

January 2020



www.lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

National Right to Life (NRLC) has released its latest statistics of reported annual abortions from 1973-2017. Based on data from the Guttmacher Institute and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and estimating figures for subsequent years (2018-2019), NRLC reports 60,754,254 abortions have been performed in the United States since 1973. A few key findings from the data: Both the CDC and Guttmacher show significant recent drops and sustained declines over the last 25 years; Guttmacher says there were 18.3 abortions for every 100 pregnancies ending in live birth or abortion in 2016, 18.4 for 2017, lower abortion ratios than any since 1972; Guttmacher says the number of abortion “providers” has dropped from a high of 2,918 in 1982 to 1,587 in 2017; the percentage performed with chemical abortifacients like mifepristone rose from 16.5% in 2008 to 39.4% in 2017. (NRL News Today, 11/18/19; CLR LifeWire, 11/21/19)

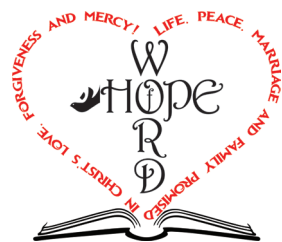
Speaking up For Life

“For Christians, then, ‘too many people’ is impossible. Each additional person affords another opportunity to love and give in the way that brings God Himself the highest joys. And in the neediness of every neighbor more, we encounter and embrace Christ Jesus (Matthew 25:40).” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life*

“If God places such high value on life—*all life* (John 3:16)—how can we possibly be less concerned? We do love others because He first loved us (1 John 4:19). We speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves (Proverbs 31:8) because when we had no voice, no standing, no defense, Jesus stepped in on our behalf. There is no way we can be less loving.” *Christian Life Resources*

“The most fundamental fact of modern biology is that your body is in a continual state of change and development from cradle to grave. Yet, through all the changes, your identity remains the same.” *Rev. Jonathan Lange, District Life Coordinator for the Wyoming District LCMS*

For those who have had an abortion—a **Word of Hope**.



888.217.8679
www.word-of-hope.org



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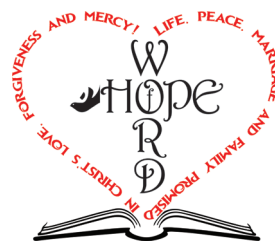
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“Did God Really Say ... ?”

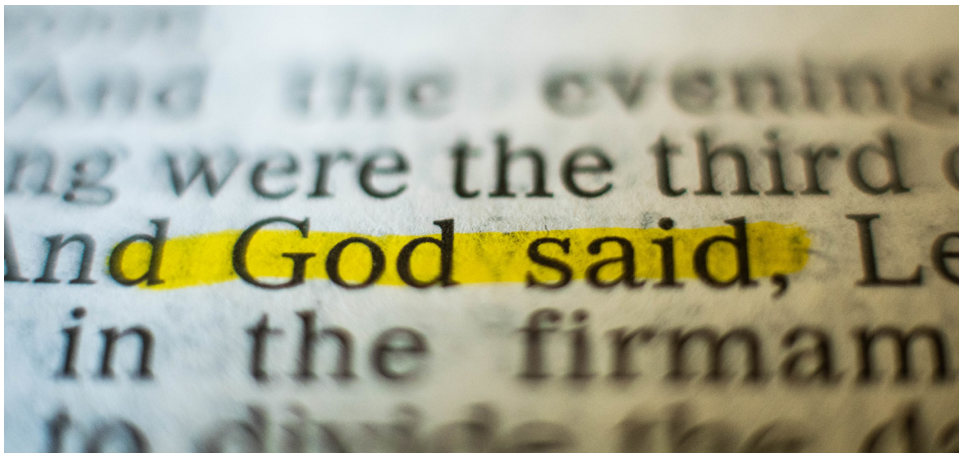
by Pastor Michael Salemink

It is a serpent’s nature to twist and hide. The devil even does it with the Word of the Lord. And he succeeds in deceiving, not because of his wealth of wisdom but rather our lack of listening. Satan spits a mist of expert assertions and popular opinions; whips up the dust of social conditions and emotional circumstances; and makes multitudes believe life issues are “complicated,” “political,” and “personal.”

Thanks be to God that wherever the father of lies raises suspicions, the Son of God puts His pierced foot down with promises that lay the foundation upon which we may stand with confidence and fall with comfort.

- Did God *really* say His grace in creating, redeeming, and calling makes every human life His precious treasure forever? **Yes!**
- Did God *really* say we need abortion, assisted suicide, and embryo experiments to alleviate our afflictions? **No!**
- Did God *really* say surprise pregnancies bring blessings and terminal diagnoses have righteous purpose? **Yes!**
- Did God *really* say the Gospel of Jesus Christ works joy and hope except amid our sins and sufferings? **No!**
- Did God *really* say His truth and love prevail for unborn and elderly lives as well as well as abortion advocates and euthanasia enthusiasts? **Yes!**
- Did God *really* say speaking His truth and showing His love heal all hearts but the ones that participate in violence against life? **No!**
- Did God *really* say we may receive as a gift and privilege every member of the human race that achieves a certain age, appearance, or ability? **No!**
- Did God *really* say these restrictions and reassurances apply even in political controversies and personal choices? **Yes!**

“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life” (John 6:68b).



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