challenges of standing up for God's truth about life in high school or universities. We stand ready to provide resources.

We invite you to pray for the ministry of Lutherans For Life that the Lord of Life might continue to use us as His servants to equip His people to connect the Gospel to the life issues and raise up more Gospel-motivated voices For Life.

We also invite you and/or your congregation to financially support Lutherans For Life. We do not receive any funds from any Lutheran denomination. For more information about LFL and ways you can support this life-affirming ministry give us a call at 888.364.5433 or go online at www.lutheransforlife.org.

Thank you for viewing the *For Life* DVD and using this guide. We pray it has helped you understand that the life issues facing our society and the members of our congregations are much more than political issues. They are spiritual issues, and we are compelled to speak to them. But we have what it takes to do so—the Gospel of Jesus, the most powerful and positive life-affirming message in the universe!



Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life

## For Life DVD Study Guide

Good News FOR LIFE

## Before Viewing the DVD

Many Christians base their For Life stance on the Fifth Commandment, "You shall not murder." There is certainly a place for that. But Lutherans For Life (LFL) bases what it does on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the most powerful and positive life-affirming message in the universe. The Gospel truly is not just Good News, but Good News FOR LIFE!

But before viewing and discussing the DVD, we need to address a more fundamental question, "Why view it at all? Why should the Church be dealing with life issues? Aren't these political and social issues?" To answer this, look up the following verses and discuss what these have to do with human life.

Psalm 139:13-14; John 3:16; 1Timothy 2:4

From the above we learn that every human life has value because every human life is a life created by God, a life loved by God and for whom Jesus died, and a life God's Holy Spirit desires to call into an eternal relationship with Him. This lifts these issues way above the political and social realms and makes them spiritual issues. It makes them issues the Church is compelled to address; and we have what it takes to address them as no one else can, the Gospel of Jesus.

We do not uphold the value of human life because we live in a society that doesn't, but because we serve a God who does. We are not For Life just because life is precious, but because it is precious to God. In other words, we are FOR LIFE because God is FOR LIFE! This is the starting point for Lutherans For Life.

## View the DVD

Discuss the Following: Dr. Lamb states that the Gospel is "tailor

www.lutheransforlife.org • 888.364.LIFE • info@lutheransforlife.org

made for issues of life and death, pain and suffering, regret and guilt." With this in mind, read the following passages from that great Gospel message in Romans 8.

Romans 8:1-4, 15-17, 26-28, 31-39

Discuss briefly how these verses might relate to those dealing with a crisis pregnancy, those facing difficult decisions or a chronic or terminal illness, or those minimally conscience, or those who have made regrettable mistakes when it comes to life.

How did little Noah's baptism relate to that "Baby born for a baby" and to "angels rejoicing in heaven"? (See Romans 6:3-4; 1 Peter 3:21)

When we look at human life through the "lenses of the Gospel" that Dr. Gibbs mentions, what do we see? (Matthew 18:1-10, 25:40; Romans 6:10)

Discuss Pastor Yaw's comment that Jesus was a man "stuck to a tree for those stuck in difficult situations." (See 1 John 4:9-10; Romans 8:32.)

Where does the world point us for rescue from our problems?

Discuss this quote from Martin Luther's *Large Catechism*: "Does your heart cling to something else from which it hopes to receive more good and help than from God, then you have an idol, another god" (Tappert, 368, 28). Can death become our god that we look to for rescue?

Does the Bible see death as our "friend" and "rescuer"? (Romans 6:23a; 1 Corinthians 15:26)

Discuss why some may be reluctant to counter the culture of death with the For Life message of the Gospel? How do the following verses relate to this? (Ephesians 4:14-15, 5:6-11)

Is there more to countering the culture of death than just calling wrong things wrong? (James 1:22-25, 2:14-17; Galatians 6:2)

If we turn to the god of death to solve our problems, is there a way back? (1 John 1:5-9)

Discuss this question: If we never talk about the sin of abortion in our churches, will those who have had one ever hear the Gospel applied to their sin?

To accomplish our mission of "Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel motivated voices For Life," and to reach our vision of "Every Lutheran congregation upholding the God-given value of human life and influencing society to do the same," LFL has three major initiatives:

**Renewal For Life**<sup>®</sup> – Equipping Lutheran *congregations* to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.

Discuss how your congregation might do better at addressing the life issues as part of your ongoing Gospel ministry. Give us a call. We can provide encouragement, direction, and training.

**Teaching For Life**® – Equipping Lutheran *educators* and *students* to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.

Discuss how your congregation might incorporate the For Life message into your school, Sunday school, confirmation classes, adult classes, and other educational opportunities. We have resources to help.

**Generations For Life** – Equipping Lutheran *young people* to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.

Discuss how your congregation might reach out to young people to encourage and support them as they face the