

# Voice for Life Video Training Series Study Guide

speakfortheunborn.com





## Session 1 Overview and Why S4U

### I. Who is S4U?

- A. Started in 2009 at our first Network Church, Immanuel Baptist Church in Louisville, KY
- **B.** Became a 501(c)3, hired first staff, amd expanded from a local to national ministry in 2016-2017
- **C.** Our Vision and Mission
  - 1. Vision: that there would be churches joined together championing life in every place where there is an abortion clinic across North America.
  - 1. Mission: (1) to bridge the gap between abortion-minded women and men and formative discipleship in the local church; (2) to offer practical help by connecting women and men considering abortion to like-minded pregnancy resource centers and other faithful organizations.

### Why should churches support church-based pro-life ministry and sidewalk counseling?

- **A.** Why Pro-Life Ministry?
  - 1. Biblical Reasons
    - Genesis 1:27-28
    - b) Exodus 20:13
    - John 3:16 c)



#### 2. Reasons Abortion is Harmful

- a) Abortion is bad for the baby
- b) Abortion is bad for women
- c) Abortion is bad for men
- d) Abortion is bad for families
- e) Abortion is bad for justice and equality
- f) Abortion is bad for checks and balances in our government
- g) Abortion is bad for society at large

### **B.** Why Sidewalk Counseling?

- 1. Gives Christians the opportunity to obey the Great Commandment ("love God and love our neighbor")
- 2. Gives Christians the opportunity to obey the Great Commission ("go into all the world and preach the gospel")

### C. Why Church-Based Pro-Life Ministry?

- 1. The church is the "outpost" of God's kingdom, and he does a lot of his work through the church.
- 2. Acts 2:40-47
- 3. The church can root their pro-life ministry in the gospel and with the help of a covenanted community of people.

### III. Speak for the Unborn's Approach

### **A.** Gospel-Centered: The Foundations on Which to Speak

1. As a ministry of the local church, our foundation is the gospel of Jesus Christ.

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2. We are first committed to sharing the gospel with all who do not beleive, whether they be pro-life or pro-choice.

### B. Compelled by Love: You Shall Love Your Neighbor as Yourself

- 1. We are committed to speak for our "unborn neighbors" who cannot speak for themselves.
- 2. 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- 3. We are convinced that the way in which we can most love those purusing abortions is to persuade them not to go through with it.
- 4. To those who do have arbitions, we will wholeheartedly offer gospel-centered, post-abortive counseling, because we believe in the healing power of the gospel and the sufficiency of the cross.

### C. Winsome: A Kind Word Turns Away Wrath

- 1. We invite women and men pursuing abortion to true hope in the gospel.
- 2. As we peacefully walk with women and men, we desire to listen and share truth.
- 3. We want to prove ourselves trustworthy as we offer practical help through our local churches.



## **Group Discussion Questions**

- 1. How do we share the gospel in less than 30 seconds? A great way to help your team remember a short version of the gospel is: God-You-Jesus-You. God is perfect, without sin. You and I are all sinners, and have fallen short of the glory of God; therefore we are separated from God and deserve his wrath. But God, being rich in mercy, sent his own son, Jesus, to live a sinless life and die on the cross for our sins and rose him from the dead. Because of this, you and I can have forgiveness from our sins and the gift of grace and eternal life; believe, trust, and hope in Christ Jesus.
- 2. What specifically stuck out to you in the section on why we should get involved in pro-life in the first place?
- 3. Discuss the meaning of the word "winsome." Outside of the items mentioned in today's session, why do you think a winsome approach to sidewalk counseling is such a vital part of this ministry?
- 4. Why is it so important that our actions in pro-life ministry are compelled by love?
- 5. What might it look like to speak to an abortion-minded man or woman from a posture of love?
- 6. How do you think that this gospel-informed methodology will make us distinct from other pro-life groups?



## Homework

- 1. Make sure that you are able to share the gospel clearly and concisely. Each group member should be prepared to share the gospel in under 30 seconds at the next session.
- 2. Think about the scriptural, gospel-centered, and/or personal reasons that compel you to minister in sidewalk counseling. Write them down over the course of the week, and be prepared to share one or two of them at the next session.

## A Prayer

- 1. Pray for your sidewalk counseling ministry to always remain gospel-centered, first and foremost.
  - For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)
- 2. Pray for the Lord to grant wisdom, clarity, and perspective to always remain winsome in this ministry.
  - A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger (Proverbs 15:1)
- 3. Pray that God will turn your mind and your heart in order for your actions to always be compelled by love in sidewalk counseling ministry.



And he said to him,

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. (Ephesians 1:22-23)

1. Pray for the Lord to begin working in the hearts of abortion-minded individuals in your city.

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9)





## **Session 2** Foundational Guidelines

Live Session Notes:		



## **Group Discussion Questions**

- 1. [Follow-up from the last session] Divide your team into pairs. Have them share the gospel with each other in under 30 seconds. Come back together and discuss as a large group when both pairs have shared.
- 2. [Follow-up from the last session] Ask everyone to share their scriptural, gospel-centered, and/or personal reasons that compel them to minister in sidewalk counseling.
- 3. How does your church actively represent a culture where life is valued and supported? Are there already ministries in place that could work collaboratively with your S4U ministry team?
- 4. As a group, brainstorm ways that you can work towards caring for families who chose life, as well as post-abortive women. (We will work this out in detail later on in the course; this is just an opportunity to begin brainstorming. A few ideas (these are not mandatory, but can help you get thinking): Will you throw baby showers for the women? Will you have a "food pantry" or take families grocery shopping? Will you have a fund to help financially during maternity leaves? Do you have a list of families in your church who might consider adoption? Can you provide temporary housing, or is there a family who might take in a young, single mother?)
- 5. What are some ways you can encourage other churches in your community to join with you in the S4U Network, so that you can partner together in this ministry and offer even more spiritual support and resources to families across the city?
- 6. Discuss reasons why it might be helpful to be able to tell women on the sidewalk that you have these types of resources available to them.



## Homework

- 1. Throughout the week, think of how some of the current ministries/groups in your church could be incorporated into this ministry. Be ready to share some of your thoughts at the next session.
- 2. If you think of additional ways throughout the week that your church can serve the abortion-minded women and men who come into your care, write them down and share them at the next session.

## **州 Prayer**

- 1. Ask God to show you new ways that you might be able to help those who need it through your church. God is not unjust; he will not forget the work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. (Hebrews 6:10)
- 2. Pray for the faithfulness of your ministry team. Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. (Proverbs 3:3)
- 3. Pray for the other pro-life ministries with whom you will be serving and supporting, like the pregnancy resource center in your area.
  - But be sure to fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you. (1 Samuel 12:24)



### Session 3

### **Practically Preparing for Ministry**

### I. Make a Plan

### A. Group Structure

- 1. Your goal as a ministry team is to have a core group of four people that regularly serve with you on the sidewalk.
- 2. Designate the Group Leader, who will be responsible for gaining and training those new to the ministry.
- 4. Designate another person to help with the organizational aspects, such as text reminders and reporting numbers.

### B. Frequency, Day, and Time

- 1. How often per month will you plan to go out on the sidewalk?
- 2. What day and time will you go out?

#### C. Start Date

- 1. Choose a start date. Try to make sure all members of your group can be present on the start date if possible.
- 2. Plan to begin with several weeks of prayer as your group acclimates. You can begin going to the sidewalk for simply for prayer even as you work through the training.



#### D. Method of Communication

Decide the best way to communicate with one another for scheduling and organizational purposes. When you're first getting started, a group text may suffice. However, as your group grows, you may consider a private Facebook group or a GroupMe.

### **II. Establish Relationships**

#### A. Communicate With Your Church

It is very important that you have a specific plan in place to communicate regularly with the church. A bi-weekly or monthly newsletter sharing stories and prayer requests can be very effective.

### B. Understand the Sidewalk Dynamics

- 1. Even if you cannot yet begin going down to the clinic regularly, it is ideal for some or all of the group to go to the sidewalk to understand the dynamics of the situation.
- 2. What pro-choice groups appear to be present? Are there volunteer clinic escorts?
- 3. What other pro-life groups do you notice, if any?
- 4. Exactly where is the "buffer zone" boundary?
- 5. What is private property and what is public? Based on this, where do you think you will stand/walk when you minister?
- 6. Where is the nearest Pregnancy Resource Center (preferably one that will share the gospel with every client)?



### C. Connect With a Pregnancy Resource Center

- 1. While it is not mandatory to connect with a PRC to sidewalk counsel with S4U, it can be ideal in certain situations.
- 2. If your church is already working with a PRC, connect with them and let them know what you are doing. Make sure they understand the winsome, gospel-centered approach of S4U.
- 3. If there is a PRC very close to the abortion clinic where you are ministering, you will want to reach out to them to establish a relationship. Again, make sure they understand our approach.

### D. Join Speak for the Unborn Connect

- 1. We just launched something that we're super excited about to help Network Churches better communicate with one another. It is called Speak for the Unborn Connect.
- 2. This is a "Mighty Network" where you will be able to share pray requests, encourage one another, get ideas, and find articles & continuing education that we offer exclusively through this platform.
- 3. In an effort to make things as simple as possible, this is also where you log your information. Every week we will create a post, and we will need your team to record your numbers for that week. You can designate one person who is responsible for doing this weekly.
- 4. Go to speak-for-the-unborn.mn.co to join.



### **III.** Gather Materials

#### A. Resources

- 1. You want to be able to hand any woman/family you speak with some sort of easy to read, possibly bilingual literature about material resources. If you are connected to a PRC, this can be something that they've provided.
- 2. Some churches offer women packets with a variety of resources, including church information and a gospel tract.
- 3. S4U will help you to create a resource list of all of the pro-life offerings in your area.

## **Group Discussion Questions**

- 1. [Follow-up from the last session] How could some of the current groups/ministries in your church could be incorporated into this ministry?
- 2. [Follow-up from the last session] Are there additional ways that your church can serve the abortion-minded women and men who come into your care, other than what was mentioned last week?
- 3. Make sure you have plans in place for gathering your team and resources and connecting with the community. Discuss each point and write down your answers. If there is something that you need more information on or need to discuss at a later time, make sure those items are clearly identified and you've put a plan in place to get those questions answered.



## Homework

- 1. Between now and the next session, create your list of contacts within your local church who are ready to fulfill needs for abortion-minded women and men. As a ministry team, split the list between you and begin making phone calls to ask particular individuals to fulfill needs. (See the sample list located at the end of the study guide.)
- 2. Are there any details that you need to add into your plans, after thinking more about it or visiting the sidewalk? If so, be sure to bring them up in next week's session.
- 3. What questions do you have for the S4U team about practically preparing for ministry?

### **How to Access S4U Connect:**

- 1. Go to speak-for-the-unborn.mn.co
- 2. Click "Request to Join" and fill out the information
- 3. We will send you an invitation to join via email
- 4. When you gain access, take a few moments to look around and explore the content on the platform.

## **⚠** Prayer

1. Pray for the Lord to lead you to the right women and men in your church family who will serve women and men who choose life through this ministry. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)



2. Pray for the overall ministry of Speak for the Unborn and all of the Network Churches across the continent.

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:16-19)

3. Pray for your Speak for the Unborn ministry team, as there are many spiritual and emotional battles that occur both internally and externally as you minister in this field. Pray that the Lord would prepare you in all of the ways necessary for the days ahead.

A wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries. (1 Corinthians 16:9)

I am sending you out as sheep amongst wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. (Matthew 10:16)

We are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. (2 Corinthians 5:20)

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. (Isaiah 26:3)



## Session 4

## Praying the Bible for Sidewalk Counseling

### I. The Fundamental Problem

- A. The Holy Spirit dwells in us and gives us a desire for holy things, including prayer.
- B. However, our experience leads us to feel that, sometimes, prayer is boring.
- C. The problem isn't you, it's your method.
  - The six things we usually pray about: family, future, finances, work/school, church/ministry, current crisis
- D. The problem isn't that we pray the same old things about the same old things, it's our method.

### **II. Praying Through Scripture**

- A. Psalm 23
- B. Concerns with Biblical interpretation
- C. Psalms of the Day
- D. Longer passages of Scripture
- E. Praying through a narrative
- F. Pause video and practice
- G. The early church, great theologians and missionaries prayed through Scripture
- H. Jesus prayed through Scripture (Acts 4)



- I. Pray through Scripture on the sidewalk
  - 1. Before you start
  - 2. While your partner is speaking to an abortion-minded individual
  - 3. For your team
  - 4. For the women who have gone in to pursue abortion

### **Group Discussion Questions**

- 1. Make sure you do pause during the training video to practice praying through Scripture, as Whitney suggests.
- 2. [Follow-up from the last session] Over the course of the week, did you think of any details that you need to add into your plans for sidewalk ministry?
- 3. [Follow-up from the last session] Are there any questions that you would like to ask the S4U team about practically preparing for ministry?
- 4. Take prayer requests from one another regarding the specific fears or struggle of beginning sidewalk ministry. Use these to create a prayer request list for you group for the remaining four weeks of training.
- 5. How do you think that praying on site before counseling will affect the attitude and mindset of your team when you begin counseling? What makes this so important?



## 🗐 Homework

- 1. How have you seen the Lord work through prayer alone in other situations of your lives? These memories can help remind you of the power of prayer as you begin to pray on the abortion clinic sidewalk. Be prepared to share this at the next session, if you are willing.
- 2. What is one thing you would add to the specific items of prayer in each section of the Prayer Guide? Be prepared to discuss this at the next session.
- 3. Practice praying through Scripture, as Don Whitney described in the training video. Use one of the verses in the Prayer Guide and pray through it, specifically thinking of the ministry of your S4U team.
- 4. Try to organize a time that your team can immediately begin going to pray at the clinic each week (you can do this over group text or Group Me, or in person at the next session). If you're unable to make the time that the group chooses, decide on a time that you can intentionally devote to prayer, ideally on the side-walk on your own/with a partner, or in another location.

## ⚠ Prayer

Practice praying through Scripture as a group, for as long as you are able within your allotted time, using any of the verses from the Prayer Guide. Specifically pray for your S4U team, the abortion-minded individuals you will encounter, and your church's pro-life ministry as a whole.



## Session 5

## **Engaging on the Sidewalk: Abotion-Minded Women**

### I. Prepare

- A. Find a regular place to meet that serves as a "home base" each time.
- B. When everyone from your team arrives, lead the group in prayer (praying through Scripture and/or the S4U Prayer Guide), and perhaps a 5-minute devotional.
- C. Each group member can then prepare individually in silence.
- D. Organize (choose partners and who will engage where).

### II. Engage

- A. Body language (urgency, yet winsome)
- B. When approaching, always walk, and come from the front (never sneak up behind someone). If you approach a car, stand where the driver can see you before approaching a side window.
- C. If you have 1-2 minutes to speak:
  - 1. Introduce yourself, ask her name
  - 2. Break down any barriers
    - "If you're here because of an unplanned pregnancy,"
    - "I know this is an extremely difficult decision and no one wants to be here today,"



"I am from a local church; I'm not a protester, I'm here out of love for you and for your unborn baby," or "I want to talk with you because I care about you, and I care about your little boy or little girl."

- 3. Hand her literature or packet
- 4. Ask her, "will you tell me what it is that you fear most about continuing to be a mother?" If she answers, address that exact fear.
- 5. Personal story (if you have one)
- 6. Share the gospel
- 7. Help her see the person hood of her baby and plead for life
- 8. Ask her how she can pray for her (if she is still going in)
- D. If you have 30-60 seconds to speak:
  - 1. Introduce yourself
  - 2. Break down any barriers
  - 3. Give her literature
  - 4. Share the gospel in a more abbreviated way
  - 5. Address her fear
- E. If you have less than 30 seconds to speak:
  - 1. Plead for life
  - 2. Share the gospel
  - 3. Offer resources



### F. Typical emotional responses:

- 1. Conviction/Sorrow
- 2. Anger/Hostility
- 3. Apathy/Indifference

#### G. If she chooses life:

- 1. Encourage her, support her, rejoice with her!
- 2. Make sure she does not leave without exchanging contact info
- 3. Give her pregnancy resource center info
- 4. Make sure she is safe to drive back to where she came from today
- 5. Begin making contacts from your church support list

### H. If she goes through with the abortion:

- 1. Tell her that you will be outside praying for her and her baby
- 2. Remind her that she is not alone, and she can still walk out after she goes in
- 3. Pray for her fervently

### I. If you or a team member begin to get angry:

- 1. Stop speaking and pray
- 2. Have pre-arranged signal with partner



- J. Post-abortive sidewalk counseling ministry:
  - 1. Post-abortive women are not thinking clearly and may be very emotional. Avoid approaching in close proximity right away.
  - 2. Body language
  - 3. Offer her resources for post-abortive counseling and a care package.
  - 4. If she takes the package, try to continue the conversation, share the gospel, invite her to church, and exchange contact info.

## **Group Discussion Questions**

- 1. [Follow-up from the last session] Ask if anyone would like to share how they've seen the Lord work through prayer alone in various situations of their lives.
- 2. [Follow-up from the last session] Did you think of any additional items of prayer in between last session and this one?
- 3. How might this methodology of speaking to abortion-minded women practically separate you from other pro life groups?
- 4. How might a woman think differently of you if she saw that you were still there to offer help even post-abortion? What do you think that this communicates to the world about Jesus?
- 5. Invite each person to share what they think might be their biggest emotional obstacle on the sidewalk (fear, anger, etc.). Pray for each team member regarding that particular need, and discuss how you can support each other.



- 6. Discuss how you should respond in a gospel-centered, winsome, and hope-filled way to the following comments from abortion-minded women:
  - a. "I'm in school and I just can't have this baby; I have no money and it would totally derail my future."
  - b. "I was raped."
  - c. "The father is not in the picture and I can't do this on my own; I work 3 jobs as it is."
  - d. "Who are you to tell me what to do with my body? My body, my choice!"
  - e. Cursing at you, telling you to go away.

## 🖳 Homework

- 1. Write down those responses listed in Discussion Question 6. Take time this week to reflect a bit longer and think of what your best response could be. Be ready to share these with the group at the next session.
- 2. Are there any comments in Discussion Question 6 for which you would like to receive detailed answers from S4U staff? If so, write them down and share them with your group leader so that we can address them during the final Q&A session.

## 🕰 Prayer

1. Pray for your ministry team to have truth, wisdom, love, and winsomeness in their speech when they speech with abortion-minded women on the sidewalk.



Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. (Romans 12:9-12)

- 2. Pray that abortion-minded individuals would hear and listen as, Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice; at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks. (Proverbs 1:20-21)
- 3. Pray that they would fear the Lord and turn away from the evil of abortion. By the fear of the Lord one turns away from evil. (Proverbs 16:6)
- 4. Pray that the Lord would clearly reveal to them that the Christians are speaking truthfully, and those promoting violence are seeking to deceive.

  The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence. (Proverbs 10:11)
- 5. Pray that they would come under incredible conviction, would manifest godly sorrow over their sin, and come to repentance.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)



# Session 6 Engaging on the sidewalk: Those Accompanying Abortion-Minded Women

### I. Opportunity

- A. Learn more about the situation
- B. Gain a valuable ally in speaking for life

### II. Approach

- A. Body language
- B. Approach from a visible direction
- C. Keep an arm's reach distance away
- D. Be conscious about the safety of your team (boyfriends/husbands may feel that they must protect)

### III. Engage

- A. Introduce yourself
- B. Break down any barriers ("we would love to know what brings you down here today so we can know how to best serve you")
- C. Draw upon their care for the mother ("Abortion is never a helpful decision for the mother. She is going to feel the weight of this; if not now, later. Will you protect her from that?")
- D. Emphasize the fatherhood of the unborn child



- E. Remind them of the influence that they can have in the circumstance ("If she was going to perform self-harm, you would protect her from that. Protect her safety today by helping her to choose life.")
- F. Address support for health issues, if this reason arises (high risk doctor referrals, etc.). Draw attention to the real danger of abortion for a woman with a real health concern.
- G. Grandfathers and Grandmothers: Call them to love and support their grandchildren, just as they do their daughters. ("Show your daughter how much you love and care for her by caring for your grandchild.")
- H. Share the gospel
- I. Friends: The words that are hard to hear are often the ones we need to hear. Call them to be true friends and ask the mothers to choose life instead of choosing abortion. Try to speak with them again if they walk back to their cars.

## IV. Bringing Women & Families into the Care of the Local Church

- A. How do you serve women and families in crisis pregnancy situations through the local church?
  - 1. Establish community
  - 2. Preach the gospel, disciple them into faith in Jesus
  - 3. Connect the mother with women who have been in that situation before
  - 4. Disciple the father, if he is present
  - 5. Provide for material & spiritual needs



- B. How do we share the gospel with post-abortive women within the church?
  - 1. Admit the sin (just as we do with any sin)
  - 2. The grace of God completely covers all sin
- C. How can the church show Christ-like love to a woman who is post-abortive?
  - 1. Surround her with people who have been through the same
  - 2. Offer care & biblical counseling
- D. How do pastors, leaders, and church members biblically assure post-abortive women of salvation?
  - 1. Understand the promises of God and the glories of the gospel
  - 2. Let your sin be as big as it is, and then look at the cross and see how amazing it is that God saves sinners

## **Group Discussion Questions**

- 1. [Follow-up from the last session] Share any more thoughts on best responses from Discussion Question 6 last week. Write out any questions from the group and add them to the list for the final Q&A session.
- 2. Discuss and pray for any concerns regarding speaking with those accompanying the abortion-minded woman.
- 3. What stood out to you the most about how the church can serve post-abortive individuals?



- 4. Discuss how you would respond to the following comments from those accompanying abortion-minded women:
  - a. "I don't really like it, but it's not my choice."
  - b. "Just back off from her! She doesn't want to talk to you!"
  - c. "I had an abortion too, and I don't regret it at all. I support her making the same choice."
  - d. (From the mother or father of the woman) "I would end up being the one to support this baby, and I just can't do that."
  - e. "We already have 4 kids and can barely even make ends meet to support them. We can't even think about adding a 5th."

## 🗐 Homework

- 1. Write down those responses listed in Discussion Question 3. Take time this week to reflect a bit longer and think of what your best response could be. Be ready to share these with the group at the next session.
- 2. Are there any comments in Discussion Question 3 for which you would like to receive detailed answers from S4U staff? If so, write them down and share them with your group leader so that we can address them during the final Q&A session.

## A Prayer

1. Pray that the Lord would change the minds and hearts of the fathers and loved ones who are going with the mother. Pray that they would then influence the mother and persuade her to choose life for her baby.



May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ. (2 Thessalonians 3:5)

2. Pray for post-abortive women in your community who are not Christians. Ask that the Lord would use the truth of the gospel to draw them to himself, finding peace and forgiveness in Jesus.

Truly, truly I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes in him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. (John 5:24)

3. Pray for post-abortive women in your community who have trusted in Jesus. Pray that they would no longer feel the weight and guilt of sin, because Jesus has forgiven them completely.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:1)



## Session 7

## **Engaging and Speaking with Abortion-Choice Advocates and Abortion Clinic Staff**

There is an Enemy who is actively working against gospel ministry. This opposition that you face may take the form of abortion choice escorts.

## I. Remember that your primary purpose in this ministry is to reach the mother.

- A. Escorts may try to distract you, or the woman, from doing this.
- B. Keep a hopeful tone as you serve and fight distraction.

### II. Show Christian kindness.

- A. You have a huge gospel opportunity by showing care and concern for the escorts.
- B. While we oppose the evil they are engaging in, we still seek to show abortion-choice advocates that abortion is better.

### III. Escorts may seek to shame you.

- A. Everything you say can and will be used against you.
- B. Be aware that they may take videos and pictures of you and post them online. But, what an opportunity for the gospel to reach people who you and I couldn't ordinarily reach.
- C. Try to speak with the abortion-minded individuals before the escorts get a chance to "introduce you" first.
- D. Always watch your spacing and keep an arm's reach distance from escorts.



### IV. Practical considerations

### V. Pray continually for escorts.

### VI. Calling out or speaking with abortion clinic staff

- A. Three postures of the heart
  - 1. Gentleness
  - 2. Gospel-motivated humility
  - 3. Love
- B. Your words should aim to do three things:
  - 1. Break down barriers
  - 2. Expose darkness of abortion
  - 3. Proclaim the gospel



## **Group Discussion Questions**

- 1. [Follow-up from the last session] Share any more thoughts on best responses from Discussion Question 3 last week. Write out any questions from the group and add them to the list for the final Q&A session.
- 2. Discuss and pray for any questions or concerns regarding speaking with abortion-choice advocates and clinic staff.
- 3. If you're counseling at a clinic with pro-choice escorts present, they will often attempt to misrepresent you to prevent the abortion-minded individuals from speaking with you. They may say things like, "These people are just protesters. They don't actually care about you." What are some things that you could say to abortion-minded men and women try and remove this barrier that they have placed?
- 4. Discuss how you would respond to the following comments from abortion-choice advocates and/or clinic staff:
  - a. "America is not a theocracy; keep your religion away from healthcare!"
  - b. "Why do you hate women?"
  - c. "You're talking pretty confidently for someone without a uterus."
  - d. "Healthcare is between a woman and her doctor."
  - e. "Banning abortion won't end it, it will only result in unsafe abortions."





### 📑 Homework

- 1. Write down those responses listed in Discussion Question 4. Take time this week to reflect a bit longer and think of what your best response could be. Be ready to share these with the group at the next session.
- 2. Are there any comments in Discussion Question 4 for which you would like to receive detailed answers from S4U staff? If so, write them down and share them with your group leader at least 48 hours prior to the next session, so that he/she can get them to S4U staff in time for the final Q&A session.

## **州 Prayer**

- 1. Pray for the staff at the clinic; that even right now, that they would see something that causes them to guit and that the clinic would shut down as a result.
- 2. Pray that abortion wokers would leave the profession by coming to know the Lord Jesus as their Savior.

God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will. (2 Timothy 2:25-26)



## Session 8 Final Q&A





### Legal Guidelines for Sidewalk Counseling

• Alliance Defending Freedom Legal Guide for Sidewalk Counseling (United States)

www.adflegal.org

Bubble Zones and Court Injunctions in Canada

https://www.arcc-cdac.ca/presentations/Bubble-Zones-Court-Injunctions-in-Canada.pdf

### Recommended Pro-Life Books

• The Case for Life, Scott Klusendorf

https://www.amazon.com/Case-Life-Equipping-Christians-Culture/dp/1433503204/ref=sr\_1\_1?crid=3DFSNP88MU9&keywords=the+case+for+life+by+scott+klusendorf&qid=1582633410&sprefix=the+case+for+life%2Caps%2C161&sr=8-1

• Pro-Life Answers to Pro-Choice Arguments, Randy Alcorn

https://www.amazon.com/Pro-Life-Answers-Pro-Choice-Arguments-Expanded/dp/1576737519/ref=sr\_1\_1?keywords=randy+alcorn+pro+life&qid=1582633492&sr=8-1

• Why Pro-Life? Caring for the Unborn and Their Mothers, Randy Alcorn

https://www.amazon.com/Why-Pro-Life-Caring-Unborn-Mothers/dp/161970028X/ref=sr\_1\_2?keywords=randy+alcorn+pro+life&qid=1582633539&sr=8-2



• The Dignity Revolution, Daniel Darling

https://www.amazon.com/Dignity-Revolution-Reclaiming-Vision-Humanity/dp/1784982830/ref=sr\_1\_5?keywords=daniel+dar-ling&qid=1582633632&sr=8-5

• Abortion and the Early Church, Michael J. Gorman

https://www.amazon.com/Abortion-Early-Church-Christian-Greco-Ro-man/dp/1579101828/ref=sr\_1\_2\_sspa?keywords=abortion+and+the+ear-ly+church+michael+gorman&qid=1582647522&sr=8-2-spons&p-sc=1&spLa=ZW5jcnlwdGVkUXVhbGlmaWVyPUEzRjkoWVY3SEdZVUV-VJmVuY3J5cHRlZElkPUEwMjQoMTMoTkZWWkdTUEVJMFpBJmVuY-3J5cHRlZEfkSWQ9QTAoNTkoODkzSlpQMo1ENlE3MFBJJndpZGdldE5hb-WU9c3BfbXRmJmFjdGlvbj1jbGlja1JlZGlyZWNoJmRvTm9oTG9nQ2xpY2s-9dHJ1ZQ==

## Handouts/Brochures for the Sidewalk (not produced by S4U)

• "Before You Decide" Brochure (English)

https://store.care-net.org/before-you-decide-brochure-pack-of-20/

• "Before You Decide" Brochure (Spanish)

https://store.care-net.org/before-you-decide-brochure-espa-ol-unlimit-ed-downloads/

"Before You Decide" Brochure (for fathers)

https://store.care-net.org/before-she-decides-pack-of-25/

• "Healing the Hurt" (Post-Abortive Brochure)

http://media.focusonthefamily.com/heartlink/pdf/new-healing-the-hurt-2018.pdf

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• "Who is Jesus," Greg Gilbert (Gospel Tract)

https://www.amazon.com/Who-Jesus-Pack-Greg-Gilbert/dp/1682163385/ref=sr\_1\_3?keywords=greg+gilbert+who+is+jesus&qid=1582634476&sr=8-3

### **☑** Other things to include in sidewalk packets:

- Information about your church (service times, address, phone number, etc.)
- "Business cards" or other direct contact info for your ministry team leader
- Pregnancy Resource Center information
   (Link to find the nearest CareNet center: https://www.care-net.org/what-is-a-pregnancy-center)
- Protein bars (post-abortive)
- Counseling information (post-abortive)

### ☑ S4U Resources

We provide the following items that you can purchase directly from us:

- Sidewalk cards (4x6, one side English, one side Spanish) that clearly present the gospel and offer support and hope for abortion-minded women and men
- Yellow safety vests with the Speak for the Unborn logo and/or your church's logo
- T-shirts for the sidewalk (Navy and White, "Love Mercy" on the front, with S4U logo on the back)
- Signs with S4U-approved verbiage (we can discuss in advance if signs are necessary for sidewalk counseling in your situation)



If you are interested in purchasing any of these items (we highly recommend getting at least the sidewalk cards), we will get them done for you at-cost. We do not charge any additional fees.

If you'd like to see samples or if you are ready to purchase, email us at info@speakfortheunborn.com and he will gladly take care of everything for you.

## **Church Support**



## Crisis Pregnancies

For-

To build this list, start by writing down members of your congregation whom you think could serve well in particular capacities. Then, contact those individuals directly. Next, tell your church about any remaining needs and pray that the Lord will call the individuals who would best fulfill them. Fill in the remaining spots as individuals come to you seeking to volunteer.

Another option is that if your church has community groups or small groups, each group could take on a particular responsibility from this list.

 $\bigcap$  For each person/family fulfilling a need, list name and contact number.

Financial Assistance	Families Looking to Adopt
1	
3.	3.
4· 5·	- 4·
Families Open to Foster Care (Even potentially fostering a mom under 18 and her baby)	<b>⇔</b> Baby Shower Coordinators
1	
2	
4	
5. ————————————————————————————————————	<b>D</b>
Essentially coordinating and/or providing for the material and spiritual needs of a single mother)  1.	Safe Houses/Hospitality  1
2	_ 2
3	
5·	•
5. ————————————————————————————————————	40 <sup>5.</sup>



### 2 Prayer Teams 6. \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ 9. \_ **Regular Meal Rotations** \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1.\_\_\_ 2. \_ 3. – 4. \_ 5. -6. \_ 7. – 9. \_\_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Car Transport **Postpartum Support** (Or Even Donating a Vehicle) (Financial, Childcare, Making Meals, Etc.) 2. 3. -**Babysitting Other Children** \_\_\_\_\_6.\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_ <sup>—</sup> 10. \_\_\_\_\_

<b>O Helping to Find or Provide Employm</b>	ent
1	
2	
3.	
4	
5	
O Discipleship for the Mother	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
O Discipleship for the Father	
1,	
2	
3.	
4	