



UNPLANNED PREGNANCY

Experiencing an unplanned pregnancy can feel overwhelming, whether you are married and do not feel ready for a baby or facing pregnancy outside of marriage. It is a situation that may leave you feeling confused, afraid, or unsure of what to do next. Yet, the Bible provides guidance, hope, and encouragement to help you navigate this season. No matter how unexpected the circumstances, God's Word reminds us that He is present, His grace is sufficient, and His plans are good.

CONSIDERATION #1: THE GIFT OF LIFE

Every human life has immense value, regardless of the circumstances of conception. Both you and your baby were created in the image of God. Scripture reminds us, "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:13-14). God has known and loved this child from the beginning, and He has a plan for their life.

Even if the pregnancy was unplanned, God was not surprised. He is the giver of life, and His Word emphasizes the sanctity of every child. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" (Jeremiah 1:5). Choosing life for your baby aligns with God's will and opens the door for His blessings, even in challenging circumstances.

Abortion is often presented as a solution, but it ends a life that God has lovingly created. Jesus said, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Choosing life honors God and allows His plans for both you and your baby to unfold.

If you are unsure where to turn, there is support available. Through local churches and caring families, resources and compassionate care are avail-

able for those facing unplanned pregnancies. You are not alone, and there are people ready to walk alongside you as you choose life.

CONSIDERATION #2: THE RESPONSIBILITIES AHEAD

Choosing to give birth to your child is a courageous and godly decision, but it is only the first step. Raising a child comes with significant responsibilities that require sacrifice, patience, and wisdom. Parenting is an act of service, reflecting the humility and selflessness of Christ. “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves” (Philippians 2:3).

If you are not sure how to handle these responsibilities, seek God’s guidance. Pray for wisdom, and surround yourself with supportive people, including family, friends, and your church family. “In an abundance of counselors there is safety” (Proverbs 11:14).

If you hope to raise this child yourself, consider the role of the child’s father. A father can be an essential influence in a child’s life, for better or worse. This is a time to evaluate whether the father is ready to fulfill his role and, if necessary, seek counseling to determine whether marriage and co-parenting are possible or appropriate.

If you are a single mother, know that God sees and strengthens you. “Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand” (Isaiah 41:10). With God’s help and the support of others, you can meet the challenges ahead. Local organizations and church communities can provide additional resources to help you navigate the practical and emotional aspects of parenting.

CONSIDERATION #3: THE HOPE OF REDEMPTION

God specializes in redeeming messy situations and bringing beauty from ashes. If you became pregnant outside of marriage, you may feel ashamed or uncertain about the future. Remember, God’s grace is abundant, and His forgiveness is available. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). Repentance is the first step toward healing and restoration, and God will walk with you as you move forward.

If marriage is a possibility with the child’s father, seek biblical counsel and work together to build a Christ-centered home. A marriage built on repentance, forgiveness, and commitment can be a powerful story of God’s redemption. “What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate” (Matthew 19:6).

When marriage is not an option or you feel unable to provide the best future for your child, adoption can be a loving and sacrificial choice. Hand-

ing your child to a family prepared to care for them can be one of the most selfless acts you ever make. "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). Adoption agencies and Christian organizations can connect you with families who are qualified and waiting to adopt and provide your child with a loving, Christ-centered home.

GOD'S PLAN FOR YOU AND YOUR BABY

No matter how unplanned or overwhelming your situation feels, God is with you. He loves you and your baby deeply and promises to provide for you as you trust Him. "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

Remember, this season is not the end of your story. God has a plan for redemption, healing, and hope. "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11). By choosing life, restoration, and seeking His guidance, you can trust that He will lead you through every step of this journey. You can do it, and help is available.

You are not alone. Local churches and Christian organizations are here to support you with counseling, resources, and community. God's love will sustain you as you honor Him with your choices for both you and your child.

GOING FURTHER: RESOURCES

Care Net

Heartbeat International

Embrace Grace by Amy Ford

Pro-Life Answers to Pro-Choice Arguments by Randy Alcorn

Chosen for Greatness: How Adoption Changes the World by Paul Batura

Courageously Expecting by Jenny Albers



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