



For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ~ Isaiah 9:6

DECEMBER NEWS

Unplanned, not unwanted

Ardee Coolidge from Care Net says it best, "Indeed, if someone is pro-choice, then they should actively support pregnancy center ministry as it ensures that women are empowered to make a choice, rather than pressured by people and circumstances into a decision they didn't want at all."

Many believe that women who choose abortion are willingly deciding to take the life of their child. The truth is, for most of them, it is an extremely painful decision in which they simply don't see another option. Some are physically forced while others feel the pressure from the father, family, culture, finances or their own inabilities to care for the child. Abortion offers women the illusion of a quick-fix and back to life-as-usual. The reality is, once a woman gets pregnant, nothing remains the same. Whether she chooses to parent, place her child in a loving adoptive home, aborts her baby, or has a miscarriage, her life will be changed by the event.

Adoption does not seem to appeal to many women facing unplanned pregnancy. I believe it is because they are not fully aware of all adoption offers. Some women say that if they are going to go through the pregnancy and the labor, they would see the baby as a reward for their troubles, so adoption would not be considered. An Alan Guttmacher Institute study showed that one-third of the women saw adoption as morally wrong. "Giving my child away is wrong," they explained. To them adoption seems cruel. They don't want their baby to grow up feeling like they were unwanted. They just aren't able to recognize that adoption is offering their child a chance at life, to experience love, the kiss of a puppy, a chance to feel the wind on their face, or a hug from a loved one. They don't consider that abortion is the termination of their child's life, the end of their dreams and their potential to do or experience something wonderful.

In adoption, the birth-mom is empowered to make choices for her child. She gets to choose the parents, she can even decide whether she wants to be a part of the child's life after birth and if so, how often. It is a decision that takes tremendous maturity, self-sacrifice and courage. It gives the baby a shot at a meaningful life filled with great possibilities for a better life than she could provide and a chance to become someone else's child, sister, brother, friend, spouse, boss, mentor, etc.

Let's face it, both abortion and adoption are emotionally difficult options, but in many ways different. One offers the opportunity to give life to your child and even participate in his or her life, while the other terminates life. One offers the hope of children to men and women who are facing infertility and the other does not. One gives life and the other takes life.

I pray that we would rethink the false narratives about adoption and abortion. May we recognize that unplanned, does not mean unwanted. May we acknowledge that life is a miracle and each child was created by God for a good purpose.

Look at what we accomplished together this year!

- 53 women received medical grade pregnancy tests.
- 48 women received images of the baby growing inside their wombs.
- 2 women and one man received STD testing and treatment.
- 35 women heard the gospel.
- 1 woman rededicated her life to Christ.
- 104 Clients received the unconditional love of Jesus Christ.
- 3 women and 1 man received healing for the abortions in their past.
- 2 men were mentored for fatherhood.
- 40 client parenting, life skills, and relationship classes were conducted.
- 580 teens received classes on sexual risk avoidance.
- 22 women were gifted with our miscarriage packet to help them in grieving their loss.
- 48 women chose life for their babies.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT. YOU ARE SAVING AND CHANGING LIVES!

All you children of God, rejoice and be glad because a Saviour has come to earth. The greatest miracle of all time has taken place. The child of God has come to earth in human form. He has been born not in a castle or in a palace, but in a poor man's stable. How humble our God is and so great is his love! Merry Christmas to you.

