Dear Pastor,

It has long been understood that pastors have a valuable place in speaking into their communities about important, personal issues such as marriage and even about sexual morality. Pastors have given beautiful and poignant messages about the biblical mandate of monogamy, the sanctity and value of human life from conception, and admonitions to follow the biblical blueprint for healthy marital and family living.

Did you know that elective abortion is not the only challenge to the value of human life?

Each year in the US, 26,000 babies are stillborn:

- 26,000 mothers labor and give birth to a baby who is stillborn.
- Just today, 71 US families will give birth to a baby who is stillborn.
- Three families within this very hour will give birth to a baby who is stillborn.
- 670,000 other US mothers will share in this tragic experience this year alone, as they give birth to their miscarried, molar, or ectopic babies.

It is estimated that one in four mothers loses her children to pregnancy loss.

Pregnancy loss threatens marriages, challenges siblings' perception of life and death, and negatively impacts our workforce as silenced, shunned and belittled grief in mothers, fathers, siblings and even grandparents manifests into physical illnesses and conditions such as heart disease and cancer.

Pregnancy loss, even in the earliest of stages, is the birth, and the death, of a baby.

Your congregation, your pastoral staff, and even your own family have all been touched by pregnancy loss.

Won't you help speak out about the reality of pregnancy loss with your congregation?

Pregnancy loss is *still* birth, and should be regarded as such. As a leader in your spiritual community, please welcome your congregation to value the experience of pregnancy loss as the birth that it is.

For His Glory,

Heidi Faith Site Creator <u>www.stillbirthday.com</u>





still birthday A Pregnancy Loss is Still a Birthday

Stillbirthday is an online and in-person global network ministry providing support prior to, during and after the birth of a baby born in any trimester.

We provide:

- Printable birth plans, for every method of birth for a miscarried or stillborn baby.
- Professionally trained doulas in every US state and internationally, available to come alongside families through the birth process.
- Farewell celebration and funeral planning, including practical considerations such as location and cost, as well as personalized considerations such as poems and musical suggestions.
- Pregnancy loss specific Bible studies and devotionals.
- Other cultural and religious bereavement support.
- Local, national and global listings of bereavement and counseling support.
- One-on-one mentorship for fathers and mothers.
- Bereavement support specifically for siblings.
- Insight on how loved ones and friends can support a family experiencing loss.
- Love Cupboards to provide or to store tangible items.
- Photos of beautiful, stillborn or miscarried babies, born in every week gestation.
- Stories from mothers, fathers, siblings, grandparents, and loved ones.
- Quality, professional doula training.

These things offer:

- Validation.
- Faith and hope.
- Opportunities to bring beauty from ashes.
- Opportunities for your bereaved community to provide a needed ministry to others in honor of their beloved children.