Christian Voices for Life

Wednesday Word

Education

Prayer

Action

Adoption and Abortion – Similarities and Differences

Education: Adoption is rarely spoken about, so when a woman is faced with a crisis pregnancy, it may not occur to her to consider adoption as an option. It is rarely chosen. If she goes through the pregnancy, she fears that it will be too hard to release her baby for adoption, and end up parenting, or "abandoning her child" and be a bad mother by letting him go. She sees abortion as preventing motherhood altogether.

However, both adoption and abortion allow the mother to continue her education and pursue her goals and plans. She will not have to parent before she is ready, and have the freedom to choose whether or not to have a long-term relationship with the baby's father. But of course, there are very significant differences to consider.

Abortion	Adoption
Abortion is a final decision, with pressure to make the decision soon.	You'll have time to consider a plan for the adoption, choosing who to parent them.
You will never touch or know your baby.	You can hold and name your baby.
You will never see your child grow and develop.	You can receive reports and pictures and see their progress, or perhaps even visit them.
Your pregnancy ends with the death of your child.	Your pregnancy ends with the birth of your child.
You are likely to sooner or later feel guilt and shame about your choice.	You are likely to feel good and positive about your choice to give your child a good home at a time when you were unable to do so.

Much of the material above is based on information from **Decisions, Choices & Options** at https://dcoinc.org/the-facts/abortion-vs-adoption-similarities-and-differences/

Prayer: Dear Father God, please help all women in crisis pregnancies to be informed about the option of adoption. Help them to see it as a loving way to provide for their child if they are unable to do so themselves. Help them to turn to you in prayer to discern your will for their child, and make the best decision for both themselves and their child. Help their family members to accept their decision and give them loving support. Bless families who want to open their homes to adopted children, and help them to be patient in waiting for the child you want to send them.

Action: Use the preferred terminology in speaking about adoption: "She made an adoption plan," rather than "she gave away her baby"; "They have children by both birth and adoption," rather than "They have 2 adopted kids in addition to their own"; "His birth parents," rather than "his real parents" (the adoptive parents are his REAL parents); "He was adopted," rather than "He is adopted" adoption is a past event, not a characteristic of the person. If someone you know is considering abortion, invite them to consider making an adoption plan.