

Abortion

I'm sitting here pondering what I would say to someone who is faced with an unwanted pregnancy like I was when I was a teenager. I guess the first thing I would say is exactly what you'd expect your parents to say- Don't get yourself into that situation. I know that sounds cliché, but coming from someone who had an abortion 35 years ago and still lives with that daily, I can honestly say that is the BEST advice! Seek the Lord and purity! He has ordained sex for the confines of a marriage for a reason- to protect you! Understand that we can choose to do things God's way, and experience the beauty of His plan, or we can choose to do things our way, and experience harm and destruction.

However, when I decided to choose my own way and have premarital sex, I was faced with an unwanted pregnancy (yeah, you never think it could happen to you). I felt backed into a corner and saw no way out and felt that my ONLY choice was abortion. I didn't feel like I could tell my parents because I was the "good" kid- great grades, always in church, pre-med major, and didn't want to disappoint them. 1 in 4 women will have an abortion some time in their life. We feel driven into desperation when the alternatives seem too awful to contemplate. But speaking from experience, what is suppose to cause relief, most often causes guilt, shame, anxiety, depression, drug and alcohol abuse, and sexual promiscuity. The abortion becomes a secret you are afraid to tell anyone for fear of judgement, but that secret lives and thrives in darkness and denial and is straight from the enemy. Secrets can keep us bound to sin! We must bring this secret, or any secret, to the light, take away the power of the enemy, and give it to the Lord. Psalm 32:5 says, "I acknowledge my sin to you and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord and you forgave the iniquity of my sin." If you have had an abortion, you feel like it is the worst sin ever and there is no way God would ever forgive you. You don't really think you deserve forgiveness. But there is NOTHING that you have done or could ever do that God doesn't see or know. Your sin may be from premarital sex, an abortion, or something else. God is ready to forgive you. I John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." No matter what you have done, we are all on common ground at the foot of the cross where grace abounds. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away, behold, the new has come."

You can find healing with the Lord's help and with the help of support groups. Auburn Community Church and Church of the Highlands both have a confidential support group that helps women work through the pain of abortion and find freedom, forgiveness, and peace. Remember, you are not alone and God's arms are open wide to receive and forgive you. You can trust God with your pain and be amazed by His grace.

strugglewell.allthings@gmail.com

All correspondence received in direct relation to any Struggle Well story is strictly confidential and only seen by full time staff at All Things Ministries. To reach out to someone directly, please feel free to email strugglewell.allthings@gmail.com.