



Conversations- Week 3

ADULT GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**GROUP PREP**

In preparation for group, [watch Emmanuel's weekend service message](#), then answer the following discussion questions.

SOCIAL TIME (15-30 minutes)

Have an ice-breaker ready, eat a snack together, and/or go around the circle asking your group members to share any news since your last meeting, if your group is continuing from last semester. Be intentional in helping your group members get to know one another during this time and make it fun.

Ice-Breaker suggestion: Word association: The word association game involves each person saying a word that relates to the one previously said. You can start by providing a word or category, such as 'space,' 'computer,' or 'movies.' Each member of the group takes turns to say a corresponding word quickly. If they stutter, provide a term that has already been said, or take too long to respond they're out.

CHECK-IN TIME (15-30 minutes)

Talk about what you did last week to complete your action step.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (45-60 minutes)

Who gets to decide what is right and wrong? When it comes to our sexuality, morals, or response to stress, who decides the correct way to act and behave? Today, we live in a world that encourages us to decide for ourselves. But God has a higher calling for us. He provides us with absolute truth that we can come to for every area of our life. This week we are continuing our series of hard conversations as we discover God's truth, love, and grace in some of the most difficult topics in our world today.

1. 73 million people get an abortion each year, and in the United States 2/3 of the people who choose to have an abortion are associated in some way with Christianity. This is important because it means that if abortion has not personally affected you, it has likely affected someone that you know or love.

How has the matter of abortion affected you or someone you know personally, socially, politically, etc.?



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2. Pastor Danny shared that he found a study completed in fall 2021 from a published medical journal, where 96% of a panel of 5577 biologists from all different religious, political, and educational backgrounds agreed that life starts at conception. If it is so commonly agreed upon that life starts at conception, why do you think we struggle as a society to agree that abortion is a form murder?

In your opinion, is the matter of abortion black and white? If not, what makes it difficult to gain clarity on the issue?

3. Read [Psalm 139:13-16](#) and [Ephesians 1:3-6](#). When we look to the Bible for truth on the topic of abortion, we see that our life was thought of, cared for, and God-breathed with purpose before we were even conceived, in the womb, and every day of our life after birth.

As we encounter many of the common justifications in favor of abortion, as Christ followers our trust in God's ability to work through hard circumstances is tested.

Many of the justifications for abortion include concern for the impact on the life of the mother/family or on the circumstances that led to the pregnancy like rape or incest. [Read Isaiah 43:2-4](#). God wants to partner with us, especially in the depth of our darkest moments. When we partner with God in our hardest circumstances, he promises us no road will be a dead end.

How has God worked through brokenness in your life, specifically connected to abortion or in any other area of your life?

Do you believe in and trust God's ability to take even the most broken circumstances and turn them for good, especially when it comes to unwanted pregnancies?

4. Read [Romans 8:37-39](#), [Isaiah 54:10](#), and [2 Corinthians 12:9](#).

For people who have had an abortion: There is grace in unlimited supply for you. You are loved by a God who has wanted you in His family since the beginning of time. There is no depth or distance you can go that He won't follow and pursue you. There is hope and there is healing for you. How do you need to step into that grace today? What steps do you need to take to start or continue your healing from abortion?

If you have not made the choice to have an abortion: There is no higher calling than to reflect and love like Jesus. How can you seek to show grace and extend love to the people you may encounter who have made the choice to have an abortion? What impact might your grace have on those individuals' ability to heal?

**Conversations- Week 3****ACTION STEP (10-15 minutes)**

Choose one of the following or create your own. Consider finding an accountability partner within your group to walk alongside you this week.

- **Surrender the Secret:** If you have had an abortion, find a community for support and [Join the small group Surrendering the Secret](#) (starting soon).
- **Get Support:** If you have had an abortion or are considering an abortion, get connected to resources. Connect to one of our local outreach partners: [Life Centers](#) or [CareNet](#).
- **Commit to Prayer:** Commit to praying for each woman who might consider an abortion, whether you know them or not.
- **Seek Counsel:** If you have more questions regarding this hard conversation, connect with your Emmanuel Campus Pastor to discuss those questions at eclife.org/staff.
- **Daily time with God:** Determine the type of routine you'd like to have that allows you to spend time learning about what pleases God. Here are some ways to do this:
 - [Download the Emmanuel app](#) and read the One Year New Testament daily.
 - [Download the YouVersion app](#) and find a devotion you can do daily. You can even decide to do one as a group to encourage one another as you do the daily readings.
 - If you recently placed your faith in Christ and texted SAVED to 65248, read the devotional provided in your starter kit.

PRAYER (5-10 minutes)

Ask your group to share two things

1. Prayer requests for themselves and the people in their lives.
2. Ask also for any reason to praise, it is great to come to God in thanksgiving for all He has done.

Keep note of the burdens in people's life and notice when God moves in those areas specifically. We believe God will see prayers become praise and it is an opportunity to increase our faith when we are in the position to bring that to light.

GROUP SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

To determine how your group can serve together in the surrounding community, email Breanne De Avila, Emmanuel's Associate Outreach Director, at bschafer@eclife.org.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

March 21-April 2 | Spring Break for Groups (Check with your Campus Director for onsite group availability+ Childcare)

April 16 | Groups End

April 16 & 17 | Easter Weekend

You can find more information on all of these events at eclife.org.