



*"Thanks Dad for letting me share life
with you"*

Unthreatened

Pre-born lives unthreatened by abortion to begin with

Imagine That!

No, let's don't imagine that
Let's make it happen

Malachi 4:6

Reviving Biblical husbandry & fatherhood through
life affirming ministry

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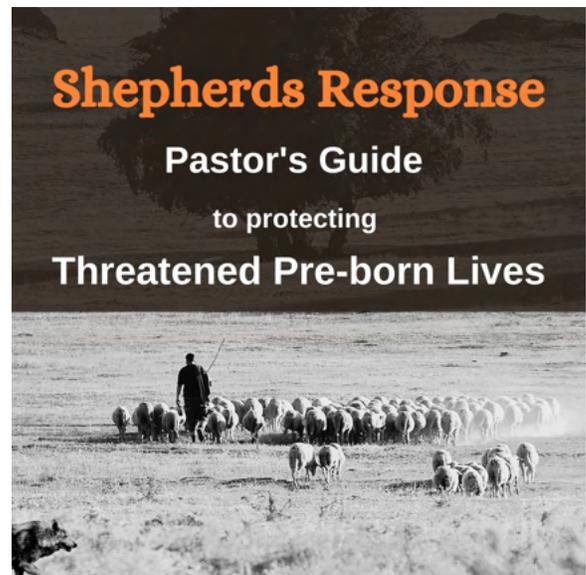
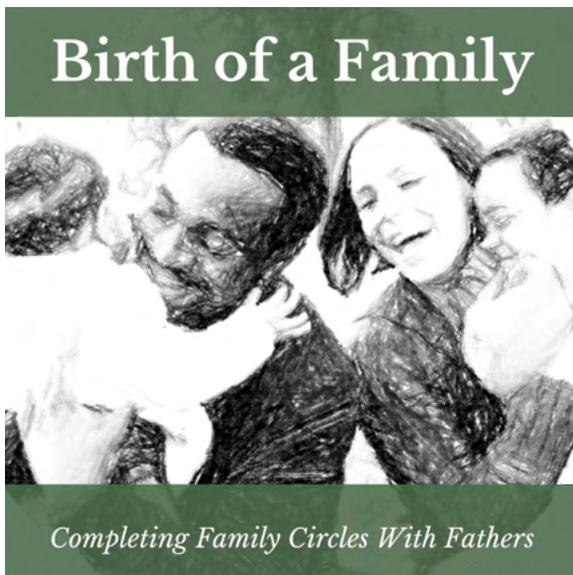
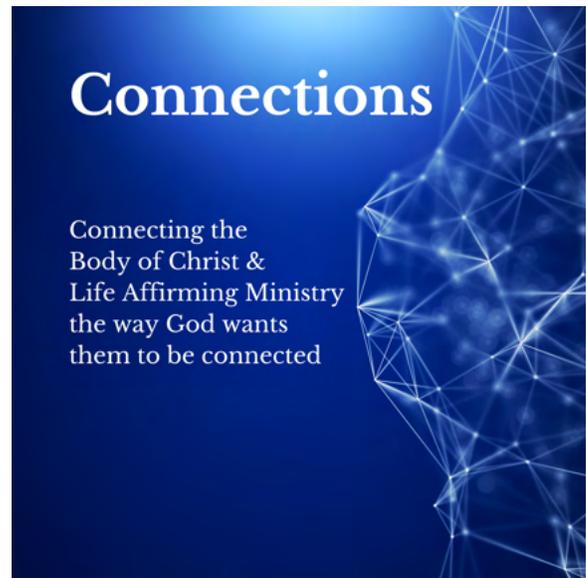
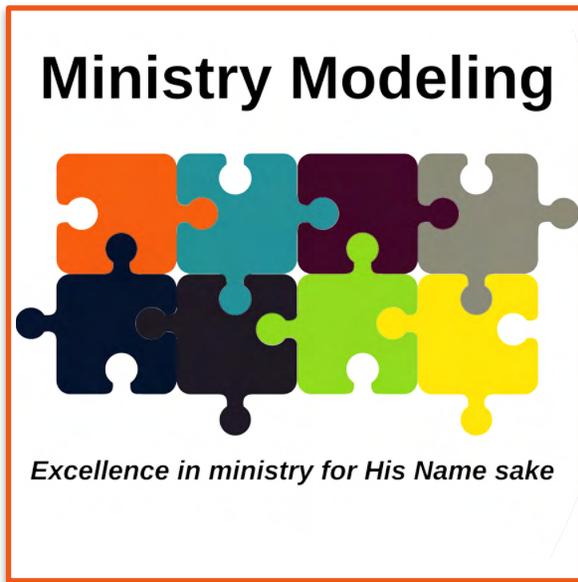
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other workshops



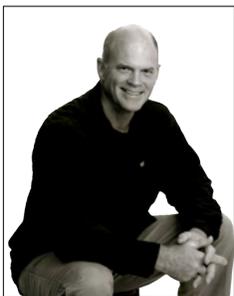
foreword

“Pre-born lives unthreatened by abortion to begin with.” Imagine that!

Life affirming ministries can reach a root cause of threats to pre-born life by reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood.

During this workshop experience we want to clearly demonstrate:

- A primary root cause of threats to pre-born life.
- An evidence based solution to this root cause.



Workshop host, Stuart Carver, has been reaching this root cause of threats to pre-born life since 1993 by:

- Connecting the Body of Christ to life affirming ministry
- Through relational discipleship that
- Revives Biblical husbandry and fatherhood.

Stuart Carver.

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tips

- **Engage**

This workshop will involve regular discussion opportunities. Engage in the dialogue. Share your insights, questions, observations and experiences.

- **Endure**

The workshop time will end before we want it to. Continue the conversation. Anytime during or after this workshop, contact Stuart by phone, text or email.

- **Equip**

Get equipped. Ask Stuart about resources available that reach the root cause of threats to pre-born lives. There's also a digital version of your handout available.

- **Evaluate**

Use this experience to evaluate possible adaptations to your ministry model.

- **Encourage**

Encourage and be encouraged.

- **Enjoy**

Enjoy our time together, seeking God first, as one Body.

part one

threatened

a root cause threat to pre-born life

How Many



How many pre-born lives are threatened by abortion?

In the US alone, more than two million pre-born lives are threatened by abortion each year.

[*See Basis 1](#)

Kristin

a true case study

In 2008, a high school couple, Alex and Kristin became pregnant. They were looking forward to getting married and having a family. Alex, who seemed to like the idea of becoming a husband and father at first, abandoned Kristen, leaving her devastated, questioning whether she could do this alone and putting their pre-born child's life at risk.



How did the life of Alex and Kristen's pre-born child become threatened?

Rest of the Story

Before Alex abandoned Kristen, they were already visiting LifeCare of Brandon, a pregnancy resource center in Florida. Alex and Kristen participated in Birth of a Family activities where they experienced role modeling, mentoring and support to build their family God's way.

After participating in about five of the weekly activities, Alex disappeared. But Kristen continued participating in Birth of a Family, graduated from high school, delivered her baby girl and lived with her parents.

About a year after her baby was born, Kristen reached out to her Birth of a Family facilitators with astonishing news. She met Rob who loved her baby and her, wanted to marry her and raise their family God's way.

There was one hitch though. Kristen told Rob he would need to go through Birth of a Family with her so they could learn how to cultivate a Biblical family relationship together. Several months later Rob and Kristen were married at the home of Kristen's parents.

Rob and Kristen have since been blessed with two more children, whose lives were never threatened by abortion to begin with.

★ Why have the pre-born lives of Rob and Kristen's children never been threatened by abortion to begin with?

Crisis

I've been serving life ministries since 1993, long enough to remember when they were called "crisis pregnancy centers."

★ When a woman visits a pregnancy resource center, is pregnancy the crisis?

★ If not pregnancy, what is the real crisis?

Consider the context.

part one: threatened

Root Cause Analysis

A root cause is the earliest, deepest cause for a given behavior or situation.

Root causes and symptoms are different.

Symptoms addressed by life affirming ministry include:

- Vulnerability to abortion
- Threats to pre-born life
- Unsustainable single-parenting
- Generational poverty
- Chronic cycles of unhealthy relationships.

★ *Are any of these symptoms a root cause?*

★ *Is it possible that all of these symptoms may have a singular root cause?*

★ *What could that singular root cause be?*

Let's use a true case study and Five Why's to reveal a root cause of all these symptoms.

part one: threatened

Five Whys

Cindy

a true case study

Cindy visited the same pregnancy resource center two times under similar circumstances.

The first time:

- Cindy was pregnant
- Cindy's boyfriend abandoned her
- Cindy was "Abortion Vulnerable" according to LAPCO's Abortion Risk Assessment Framework¹
- The life of Cindy's pre-born child was threatened by abortion.

Why 1

Why was the pre-born life of Cindy's first child threatened by abortion?
Cindy was afraid.

Why 2

Why was Cindy afraid?
She was overwhelmed.

Why 3

Why was Cindy overwhelmed?
She was alone and unsupported.

Why 4

Why was Cindy alone unsupported?
Her boyfriend abandoned her.

Why 5

Why did Cindy's boyfriend abandon her?
He was not committed to Biblical husbandry and fatherhood.

¹ **ABORTION-MINDED (AM):** The abortion-minded woman is one who appears to be planning or intending to obtain an abortion. Qualified Clinic personnel may recommend and schedule the client for a sonographic examination. This range encompasses terms such as abortion-determined and abortion-bound.

★ What is the root cause of the threat to the pre-born life of Cindy's child?

Rest of the Story

The first time Cindy visited the pregnancy center, she was in an unhealthy relationship where the pre-born life of her child was inconvenient to the child's father and eventually taken by abortion.

The second time Cindy visited the pregnancy center, she was in another unhealthy relationship and the pre-born life of her child was again threatened by abortion. This time, the pregnancy center helped Cindy and her boyfriend Derek discover something neither of them had ever known before: the **art and expectation** of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood.

Derek and Cindy had been participating in weekly relational discipleship activities hosted by the pregnancy center. It was a Tuesday night. Cindy was due to deliver at any time. Suddenly, Derek, who had been virtually silent up to that point, said these exact words in the group, "This is my fifth child with five different women" (speaking of Cindy and his pre-born child). "No more," he said. "This child is going to have a father that loves them and their mother."

Derek proposed marriage and the group helped Derek and Cindy plan a Biblical covenant wedding for the upcoming Saturday afternoon. **The wedding was unique.** On the following Tuesday evening, Cindy delivered a beautiful son. Derek was in the room when his son was delivered. When I visited them that night, the look on Derek's face as he cradled his newborn son has been unforgettable.

2 More Why's



Cindy's first pre-born child's life was taken by abortion. Why?



Cindy's second pre-born child's life was spared? Why?

Does Biblical husbandry and fatherhood really make that much difference?

Stark Facts

[Malachi 4:6 KJV](#) says, *“And He shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.”*

Three quarters of children exhibiting behavioral disorders experienced the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood. (Source: Center for Disease Control)

More than three quarters of all homeless and runaway children experienced the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood. (Source: U.S. D.H.H.S., Bureau of the Census)

Two thirds of all high school dropouts experienced the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood. (Source: National Principals Association Report on the State of High Schools)

Two-thirds of all adolescent patients in chemical abuse centers experienced the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood. (Source: Rainbows for all God's Children.)

Two-thirds of youth suicides experienced the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood. (Source: U.S. D.H.H.S., Bureau of the Census)

Three quarters of juveniles in state-operated institutions experienced the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood. (Source: U.S. Dept. of Justice, Special Report)
Children experiencing the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood are twice as likely to end their own marriages in divorce.

Children experiencing the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood are twice as likely to remain chronically welfare dependent.

Daughters experiencing the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood are twice as likely to experience unwed and teen pregnancy (Source: The Good Family Man, David Blankenhorn)

Three quarters of American children experiencing the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood will be impoverished before age 11.

Three quarters of life affirming ministry clients experienced the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood.

Lack of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood is most common reason women choose abortion.

Most children experiencing high ACE scores ([ACES](#)) experience the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood.

The absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood is the most common theme in the biographies of school shooters. (<https://www.heritage.org/marriage-and-family/commentary/the-crisis-fatherless-shooters>)

★ Does Biblical husbandry and fatherhood really make that much difference?

[Malachi 4:6](#) says, “*And He shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.*”

★ Do you believe our land is cursed when children do not experience Biblical husbandry and fatherhood?

Out of Control

How has the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood gotten so far out of control so fast?

The Family Cycle

The family cycle is the most powerful cycle on earth, literally shaping the entire human experience.

How does the family cycle work?

1. Children are procreated by fathers and mothers
2. Children are vulnerable to whatever circumstances their parents cultivate
3. Children grow up, and when they do, they also mature
4. Maturing people seek intimate companionship that often results in the procreation of next generations of children
5. Next generations of children tend to carry on the family cycle the way they experienced it.

What makes the family cycle so powerful?

- The family cycle is always in motion
- The family cycle is exponential
- The family cycle is the conduit through which flows generational blessings and curses.



Can you see how the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood has gotten so far out of control, so fast?



Can this cycle work in reverse...or forward, depending on how you look at it?

Crystal Clear

The root cause of threats to pre-born lives is crystal clear.

The absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood is a primary root cause of threats to pre-born life.

Do you believe it?

- ★ Do you believe the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood is a primary root cause of threats to pre-born lives? How?
- ★ Does the absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood really result in curses? If so, what could some of those curses be?
- ★ Do you believe threats to pre-born lives can be reduced by reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood? Why?
- ★ Do you believe reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood is possible? Why or why not?
- ★ Does God want us to revive Biblical husbandry and fatherhood? Why?
- ★ Do you believe reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood in your life ministry could make a difference? If so, how and what? If not, why not?

Take a Break

part one: threatened

part two

unthreatened

an evidence based solution

“Reach the root cause of threats to pre-born life.” Imagine that!

No, let's don't imagine that.

Let's make it happen.

Review

- The absence of Biblical husbandry and fatherhood is a root cause of threats to pre-born lives.
- Reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood is not only possible, it is necessary.
- Threats to pre-born lives can be reduced by reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood.

part one: threatened

Hope

The greatest hope of preventing pre-born lives from ever being threatened by abortion to begin with is to revive Biblical husbandry and fatherhood.

How Many

★ *How many pre-born children would you like to prevent from being vulnerable to abortion to begin with?*

6.25 Million ([See Basis 2](#))

Our experience suggests that during the next decade (2021-2030), in the US alone, reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood could reduce the number of pre-born lives that are ever threatened by abortion to begin with by at least 6.25 million lives.

Research supports this would translate into generational movement. Generational properties strongly suggest this movement would result in a departure from the culture of death that we are in now and move us toward a culture of life: a culture where pre-born lives are unthreatened by abortion to begin with.

Do you believe life affirming ministries are uniquely positioned to reach the root cause of threats to pre-born life by reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood? Why or why not?

part one: threatened

Impossible

- ★ Does reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood feel impossible? Why?
- ★ What feels most impossible about reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood?
 - Engaging men?
 - Changing men?
 - Reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood?
 - Helping women expect Biblical husbandry and fatherhood?
- ★ Do you feel called to address the male side of equation regarding pre-born lives through your life affirming ministry?
- ★ What do you feel are the biggest challenges to reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood through life affirming ministry?
- ★ For each father's heart turned toward their families, how many lives are positively affected? [Exodus 20:5](#)
- ★ Do you believe threats to pre-born lives can be eliminated **without** reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood? [Malachi 4:6](#)

Threats to pre-born lives can be eliminated by reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood. [Malachi 4:6](#)

part one: threatened

Prove It

Since 1993, we have been using relational discipleship to turn the hearts of fathers toward their families.

A four year study² of our relational discipleship approach proved that 52% of the people who participated turned toward a Biblical model for their families.

 **Discussion and Questions**

^{2 2} Study performed between 2007 and 2011

Relational Discipleship

an evidence based solution

What is Relational Discipleship?

- Role modeling
- Mentoring
- Networks of support.

★ Wait a minute. What about just teaching people how to do it? How's that working? Why?

★ Are learning and knowledge the same?

[II Timothy 3:7 NASB](#) says people can “always be learning and yet, never come to the knowledge of the truth.”

★ What is the difference between learning and knowledge?

- **Learning** is *becoming informed*, and enlightened. [\[Strong's-3129\]](#) See II Timothy 4:3
- **Knowledge** is becoming personally aware through **first-hand experience** [\[Strong's-1922\]](#). Knowledge is experiential knowledge of the truth gained through first-hand personal relationship.

★ Are “experiential knowledge of the truth” and “relational discipleship” similar? If so, how?

★ By God's design, how are men supposed to learn how to be Biblical husbands and fathers?

★ By God's design, how are women supposed to learn how to expect Biblical husbandry and fatherhood?

Set the Table

Role Modeling

By design, role modeling is how God wants men and women to learn about Biblical roles, expectations and responsibilities. This occurs by watching it happen, first hand, in person.

Mentoring

By design, mentoring is how God wants boys and girls to be coached into the responsible assumption of their Biblical adult roles, expectations and responsibilities.

Networks of Support

By design, networks of support, otherwise referred to as the “Body of Christ,” are how God wants us to be supported and held accountable by like minded family and friends.



What happens when children do not experience God’s design of role modeling, mentoring and networks of support?

- Among other things, pre-born lives are threatened by abortion.



If people do not experience God’s design of role modeling, mentoring and networks of support from their fathers, mothers and families while they are children, is there still hope?

- By design, there is still hope. Even when they do not experience it as children, people are still responsive to role modeling, mentoring and networks of support as adults.

How

How does this kind of remedial relational discipleship happen?

Intentional, innovative creation.

Intentional

At present, few life affirming ministry models **intentionally** incorporate relational discipleship that engages the Body of Christ as key catalysts of change. We have served many of the few life ministries who do. States where we have served life ministries include:

- Michigan
- Virginia
- Indiana
- Illinois
- Kansas
- Florida
- New Jersey
- South Carolina
- Georgia

Yes, churches give money and people of the Body do volunteer. But engaging people of the Body with clients of life ministry in relational discipleship that revives Biblical husbandry is currently rare.

We are **intentional** about helping more life affirming ministries intentionally incorporate relational discipleship that engages the Body of Christ as key catalysts.

part two: unthreatened

Innovative

Innovations have occurred in life affirming ministry that have been game changers. Ultrasound is one such example.

Reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood is in the early stages of becoming that kind of innovation in life affirming ministry.

Engaging people of the Body of Christ as key catalysts in life affirming ministry is, by far, a most desperately needed innovation.

This will often require significant innovations in life ministry models in which much deeper dependence is placed on the Body of Christ to fulfill key roles as role models, mentors and networks of support.

Discussion and Questions

Birth of a Family

true story about an evidence based solution

Motive

What's the motive behind sharing [Birth of a Family](#) as an evidence based solution? It is not sales or self promotion.

Birth of a Family is cited here because we are unaware of a better example of an evidence based solution that:

- Reduces threats to pre-born life by
- Engaging the Body of Christ in life affirming ministry
- Through relational discipleship that
- Revives Biblical husbandry and fatherhood
- Preventing pre-born lives from being threatened to begin with.

Birth of a Family is:

- Specifically meaningful and relevant to client families of life affirming ministries
- Biblically applicable to the lives of life ministry client families
- Achieves the measurable results needed to prevent pre-born lives from being threatened by abortion to begin with.



Discussion and Questions

If not Birth of a Family, create alternate relational discipleship platforms that:

- Engages the Body of Christ in life affirming ministry
- Through relational discipleship that
- Revives Biblical husbandry and fatherhood
- Preventing pre-born lives from being threatened to begin with.

LifeCare of Brandon

a true case study

In 2007, **Lifecare of Brandon**, a Florida pregnancy resource center began using **Birth of a Family**.

A young woman sought the services of **Lifecare**. She was pregnant with twins. The father of the twins was using drugs, unemployed and volatile. **Lifecare** counselors suggested the couple participate in their Birth of a Family activities. When they showed up, they were immediately welcomed by trained family coaches, Phil and Barb. While no one knew it at the time, this was the beginning of a relationship between life ministry clients and people of the Body of Christ that endures to this day.

It was during the first moments of their first Birth of a Family activity that the father of those twins came to grips with his role as a husband and father. When asked if Biblical husbandry and fatherhood was wanted he wanted he said, "That's why I'm here. That's what I need to do!"

The next four years were a rough climb out of chronic unemployability, addiction, dysfunction and poverty. Nevertheless:

- The unmarried couple consistently participated in Birth of a Family activities
- Phil and Barb remained consistently engaged and supportive as role models and mentors
- That little family somehow stayed together.

Four years after they began participating in Birth of a Family activities, they asked me to officiate their wedding. It was a beautiful family wedding in the front yard of their modest rural home.

part two: unthreatened

Looking back, it's all so unbelievable:

- That this father accepted his responsibility. No one believed that could happen.
- That this couple would work so hard to break out of the chronically unhealthy relationship and situation they were in. No one thought they could or would.
- That they would eventually unite their family in Biblical covenant marriage.
- That they would create a family culture of life, where pre-born lives are not threatened to begin with.

A Legendary Parable

A small village of people once lived along the edge of a fast flowing river. Several people of the village were fishing along the river's edge when one noticed a baby being washed downstream. Shortly after rescuing, drying and warming the baby, another baby came downstream. Sometime later, another, followed by more and more babies were being washed downstream. By the early afternoon, the entire village was involved in frantically rescuing as many babies as fast as they could.

When three villagers began running upstream, the village elders asked, "Where are you going?" We need your help here. There are too many babies to rescue." The three villagers said, "We are going upstream to try to prevent these babies from falling into the river."

"Pre-born lives unthreatened by abortion to begin with." Imagine that!

Life affirming ministries can reach a root cause of threats to pre-born life by reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood.

During this workshop experience we wanted to clearly demonstrate:

- A primary root cause of threats to pre-born life.
- An evidence based solution to this root cause.

Closing

 **Discussion and Questions**

Basis 1 (US/2018)

- 2.5 Million Estimated of the number of pre-born children vulnerable to abortion annually in the US(2018)
 - Based on
 - 3.8 M live births
 - Abortion ratio: 19.5
 - 700,000 legal abortions reported (incomplete and biased data)
 - 850,000 life ministry clients
 - 37% of life ministry (LM) clients abortion vulnerable
 - 17% of LM clients abortion minded

Definitions

- Abortion minded: [woman] planning or intending to obtain an abortion and who not pregnant, would likely plan an abortion if she were.
- Abortion-vulnerable: [woman] faces obstacles to child bearing.
- Transitioned: Situations sustainably mitigated.
- Abortion rate: number of abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age
- Abortion ratio: number of abortions per 100 pregnancies ending in an abortion or a live birth.

Notes

- Procreation, by nature, is a private experience, limiting precise research.
- Parents' hearts toward pre-born children is difficult to determine and subject to vacillation.
- Virtually all research about abortion is incomplete and/or biased.

Basis 2 (US/2018)

- 2.5 Million Estimated of the number of pre-born lives threatened by abortion annually in the US(2018)
- 25 Million Estimated number of pre-born lives threatened by abortion over the course of a decade (10 years)
- 6.25 Million Estimated number of pre-born lives unthreatened by abortion to begin with by reviving Biblical husbandry and fatherhood.