online at FocusOnTheFamily.com/Broadcast.

Broadcasts are brought to you by our partners — you!

Feature Guest: Patsy Clairmont



With her trademark humor, author and speaker Patsy Clairmont will show you how to move from a fear-based life to faith-based freedom. She shares how she overcame her own deliberating fears and how you can face your own anxieties and worries.



Use the enclosed response card to mark your gift and book request or go to FocusOnTheFamily.com/YouAreMoreThanYouKnow20

DATE	TITLE	GUEST
8/31-9/1	Cherish Your Wife I & II	Dr. Walt Larimore
9/2-9/3	Honoring the Preborn: Cerian's Story I & II	Mrs. Sarah Williams
9/4	Living Boldly for Christ in School	Miss Emma Mae Jenkins
9/7	Hope for Teen Moms	Mr. John and Mrs. Tricia Goyer
9/8	Connecting with Your Busy Spouse	Mr. Mark and Mrs. Susan Merrill
9/9-9/10	How God Saved Me from Suicide I & II	Mrs. Lacey Sturm
9/11	Being a Champion to Your Grandkids	Mr. Carey Casey
9/14	Overcoming by God's Grace	Mr. Mike Singletary
9/15	Replacing Panic with God's Peace	Mrs. Patsy Clairmont
9/16	Abortion Pill Reversal	Dr. Bill Lile and Mrs. Rebekah Buell Hagan
9/17-9/18	Cultivating Love in Blended Families I & II	Dr. Gary Chapman and Mr. Ron Deal
9/21 & 9/22	Conveying God's Love Through Discipline I & II	Mr. Jim and Mrs. Lynne Jackson
9/23	Game-Changing Marriage and Money Insights	Mr. Jeff and Mrs. Shaunti Feldhahn
9/24-9/25	A Former Abortionist's Journey to Becoming Pro-Life I & II	Dr. Anthony and Mrs. Cecelia Levatino
9/28	TBA	
9/29-30	Helping Your Teens Retain Their Faith I & II	Mr. David Kinnaman and Mr. Mark Matlock

** The broadcast schedule is subject to change.*

DATE	TITLE	GUEST
10/1	Making Your Marriage a High Priority	Mr. Kirk and Mrs. Chelsea Cameron
10/2	Rising Above the Labels that Bind You	Mrs. Esther Fleece Allen
10/5	Discovering God is Enough	Mrs. Chonda Pierce
10/6-10/7	Being a Good Steward of God's Blessings I & II	Dr. Tony Evans
10/8	Shouting the Worth of Every Person	Mrs. Heather Avis
10/9	Simple Steps to Improve Your Marriage	Mr. Matt and Mrs. Lisa Jacobson
10/12-10/13	Does Living Together Help or Hurt? I & II	Dr. David Gudge
10/14	Forgiveness and Healing for Post-Abortive Women	Mrs. Lindsay Christensen
10/15	Setting a Godly Example for the Culture	Pastor Brady Boyd
10/16	TBA	
10/19-10/20	Hope and Help for Weary Moms I & II	Mrs. Deb Weakly, Mrs. Mari Jo Mast, and Mrs. Krystle Porter
10/21-10/22	Trusting God to Redeem Your Broken Marriage I & II	Mr. David and Mrs. Kirsten Samuel
10/23	Getting a Handle on Anger	Mrs. Deborah Pegues
10/26	TBA	
10/27-10/28	Sharing Wisdom with the Next Generation I & II	Mr. Rob Parsons
10/29-10/30	Finding Freedom from Addiction I & II	Dr. Gregory Jantz

LIFE UPDATE

You still have time to help others SEE LIFE!

Our September 26 SEE LIFE 2020 online event is fast approaching, and our movement to stop abortion and to #LoveEveryHeartbeat has begun. We are praying that this celebration of life—featuring testimonies, speakers, musical guests and an ultrasound of a baby—will help people across the country and around the world see God's gift of life!

Be sure to join us on September 26 and tell others about this transformational event. Here are some other ways you can get involved:

- Pray for the SEE LIFE 2020 event. Pray that eyes and hearts will be opened to the gift of life God has provided. Pray for mothers and babies who are vulnerable to abortion. Pray for our nation's leaders and those in the judicial system to see life!

- Voice your support for God's gift of every life by signing the PLEDGE to #LoveEveryHeartbeat at FocusOnTheFamily.com/SeeLife. Stand with us for the sanctity of human life!
- Join the movement to reveal life and end abortion with a gift of support! Give now to save lives. Remember, every \$60 gift you share helps save the life of a preborn baby through our *Option Ultrasound* program. **And now, through a \$1.2 Million Matching opportunity right now, your gift will be DOUBLED, dollar for dollar, to rescue twice the babies from abortion!**



Parenting Corner with Danny Huerta



Adaptability in parenting

Danny Huerta is Focus on the Family's vice president of the Parenting and Youth department.

God has wired us to be transformed by being parents. And that happens through adaptability.

For example, a woman's brain literally goes through changes as you adapt to be a mom. In fact, women become a little more forgetful during those first years of giving birth. The brain is borrowing from those memory networks to create more sensitivity and attentiveness to the child. Studies have shown that a mom can pinpoint her child's cry in a room with multiple babies crying! Your oxytocin levels go up so you become more and more in love with this child . . . so much that you are willing to give up your life for your child.

For a dad, the transformation requires us to intentionally give up our time. As you spend more time with your young child, you become more transformed and changed by that. As you spend more time

with the child, your oxytocin levels rise and you become closer to that child and the child to you. You pick up on each other's signals. The more you are attached to your kids, your testosterone levels go down which makes you a lot more cooperative and sensitive.

We are constantly adapting to new stages of our kid as well. From diapers to school, each year you adapt to the new normal. I remember adapting to the diaper stage and being ok with the smell. You also learn to laugh at yourself as you adapt.

Ultimately, you are transformed by the reality that you become dependent on a God who is with you in this process of forming another soul. You are a co-creator in another human being. You adapt that you don't have everything under control so you must be dependent on God. Learn how to pray and adapt with God's help. ■

Option Ultrasound™

LIFE ADVOCATE

Rescue babies from abortion every month!

When you join our *Option Ultrasound Life Advocate* program as a loyal monthly supporter, you'll help save babies from abortion through efforts like our *Option Ultrasound* program.

As an *Option Ultrasound Life Advocate* member, you'll receive monthly updates that report on how you are helping us make an eternal impact with practical results for families, as well as special offers and resources.

To learn more go to
[FocusOnTheFamily.com/
LifeAdvocate](http://FocusOnTheFamily.com/LifeAdvocate)

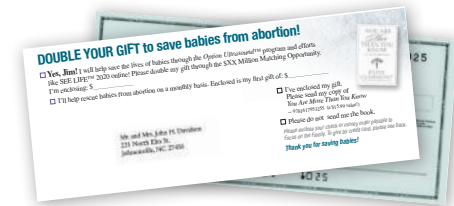


Hurry to save TWICE THE BABIES from abortion!

Please act now to be part of our SEE LIFE 2020 campaign to save moms and babies from the pain of abortion. You can love every heart beat with a gift of support to end abortion and save lives.

Every \$60 you send will help save the life of one preborn baby through our *Option Ultrasound* program. And now through a generous \$1.2 Million Matching Challenge opportunity from friends like you who value life, your gift today will be DOUBLED, dollar for dollar up to \$1.2 million!

That means your support will go twice as far to rescue babies from abortion through our *Option Ultrasound* program. You'll equip pregnancy medical clinics with state-of-the-art ultrasound machines, nurses' sonography training, and other grants to help moms see



Please be sure to include this form along with your gift.

the child growing inside of them and hear that tiny heartbeat.

You'll also be a part of our brand-new SEE LIFE 2020 initiative, culminating with an online, transformational pro-life event on September 26.

Use the enclosed reply form and envelope to return your generous gift or go to FocusOnTheFamily.com/SeeLife for more information. ■



Focus on the Family
8605 Explorer Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80920
FocusOnTheFamily.com
800-A-FAMILY (232-6459)
Help@FocusOnTheFamily.com