

Sermon Text Discussion 7/9/2017

Proverbs 24:10-12: "Rescuing the Unborn with Selfless Love" by Drew Hunter

Overview

The text today brings together two key themes presented in the Book of Proverbs – selflessness and human dignity. The selfless are willing to sacrifice their own self-interest for the interest of others. They are others-oriented in their actions. In regards to human dignity, Proverbs repeatedly affirms the dignity of every human life. The value of the weak and the poor is lifted up. We are called to care for the weak, the needy, and the poor because every human being is made in God's image. Proverbs exalts the sanctity of every human life. This text calls us to show courageous selflessness in rescuing victims of deadly injustice.

Quotations

"But if indeed we are determinately killing and destroying living, human persons, that means that we have the most volatile, ethical, social, and moral issue in the history of the United States of America. What are my great grandchildren going to say about my generation that let this happen?" – R.C. Sproul

"If we grasp the meaning of our own rescue we will be motivated to rescue others." – Drew Hunter

Understanding & Application

- 1) Drew defined fortitude as a combination of courage and patience. Describe and discuss how having each is critical as it relates to protecting the pre-born.
- 2) Proverbs 24:11 is a general call to action; a call to rescue the innocent from unjust killing. To whom does this apply today? Who are the innocent being unjustly killed in the world today?
- 3) The Bible's storyline is only possible because of several brave individuals taking action on behalf of the innocent who were destined to die. List some of these heroes and describe their actions. What modern day heroes come to mind who have taken action on behalf of the innocent?
- 4) "I didn't make the mess, so it's not my responsibility to clean it up." We may sometimes use this line of thinking as a reason (or excuse!) to not take action. How do you feel about that? When have you used that line of reasoning? When have you taken responsibility for 'a mess' you didn't make?
- 5) The critical question to address in today's abortion debate is this: "Are the unborn human beings?" It appears to be black and white, but yet the social debate rages on. What rationale would you use to defend an answer of 'yes'? An answer of 'no'? (Note to small group leaders: Consider have individuals or groups role play this 'debate' during you small group meeting.)
- 6) A CALL TO ACTION: Most of us probably feel we are not doing enough to protect the innocent. Drew gave several specific actions we could take. What steps are you planning to take? What steps can your small group take?