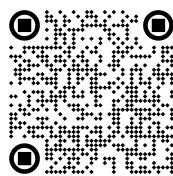




# Behold, Life

## Pro-Life Ministry at Calvary Chapel Star



Quarter 1

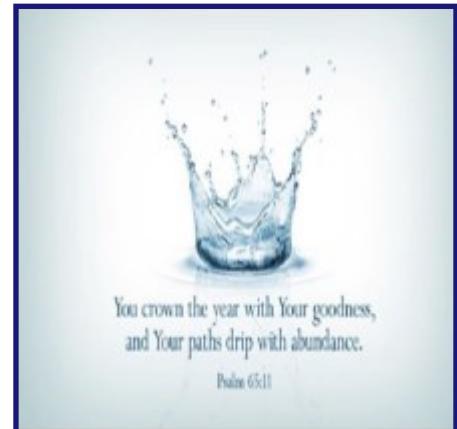
Jan – March 2026

### Reclaiming Fatherhood

Little did I know that the year I turned 19 I was about to make two profoundly bad decisions that would impact me for the rest of my life. Within just over one year, I had fathered two children, who were aborted, by two different young women. At the time, I was not a Christian and full of worldly thinking. I felt neutral about my first baby's abortion and was mostly consumed with concerns about how keeping the baby would affect me and my life goals. My relationship with my girlfriend was rocky at best, and she admitted getting pregnant on purpose in hopes of keeping us together. My response was that if she kept the baby I would help with support but that we were finished as a couple. I did not encourage her to keep the baby in any way, nor did I really want her to. Ultimately, her mother accompanied her to have our baby aborted. Even though my spiritual life was virtually nonexistent, I still felt guilty and had a deep shame after my baby was aborted. I told myself it was "her decision" and I wasn't responsible, but that did little to ease my feelings of guilt. Despite not being a believer, I was pretty sure that if God did exist, he was not pleased with me regarding the abortion. It just became a deep dark secret in my history that I tried to pretend didn't happen. Sadly, I was a very slow learner and found myself in a similar situation just over a year later. I was dating my older and more experienced supervisor at work. She had taken an interest in me and was recently single after ending a long-term relationship. Despite having little in common and no shared life goals, we quickly became intimate. She soon became pregnant. I learned of her pregnancy in the same sentence that I also learned she had already scheduled an abortion. She only told me about it because she thought that she might need someone to drive her to the appointment. This time I tried to talk her into cancelling her abortion, at least long enough to give me a minute to process the pregnancy and consider options. Sadly, she had already made the decision to abort our baby and wouldn't discuss any delay or other options. Six months later we were no longer a couple. This second abortion affected me deeper than the first and I felt even more guilty and depressed. Although I suppressed my guilt as deeply as I could, it left me with a general sense of failure as a man and an underlying distrust of women.

Two years later, I accepted Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior. There is no doubt that The Lord used the guilt I carried from my two aborted children to show me my need for Him. The night I accepted Jesus, I remember thinking that I had not just broken one or two of God's 10 laws, but I had broken every single one of them, including being complicit in the murder of my own unborn babies. By God's grace, I understood that Jesus paid the price for my sins and I was truly forgiven. I immediately felt set free from the guilt and shame from my past sins, including the abortions. However, I failed to realize how much worldly thinking and misunderstanding still affected my perceptions of God and what God wanted of me. I didn't understand sanctification and transformation very well. When I met my wife, she was also a new Christian and single mother of three. When we discussed having children of our own, I was hesitant due to remaining feelings of guilt and the need for penance that I didn't even know was somewhere deeply buried inside of me. I had not yet been discipled well or filled myself with the word of God. Sadly, I told my wife that I didn't need children of my own and felt I had missed my chance to be a biological father by allowing my babies to be aborted. It seemed to me that since she had children with no father and I was a father with no living children, we were a perfect match that God had brought together. Now 36 years later, I believe that I was partially correct. I was correct about God bringing us together as a family. Unfortunately, unrealized trauma from the abortions of my biological babies guided my decision to pass on a multitude of blessings, lessons, and insights that God had available to me. I missed joys that only He knows by not following His instructions to be filled with His spirit and be fruitful and multiply. We both love Jesus, each other, and our three children, four grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren. I look forward to meeting my two unborn babies in heaven one day that I have not met yet. I have a desire to encourage other men in their recovery from the trauma that abortion afflicts on us as men. This trauma can be deeply buried or just below the surface of our hearts. Either way, complete restoration awaits us in Christ.

~Jim S.



### Upcoming Events:

- Monthly Prayer Walks at Planned Parenthood in Ontario Oregon on 2nd Sat. of each month. 9 to 10:15 am
  - February 14th
  - March 14th
  - April 11th
  - May 9th
  - June 13th
  - July 11th
  - August 8th
  - September 12th
  - October 10th
  - November 14th
- Jan 18th—Diaper Drive during all 3 services
- Jan 24th—March for Life 1pm at Julia Davis Park to the Capital for a rally
- Feb. 20th—Reclaiming Fatherhood, a men's abortion recovery Bible study.

Visit Right to Life Idaho and Idaho Chooses Life to learn more about the 2026 Initiative "Reproductive Freedom and Privacy Act"

<https://www.rtlid.org/>

<https://idahochooselife.org/>