## ****Tough Questions – Biblical Answers: What Does God Say About Abortion?****

**Duration:** 60–75 minutes  
**Target Group:** Adults (small group or Bible class setting)  
**Objective:** To engage in a thoughtful, Scripture-based discussion about the topic of abortion, incorporating biblical theology, scientific evidence, and moral reasoning.

### 📊 ****Opening Statistics (5 min)****

“Abortion is the most frequently performed operation in the United States. In 1980, 1.5 million abortions were performed — nearly one-third of all pregnancies ended in abortion.”  
(Source: George F. Will, cited in study material)

* Since the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, an estimated **25 million abortions** had occurred by the time of writing.
* Discuss: **What do these statistics reveal about the importance of discussing abortion from a biblical perspective?**

### 📖 ****Part I: The Biblical Foundation of Personhood (15 min)****

**Key Scriptures:**

* **Genesis 1:27** – “God created mankind in his own image…”
* **Psalm 139:13-16** – David describes God’s involvement in his prenatal development.
* **Luke 1:41-44** – John the Baptist leaps in the womb; Jesus is referred to as “my Lord” while still unborn.

**Discussion Points:**

* What does it mean to be made in God’s image?
* Does Scripture support the idea of personhood beginning at conception?
* How do these verses challenge modern views of when life begins?

### 🧠 ****Part II: Theological & Ethical Questions (15 min)****

**Topic: “Is abortion ever justified?”**

**Biblical Basis:**

* **Exodus 20:13** – “You shall not murder.”
* **Exodus 21:22-25** – Misinterpreted to allow abortion, but actually affirms equal value of mother and child.
* **Galatians 5:20** – The Greek “pharmakeia” (sorcery) historically linked to abortion-inducing drugs.

**Guided Discussion:**

* What’s the difference between **legal** and **moral**?
* Is there a biblical case for distinguishing between “innocent” and “guilty” life?
* Why is it important to see abortion as a spiritual, not just political, issue?

### 🧬 ****Part III: The Medical Perspective (10 min)****

**Scientific Highlights from Study Material:**

* At **21 days**, heartbeat and nervous system develop.
* At **2 months**, the baby is fully formed and responds to touch.
* By **3 months**, the baby can kick, squint, swallow, and has fingerprints.

**Reflection Question:**

* Does knowing the medical development timeline of a fetus affect your perspective on abortion? Why or why not?

### 💔 ****Part IV: Real-World Situations (15 min)****

**Challenging Cases:**

* Rape and incest
* Severe birth defects
* Emotional distress
* Maternal life at risk

**Group Activity:**

* Break into 3 groups. Each group takes one case and discusses:
  + How would you respond biblically?
  + What principles of compassion and justice should guide our response?

**Key Point:**

“Only when continuation of the pregnancy would cause the mother’s death are we justified in performing an abortion — and then with sorrow and reluctance.”

### 🙏 ****Application and Personal Reflection (10 min)****

**Reflection Questions:**

* How should Christians respond to those considering or recovering from an abortion?
* What role does grace and truth play in how we engage with this issue?
* How can the church be both **pro-life** and **pro-love**?

### 📌 ****Final Scripture and Prayer****

**Deuteronomy 30:19** – “I have set before you life and death… Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.”

**Close in Prayer** for:

* Wisdom and compassion in discussing abortion
* Healing for those affected by abortion
* Boldness to uphold biblical truth with grace