

From the Heart of the Director

One heart at a time...one life at a time

The Subtle Lies in the Battle for Life

Abortion can be one of the most traumatic experiences in a woman's life. While "the world lies in the power of the evil one" (1 John 5:19), Satan's goal is to rob, kill and destroy (John 10:10a) and his tactics are deception, doubt, and distortion of the truth. Jesus said of him, "He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies." (John 8:44).

To women and men facing unplanned pregnancies, fears and doubts often dominate in thoughts and emotions. All the way back to the Garden of Eden, the enemy displayed his subtle and crafty deception through doubt. Instead of arguing with Eve, Satan asked a seemingly innocuous question, "Did God really say...?" Today he does the same thing. And in many cases, the result is tragic.

Here at Crossroads, we often see the enemy in his true character. As the "father of lies," we hear cascades of doubts ("I don't think I can do this"), fears ("I'm afraid my parents will reject/hate me"), and falsehoods posed as truth, ("It's not really a baby. It's just a blob of tissue"). This is not surprising because we know Satan's native language is lying and the ultimate fruit of his lies is death.

THE BATTLEFIELD: The only way we can combat the lies a woman believes is with the "sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God" (Eph. 6:17) Not only is truth offered to her with grace but also from hearts of compassion, love, tenderness and respect as she is an image bearer of God. (Col 4:6; 1 Pet. 3:8). She is on the battlefield: warring in the valley of decision over the fate of her unborn—or—trudging through the valley of the shadow of death from an abortion she has experienced.

THE WHITE FLAG OF SURRENDER: Throughout the centuries, battles that have been fought usually ended with one side waiving a white flag of surrender. The surrendering side realized they had suffered too many casualties, depleted their resources, or their men had lost hope and the strength to continue the fight. Similarly, the woman who has lost the battle for her unborn is oftentimes left broken over her decision. She is crushed by the weight of guilt, regret, shame, and sorrow and believes the lie that she has committed the unforgiveable sin. She feels defeated, hopeless, and separated from God. (Is. 59:2-3) As her abortion weighs on her, she laments while suffering in silence. "When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer." (Ps. 32:3-4) Like King David, she knows the casualty of her sin. She senses the Lord's hand heavy upon her and is ready to waive the white flag—the kindness of God is leading her to repentance (Rom. 2:4); a godly sorrow that is according to the will of God producing repentance to salvation. (2 Cor. 7:9-11).

HOPE AND VICTORY IN CHRIST: When she acknowledges her sin and brokenness before the Lord, this is the moment when forgiveness and healing begins: "I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD'; and You forgave the guilt of my sin. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, I have sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified when You speak and blameless when You judge... The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise." (Ps. 32:2-5; 51:2-4, 17)

THE PROMISES OF FORGIVENESS AND RESTORATION: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered! How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit! Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed... There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus. ...and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood." (1 John 1:9; Ps. 32:1; Ps. 51:7; 103:12; Jn. 8:36; Rom. 8:1; 1 Jn 1:7; Rev. 1:5)



Abortion can be one of the most traumatic experiences in a woman's life. Many reading this newsletter or someone you know may be suffering in silence from a past abortion. We are here to help. Through the Center, we offer a confidential 8-week Bible study, **Surrendering the Secret**, designed to bring hope and healing through the power of the Gospel to women who have had an abortion. In this study, we journey through the topics of grief, forgiveness, anger, hope, and restoration. If you or anyone you know would like to participate in this study, or if you have questions, please call us at 583-1900 or email Kathryn at kathryne@crossroadscpc.com or Liz at lizwagner92345@gmail.com.

We would love to talk with you.

Kathryn Enloe
Director



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LifeNet

is a monthly publication of Crossroads Pregnancy Center a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization

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Center Donations: July means the second half of 2020 has begun! Thank you to **Mikki Bettencourt, Maranda B, First Baptist Hanford, Immaculate Heart, Adam & Kari Medeiros, Alyssa P, Kathy Pacheco, and Maria Sibaja** for their generous donations of diapers, wipes, baby clothing, pack & play, baby equipment and crocheted blankets.

Donations are accepted daily: **Mon, Wed & Thurs (9:30-3:00 pm); Tues. (11-5:00 pm) and Friday (9:30-12:30 pm).**

Mom Store Needs: Clothing for boys: 18 months, 24 months and 2T

FAST Federal Credit Union is a friend to the Center. We are grateful for their partnering with us during our *Changing Babies* fundraising campaign. As bottles are returned to the Center, **FAST** graciously allows us to use their coin counting machine throughout the year as needed at no cost. They have saved us countless hours of sorting and counting! They are a blessing to us. Thank you **FAST Federal Credit Union!**



Upcoming: Walk for Life

We are in the process of planning a fundraising event this fall, *Lord willing!!* Stay tuned...

Center Website Quick Links

To learn more about volunteering or donating online visit:

www.crossroadscpc.com/donateandvolunteer/

To access our newsletter archive or if you would like to sign up to receive it electronically, visit:

www.crossroadscpc.com/newsletter/



May the foundation of our new constitution, be justice, Truth and Righteousness. Like the wise Mans house may it be founded upon those Rocks and then neither storms or tempests will overthrow it

Abigail Adams



Credit card donations can now be made at the Center.