

Agape Community Fellowship Church
Wednesday Night Bible Study Lesson

Date: August 17, 2022

Lesson: God values human life – Genesis 9

Teacher: Pastor Powell

Overview. From the beginning of creation, God has always valued human life. In Genesis 4, we learned that Cain killed his younger brother Abel—for which he was banished from God’s presence as punishment. What follows Cain’s punishment is a revelation of his lineage. Unfortunately, Cain’s murderous ways infected his family line. By the time we get to his great-grandson, we find a man bragging about his own violence. ²³ Lamech said to his wives, “Adah and Zillah, Listen to my voice, You wives of Lamech, Pay attention to my words, for I have killed a man for wounding me; and a boy for striking me! ²⁴ If Cain is avenged seven times, Then Lamech seventy-seven times!” [Gen 4:23-24] Notice that Lamech was talking to his wives-plural. God’s perfect design is only four chapters old at the time, and already we find people involved in bloodshed and defying God’s design for marriage.

Because God values human life, He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins so that we could live a blessed life through Him—despite the sinful world around us. Therefore, if we truly valued human life we would begin by placing our lives in Jesus’ hands by repenting of our sins and living daily according to God’s standards found in the Bible.

Open It

1. Why do you think that it’s ok or not ok to eat meat?
2. *What do you think is appropriate or inappropriate about capital punishment?

Explore It

3. What did God tell Noah and his sons to do, and for what did God say He would demand an accounting? (9:1-6)
4. What was the covenant that God established with Noah, and what sign of His covenant with Noah did God give? (9:8-17)
5. What did Noah do after he got off the ark, and what did Noah’s sons do in response to what Noah did? (9:18-24)
6. How did Noah respond to what his sons did? (9:25-27)

Read Jeremiah 1:5

7. What does this verse teach us about the sanctity of life as well as when life begins?

Read Psalm 139:1-14

8. What does this verse teach us about the sanctity of life as well as when life begins?

Read 1 John 3:11-12

9. What does this verse teach about what can happen when we do not value the sanctity of life?

Read 1 Peter 3:9

10. How should we respond to people that do not show us godly love?

Get It

11. *Why do you think God instituted capital punishment, and what is the connection between capital punishment and the image of God?

12. What are the significant elements in the covenant between God and Noah?

13. Why is it significant that the author of Genesis included the account of Noah getting drunk, and why is it easy to fall into sin after a significant spiritual victory?

14. What did the actions of Noah's sons reveal about their character, and what lessons can we learn from Noah's experience and the actions of his sons?

Apply It

15. What can you do today to acknowledge the fact that all people are created in the image of God?

16. What is something you can do to celebrate, acknowledge, or add to your family heritage?