

# **SPEAK UP!**

## **Proverbs 31:8-9**

**Believers should speak up in opposing abortion**

### **I. SPEAK (8)**

#### **A. THE COMMAND: Open your mouth!**

1. Be vocal: Let others know what you believe
2. Don't sit passively silent on the sidelines

#### **B. THE CAUSE**

1. For the mute or unheard
  - a. The unborn baby cannot speak
  - b. The overwhelmed mother often will not speak
2. For the unfortunate
  - These are literally the pierced ones or ones cut through ... the wounded to death

### **II. JUDGE (9a)**

#### **A. GOVERN: "Judge"**

1. Decide controversies
  - a. First internally: Weigh the facts and apply the Scriptures
  - b. Then externally: Speak to the dispute > Make known God's statutes
2. Discourage mothers from aborting their babies
3. Don't forget to focus on fathers too

#### **B. GET JUSTICE**

1. Vindicate the vulnerable > Psalm 82:3-4
2. Do good > Isaiah 1:17
3. Pray for righteous rulers > Psalm 72:12-14

#### **C. BE INVOLVED: Doing righteously**

1. Do what is biblically right > Note Job's example
2. Be zealous and tender

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### III. **DEFEND** (9b)

#### A. OUR RESPONSIBILITY

1. Plead the cause of another (as the KJV has it)
  - To do so is a part of truly knowing God - See Jeremiah 22:16
2. Come alongside to assist > Support the work of the Life Centers
3. Be urgent and engaged - Follow Proverbs 24:11-12
4. Do all that you can to support expectant parents
5. Encourage fostering and adoption

#### B. THE RECIPIENTS

1. The Afflicted: Those economically disadvantaged
  - Literally: “Those who live sparsely”
2. The Needy: Those physically disadvantaged
  - a. Those who are sickly, oppressed or troubled > The disabled
  - b. Example: Consider the unborn child with Down Syndrome and his or her abortion risk

### **CONCLUSION:**

**We should be a Proverbs 31 people!**

*- Speaking, judging and defending the rights of the unborn*

**Let's recommit to recognizing our responsibility and SPEAK UP!**