



The Challenge of 18000



remembering the holocaust of aotearoa

Mother Teresa said this

"Many people are concerned with children of India, with the children of Africa where quite a few die of hunger, and so on. Many people are also concerned about the violence in this great country of the United States. These concerns are very good. But often these same people are not concerned with the millions being killed by the deliberate decision of their own mothers. And this is the greatest destroyer of peace today- abortion which brings people to such blindness."

How blind we have become in New Zealand. The latest figures show nearly 18000 deaths are taking place every year in New Zealand. 18000 New Zealanders are dying at the hands of abortion. How Mother Teresa's words are painfully true. Oh that our Father in heaven would open our blind eyes.

Martin Luther said:

If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except precisely that point which the world and devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proven, and to be steady on all the battlefronts besides is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.

I do not want to flinch at the point God is highlighting. The point where it hurts. The problem with unborn babies is they cannot speak. They cannot tell of their hopes and aspirations in life; where they would like to be schooled, their hopes of marriage and where they would like to live. The problem is our lives are just too noisy and unborn life is just too quiet.

What are we to do about this? Pray for the ending of abortion in New Zealand? Sure, that is a good start! Have faith in God to change things? Of course! But remember 'Faith without actually getting off your butt (my paraphrase) is stagnant and dead faith. If God really is a Father to the fatherless, is He not also a Father to the aborted who pass silently to the next world day in and day out on these shores? Surely the God of life who is the author of the gospel of life would want to arise in the face of a culture of death. So exactly what should we do? Read another article and hope this one will go away? Shout at the government? Scream at 'sinners' to get our point across? Sign a petition? Have another sausage sizzle to raise funds and awareness of blood on our hands?

First things first. Perhaps before we, the people of God, attempt to see abortion removed and a nation cleansed of sin, we ourselves need to be cleansed of sin. Maybe we need to clean house as the judgment begins in the house of God. Since the introduction of abortion to New Zealand in the 1970's the Church has been slowly lulled to sleep. Sure there have been some voices speaking against the atrocities. However, gradually, little by little we have become anaesthetised to the horror of child murder in the land. Remember the Scriptures:

"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.....My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body..... How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!" Psalms 139:13-17, NIV.

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Each life is created by and is precious to God. Each life is His. Look what God said to a young, budding prophet Jeremiah:

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart”
(Jeremiah 1:4, 5, NIV)

What a concept, before we were even conceived, God knew us. Life matters to God. Our life matters to God. But who's way of thinking has changed whom in the past 30 years in New Zealand? Has the Church gloriously and victoriously changed the world? Or has the world's way of thinking and value system changed the Church? Most of us would agree the Church has become more and more like the world. The sins of the world are now the sins of the Church. The sins and mindsets dominating the youth culture also dominate the local Church youth culture. The TV shows of the world entertain the people of God. Worldly movie stars, possessions, sports have become our idols as well as the world's. Interestingly the abortion rate is also creeping in among the evangelical community. Check out these statistics from the US:

“One out of every six abortions are performed on woman who identify themselves as “born again” Christians. With some 1.5 million women submitting to abortion each year, this equals 250,000 evangelically oriented Christians aborting annually”

Maybe instead of wagging our little religiously wired fingers at the world we need to ask Father for His heart for the fatherless of our community, Church and land: the unwanted and the unborn.

Read again the challenge of Mother Teresa:

I will tell you something beautiful. We are fighting abortion by adoption - by care of the mother and adoption for her baby. We have saved thousands of lives. We have sent word to the clinics, to the hospitals and police.

When I read those words 'fight abortion with adoption' God began to place a seed in my heart. The seed grew and one day whilst enjoying a weekend off with my wife in Taupo, the Lord communicated to my heart in an internal vision.

I saw a meal table with my family sat all around it. Whilst my wife and I have six small children, in the vision these children were older and there were more than six! God showed me in my 'mind's eye' that this was my family in the future. All grown up and gangly! There were children in our family who were delivered and rescued from abortion. My family was to be filled with the unwanted children of the earth. The Lord showed me that they would become the historical preachers to their generation about the abortion holocaust of New Zealand. But how would we rescue them from abortion?

During this time I also took a drive from our home in King Country to Auckland. Whilst I am no fan of graffiti, on my journey my eyes wandered from the road (momentarily) to some graffiti on a white piece of concrete traveling north to Auckland. It read "ABORTION. NZ's holocaust". The words penetrated my heart as I cried out to the Lord for the unborn of the land of Aotearoa. It was as if all creation was groaning with me as I cried for these unborn sons and daughters to be revealed.

Then came the crunch. He told me to place an advert in the local newspapers where we live. The advert was to read:

PREGNANT?

Do not know what to do?

PLEASE DO NOT ABORT

Please consider open adoption
of your child to a

local, loving family who want more children.

All legal expenses paid.

It took a little while and a couple of 'flat whites' to get my head around the concept of advertising in the classified section of our newspaper for 'children'.

It took more than coffee to actually place the adverts. But place them we did.

The box adverts appear weekly in two local papers in the Ruapehu district. With funding we will place them all over the country. We also printed business cards and placed them with health professionals and doctors. Secular doctors have commended us for standing up for what we believe and helping mothers and babies at an otherwise awkward time.

So would anyone call? What if hundreds call? These thoughts among thousands of others swarmed around our minds and hearts and we waited for the advert to come out.

Within two hours of publication of the first advert we received a text message from a woman on the way to having an abortion. We meet with her twice and on the second meeting she decided to have the baby inside of her and give the baby up for adoption to us. We have since dealt with several other cases and phone messages.

In a sense we are trying to offer a genuine 'choice' for mothers. At present if a woman falls pregnant there is very little advice of the options available to her. Most women are under incredible pressure and fast tracked to the abortion clinic. This is not 'pro-choice' This is 'pro-abortion'.

It is becoming easier and easier to abort in our land with or without parental consent. Is it not time to stand and speak up? To actually do something? I refused to switch off the inner cry rising within me. It is the voice of the Holy Spirit communing with my spirit saying 'arise, let the heroic deliverers arise!' why not reject the tall poppy cutters all around you waiting with sharpened blades to chop you down. Say no to the voices around you saying 'I can't do that'. Reject your self-hatred and discouragement and say yes to voice of the Father in heaven speaking to you on behalf of the unwanted and unborn. Dare we ignore the voice of God in the cry of the unwanted and the unborn? Maybe it is time for an army of deliverers' to arise in New Zealand. The hour is already late in New Zealand history. Imagine if government agencies were flooded with our unconditional help for abused and neglected children of our land. Maybe there is something heroic that God has called you to do. Something radical. Something that will change society.

If 18000 of God's people rose up and adopted the 18000 aborted we could change society in one generation!

*But you, O God, do not see trouble and grief; you consider it to take it in hand.
The victim commits himself to you;
you are the helper of the fatherless*

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