



Dear Friend,

Happy New Year from all your friends at Focus on the Family! Every time the calendar displays another new year, I'm taken aback by how quickly the time passes — even when we're facing difficult eras. To be sure, the last couple of years have been challenging in many ways for people across the globe, and I know how tempting it can be to hunker down and wait out the storm, so to speak. However, that's not Scripture's teaching. Instead, we're given this convicting exhortation in Ephesians 5:15-16: *"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil."*

While the days on this planet have been marked by sin, suffering, and corruption since the fall of mankind, I think it's hard to deny that evil seems to have gained an especially strong foothold in recent years. The basic understanding of gender and sexuality has been profoundly distorted, political strife and division have become rampant throughout society, social media and widespread internet use have ushered in the death of common courtesy and civility, and life itself has been devalued to the point that even precious children in the womb are viewed as inconvenient and expendable.

It's easy to become discouraged in the face of such significant moral and spiritual decline across the culture, but I want to assure you that there *is* good news! Aside from the fact that we can be assured our Father in heaven remains on the throne and continues to have wise, loving plans for His people, there are also hopeful indications that exciting things are happening in certain arenas. For one thing, we know that the Church always thrives under pressure. Throughout history, persecution and suffering have invariably strengthened the Body of Christ and added to its numbers, and we continue to see that trend today everywhere the Church is facing oppression to varying degrees.

PRO-LIFE IN LEGISLATION AND THE COURTS

Beyond that, did you know that the pro-life cause is picking up steam? You may have heard that legislation was recently signed into law in Texas prohibiting abortion once a heartbeat can be detected. This is one of the strongest pro-life laws signed to date — and although abortion advocates are vowing to fight every such law, it's clear there is a growing awareness that preborn babies are fully human and, therefore, deserving of protection.

You might also be familiar with the Supreme Court case, *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which was heard by the justices last month. This case relates to the constitutionality of Mississippi's 15-week abortion ban — and as this [case has the potential to lead to the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*](#), it is obviously in the national spotlight. Our own team and many other ministries and pro-life groups are following this crucial case with great interest.

The Court is expected to hand down their decision in June. Would you join us in praying that the justices would side with life in their ruling? Please also be praying that laws such as Texas' "heartbeat bill" would be upheld in the face of the constant legal challenges being brought against them.

Most of all, pray that eyes would be opened to the priceless value of each life in the womb.

Your support of Focus actively raises awareness about the pro-life cause (and many other family-

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related issues) through our advocacy efforts in the public policy realm. You make possible the articles and social media posts through *The Daily Citizen*, as well as cooperations with state-level policy councils around the country to help bring about change at the grassroots level.

However, I'm sure you agree that real societal transformation can only take place when individual hearts are touched and changed. That's where you are making a big difference.

REVEALING LIFE IN THE WOMB

Friends like you helped launch the *Option Ultrasound* program in 2004 because a picture truly is worth a thousand words — and because research bears out the profound impact on abortion-minded women when they see their babies on the sonogram screen.

The impact has been phenomenal! To date, nearly *half a million* precious little ones have been spared after their mothers saw their images via ultrasound machines you've helped to provide to pregnancy resource centers across the nation.

This collaboration with pregnancy resource centers throughout the United States is critical. By equipping centers with ultrasound machines and training, you've helped hundreds of thousands of women gain a glimpse of their little ones so that they're far more likely to choose life. Efforts are especially focused on facilities located in communities with high abortion rates, and I'm delighted to report that this approach is paying off in significant ways as the number of babies saved continues to grow!

Many of the pregnancy resource centers who benefit from the *Option Ultrasound* program share moving testimonies from those clinics. Following are two stories that recently reached us from Corbella Clinic in Illinois:

Jasmine called Planned Parenthood in a panic the day she found out she was pregnant. She intended to schedule an abortion appointment immediately, but upon discovering the cost of an abortion, she hung up. She searched online again, desperately looking for a solution. She came across an ad for Corbella Clinic and called right away. A medical consultation was scheduled for that same day and she arrived at the clinic with her mom and boyfriend. After receiving medical care and education about her options, Jasmine remained undecided but left with greater serenity than when she had first called.

Jasmine returned one week later for her second appointment and made a choice for life after seeing her baby via ultrasound again. This young mother attended two more weekly ultrasound appointments and continued to be at peace with her decision at her fourth ultrasound. She is grateful to have the support of her mom, as well as her boyfriend and his family.

*Many times, patients are stressed, overwhelmed, or feeling pressure at their first appointment. Weekly repeat appointments provide opportunities for women to experience their ultrasound and the education and care the nurse provides with a more open and relaxed disposition. It encourages them to slow down, think through their options, witness their baby's growth and development, and make an informed choice. Since beginning our patient process involving weekly appointments, **many women who initially came to Corbella determined to have an abortion changed their minds only after their third or fourth ultrasound appointment.** Ultrasound technology has always been a powerful tool for pregnancy clinics. With weekly ultrasounds offered, a mother's decision-making process is enhanced all the more by numerous*

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opportunities to encounter the life of her child in her womb.

Isn't that wonderful? All across America, women like Jasmine are deciding to carry their babies to term after encountering their precious sons and daughters on the sonogram screen. Here's another uplifting account from our friends at Corbella Clinic:

Jenna and Leo were both in graduate school and felt unprepared to have a child. When they learned Jenna was expecting, they chose to take the abortion pill. An ultrasound was performed by the abortion pill provider and the couple was told their baby was at five-and-a-half weeks' gestation. After that appointment, Jenna took the first abortion pill; however, she and Leo suffered immediate regret. Jenna searched online to see if there was any way to reverse the abortion pill. She quickly got in touch with Corbella Clinic, and the team helped her through the Abortion Pill Reversal protocol. At the same time, Jenna decided to share everything with her mom who was very supportive. Just one day after the ultrasound at the abortion provider, Jenna's ultrasound at Corbella showed a seven-week baby with a strong heartbeat! The abortion provider had not only been dishonest with Jenna and Leo about their baby's gestational age, but had also told them there was no way to reverse a chemical abortion. The couple was incredibly joyful upon seeing their little one in utero and left Corbella with several pictures of their unborn child in hand.

Because the pro-abortion forces in our culture are determined to convince people that abortion is a medical procedure like any other — rather than the taking of an innocent life — many frightened women like Jasmine and Jenna are deceived into believing abortion is their best and only option.

Ultrasound images, however, often speak louder than words. **Seeing an in-utero baby waving his tiny arms and legs, hiccupping, and yawning offers evidence of a powerful reality: preborn babies are babies.** They have inherent worth and value, and they need our protection. That's why we are grateful for friends like you who are passionately committed to defending life in the womb.

We're grateful beyond words to think of all the babies, children, and teens who are alive today thanks to the *Option Ultrasound* program you provide.

Recognizing the extraordinary impact of the *Option Ultrasound* program, several years ago we began to consider how we could expose even more people to the incredible, 4-D ultrasound images that are available today. This kind of "window into the womb" reveals, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that babies in utero are indeed human beings. They are not merely clumps of cells, nor are they "potential" humans. They are unique individuals created in the image of God and woven lovingly together in their mothers' wombs (Psalm 139:13).

In short, each and every preborn baby has been assigned by our Creator with incalculable worth and is entitled to life.

SEELIFE EVENTS

In light of this truth, we wanted simply to show the world a preborn baby. I've shared a number of times about Alive from New York, a live event we held in Times Square in May of 2019 that featured speakers, musicians, and a live ultrasound projected to the crowd on massive digital screens.

Alive from New York was such a resounding success that we decided to hold similar events in five

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separate U.S. cities the following year, but we were forced to convert those rallies to an online format due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For SeeLife 2021, your support helped release a series of six powerful pro-life videos every Friday starting in mid-July. These weekly episodes culminated in a live celebration in Dallas, Texas on August 28. Each year since we first began hosting our pro-life events, we've heard inspiring stories from those who have been influenced in amazing ways. Babies have been saved, post-abortive men and women have found healing and redemption, and families have been equipped and empowered to help advance the pro-life movement within their own spheres.

This year, we're excited to be hosting SeeLife 2022 in May — we'd love to have you join us if you're able! Keep an eye on our website for additional details (FocusOnTheFamily.com/prolife).

In the meantime, if you are facing an unexpected pregnancy or know someone who is, I hope you'll reach out to us. We have a team of caring counselors standing by, in addition to a wide range of resources tailored specifically to those who find themselves in this difficult situation. Simply dial 1-800-A-FAMILY (232-6459) or visit our website at FocusOnTheFamily.com. You can also send an email to Help@FocusontheFamily.com.

All these efforts to save lives is because of the generosity of friends like you who value life. And we are not yet done. Nearly a million babies will face abortion this year, unless you and I do something about it. We need your help to save as many innocent lives as possible! Every \$60 you send will help save the life of one preborn baby through our Option Ultrasound program. Your support will help us equip even more pregnancy resource centers to save babies, targeting high-risk regions with state-of-the-art machines, nurses training, and many other grants to build capacity in reaching more abortion-minded women.

I'm always grateful for the opportunity to supply you with an insider's look at our latest endeavors here at Focus. The gracious support of friends like you is indispensable as we carry on with the mission God has set before us. May His abundant blessings be yours!



Jim Daly
President

P.S. Please help us continue saving moms and babies from the pain of abortion with your gift today. Remember, it takes just \$60 to save a life through our *Option Ultrasound* program. Consider how many lives you can save today with your most generous gift. I hope to hear from you soon.