



Whose Rights Are Right?

Part 3 – My Right to Choose Study Guide

The “right to choose” seems indisputable until we consider the fact that our choices affect the choices of others. In some cases, our choice gives another person no choice at all. This is the reality when we discuss the uncomfortable topic of abortion. It forces us to think about weighing a mother’s rights against her child’s. When we choose to lay down our rights, no matter the cost, we follow Jesus’ example. Whatever stage of life’s journey you find yourself in, it helps to remember that Jesus doesn’t ask us to do anything He wasn’t willing to do himself.

1. The tone of our conversations matter. You can have your say, but it might be all you get to say. Have you ever engaged in a discussion where you wanted to get your point across about a sensitive political or moral issue? How did you approach it? What was the result?

“And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, ‘Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.’ And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”

- Luke 22:41-44 (ESV)

2. **Read Luke 22:39-46.** In this passage Jesus clearly “feels the weight,” yet He chooses to lay down His rights. What difficult situation have you faced (or are you facing today) where you can choose to “trust God more than you trust yourself?”

“Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.” - Luke 7:47 (ESV)

3. **Read Luke 7:36-50.** The woman in this passage was forgiven her many sins because she loved much. As a result of that forgiveness, her capacity to love increased. How can our own forgiven sins give us the capacity to love *much*?

4. **Read Genesis 1:27 and Psalm 139:13.** God is the creator. God is the giver and taker of life. Today, there is a question of whose right it is to give and take life. How can we love people when we don't all agree on the answer?