

**Series:** Imago Dei

**Sermon:** Image Bearing and The Unborn

**Scripture:** Selected Texts

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“Cultures can be judged in many ways, but eventually every nation in every age must be judged by this test: *How did it treat people?* Each generation, each wave of humanity, evaluates its predecessors on this basis. The final measure of mankind’s humanity is how humanely people treat one another.” Francis Schaeffer

“All men bear the image of God. They have value not because they are redeemed, but because they are God’s creation in God’s image.” Francis Schaeffer

“If [mankind] is not made in the image of God, nothing then stands in the way of inhumanity. There is no good reason why mankind should be perceived as special. Human life is cheapened. We can see this in many of the major issues being debated in our society today.” Francis Schaeffer

Why Do We Believe that Abortion is Morally Wrong?

1. Imago Dei + Scientific Evidence
2. Church History
3. The Scriptures

### **Exodus 21:22-25**

The Mosaic Law treats the unborn as a person.

### **Psalms 139:13-14**

<sup>(13)</sup> *For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.*

<sup>(14)</sup> *I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.*

### **Mark 10:13-14, 16**

<sup>(13)</sup> *People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them.*

<sup>(14)</sup> *When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ...*

<sup>(16)</sup> *And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.*

### **Jeremiah 2:34**

<sup>(34)</sup> ***On your clothes men find the lifeblood of the innocent poor, though you did not catch them breaking in.***

How Should We Address this Issue?

1. By Proclaiming and Sharing the Gospel
2. By Attempting to Influence Public Policy and Public Opinion

Believe God's gospel
Obey God's Law by faith in the gospel

Believing the gospel

Results in

Living in alignment with  
the gospel

Believing the gospel

Results in

Cooperating with God in my  
sanctification by obeying Him

Believe God for my  
Sanctification is ...

By faith ...

Loving God with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength	Loving my neighbor as myself
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### ***Westminster Larger Catechism***

Q135: What are the duties required in the sixth commandment?

A: **The duties required in the sixth commandment are all manner of careful efforts and lawful endeavors to preserve the life of ourselves and others** by resisting all thoughts and purposes, subduing all passions, and avoiding all occasions, temptations, and practices which tend to the unjust taking away of anyone's life. This includes the following;

- **the just defense of lives against violence;**
- patiently bearing the hand of God, with quietness of mind and cheerfulness of spirit;
- sober use of food, drink, medicine, sleep, labor, and recreations;
- **charitable thoughts, love, compassion, meekness, gentleness, and kindness;**
- **peaceable, mild and courteous speech and behavior;**
- forbearance, readiness to be reconciled, patient bearing and forgiving of injuries, and returning good for evil;
- **and comforting and supporting the distressed and protecting and defending the innocent.**

Q136: What are the sins forbidden in the sixth commandment?

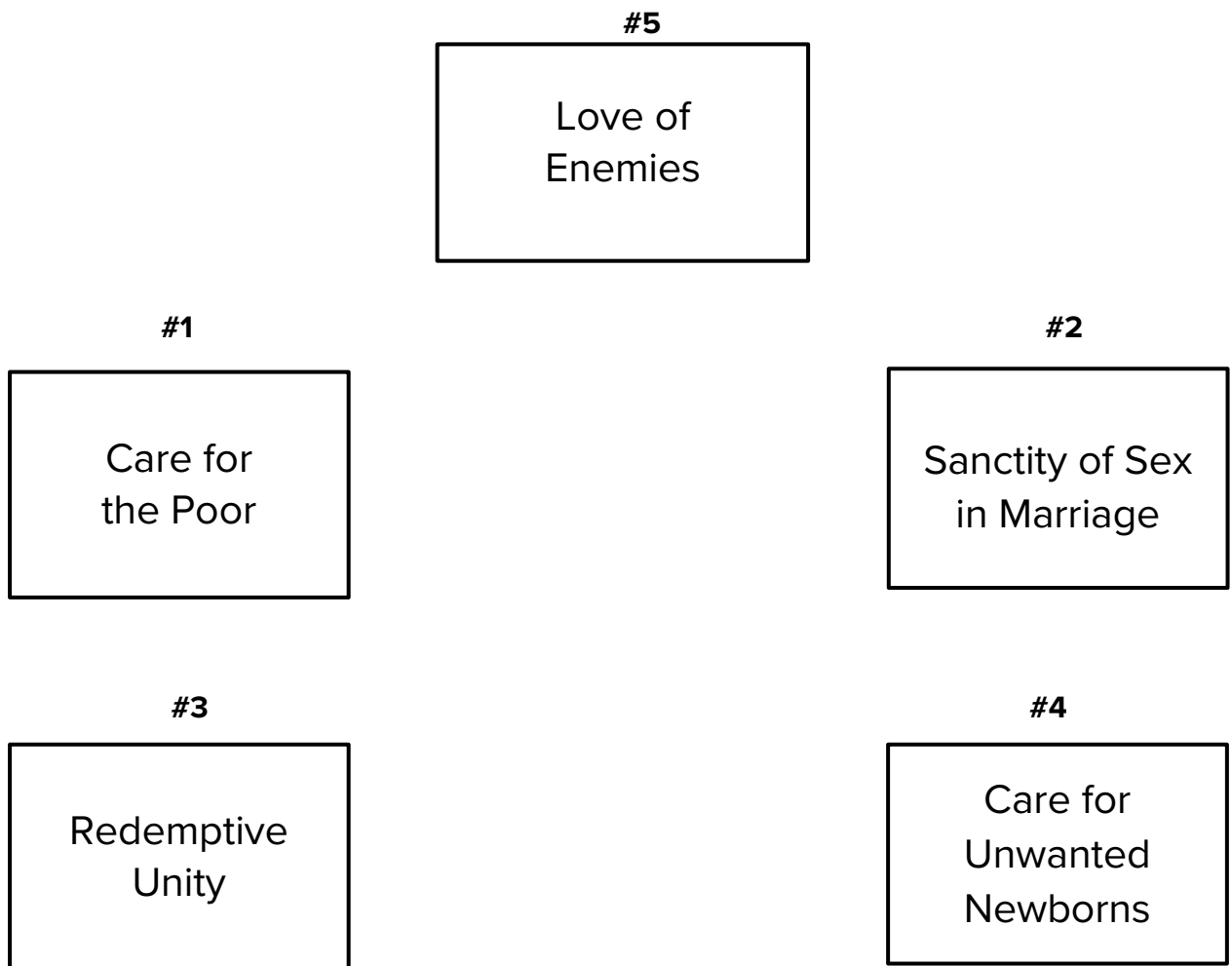
A: **The sins forbidden in the sixth commandment are the following:**

- **all taking away of the life of ourselves or of others** except in cases of public justice, lawful war, or necessary defense;
- **neglecting or withdrawing the lawful and necessary means of the preservation of life;**
- sinful anger, hatred, envy, and desire for revenge;
- all excessive passions, and distracting cares;
- immoderate use of food, drink, labor, and recreations;
- **provoking words, oppression, quarreling, striking, wounding, and whatsoever else tends to the destruction of the life of anyone.**

By Attempting to Influence Public Policy and Public Opinion

1. The Common Good. Civility.
2. Politics and the General Population
3. Consistently Pro-Life

## Gospel Transformation in Early Church History \*



\*Dr. Tim Keller, 2019 City to City Conference