

# Caring TOGETHER

SHARING LIFE STORIES OF COMPASSION, HOPE, & HELP

APRIL 2022

CARE-NET.ORG

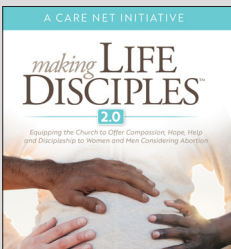
CARE NET



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At Last, Making Life Disciples 2.0 is here!  
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## You surrounded Carolina with God's love... and helped her choose life!



**Carolina\*** knew the joys of motherhood very well. The wonder of bringing a baby into the world. The excitement of seeing that child grow and learn, his eyes full of light and exploration. The weight of responsibility that comes with being a mom, especially an unmarried one. *Carolina already had three children, but no husband to help raise them.*

That's why her positive pregnancy test immediately sent Carolina into an emotional tailspin. How could she justify bringing another baby into her already crazy life? As a Christian, Carolina never felt great about abortion, but **would God really want her to deliver another baby when she was already a single mother of three?**

She just wasn't sure.

### Fighting the Fear of the Unknown

While she looked online for anything that could help her decide what to do, she found the number for *Pregnancy Decision*

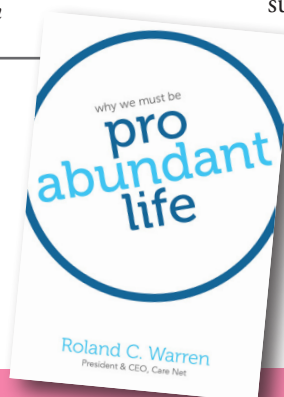
*Line* and called to speak with a coach about her options. Thanks to your continued prayers and support, her coach was there, ready to talk, and able to give a safe place where Carolina could talk her about her fears and her faith.

As they spoke, Carolina was gently encouraged to think about what she *knew*, not just the unknowns of her unplanned pregnancy. She *knew* this was a baby... *her* baby. She *knew* that pregnancy was hard, but she also *knew* she loved each of her three children. She *knew* that bringing a fourth child into the world would be very stressful, but that her baby would also bring his or her own joys and graces.

**Thanks to you, Carolina's intentions began to change.** For the first time since she saw that positive pregnancy test, she started feeling like she *could* choose life.

Carolina's coach could see that Carolina needed ongoing discipleship. She *needed* the church to surround her and help her continue on her path of choosing life and lead her down the path towards transformation through Christ. Otherwise, when doubt flared up again she might resort to abortion.

When her coach gave her the information for her local pregnancy center, she had a place to get ongoing support.



## Why We Must Be Pro ABUNDANT Life

John 10:10 says, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

We all know what it means to be pro-life, but what does it mean to be Pro Abundant Life consistent with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and God's design for marriage and family?

Purchase your booklets today at [store.care-net.org/why-we-must-be-pro-abundant-life-book/](http://store.care-net.org/why-we-must-be-pro-abundant-life-book/)

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\*Names throughout this newsletter have been changed to protect the privacy of individuals.

# When Laws Don't Matter

## Overturing Roe v. Wade in Our Hearts

Part 2 of a 4-Part Series on Being Pro Abundant Life originally published in 2014, edited and updated.

While right now pro-life people across the country are tremendously hopeful that the Supreme Court will rule favorably for life in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health*, it is easy to become discouraged when laws and judicial decisions fail our expectations and hopes. But this is exactly why I want to encourage you to set your sights higher. When we adopt a pro ABUNDANT life perspective, we change our focus to overturning *Roe v. Wade... in our hearts*.

One of my favorite sayings is, “**Let me write the songs of a culture, and I care not who makes its laws.**” This profound statement points to the enormous impact that cultural norms and attitudes have on our behavior, regardless of what the laws of the land say.

You see, even if we succeed legislatively and in the courts, there would still be unplanned pregnancies. If we woke up tomorrow and *Roe v. Wade* was miraculously overturned, there would, sadly, still be unwanted babies and a demand for abortion.

We must focus on changing not just laws, but hearts and minds, too. And that means being willing to walk alongside parents facing unexpected—or unexpectedly complicated—pregnancies and offering them material, financial, emotional, and spiritual support. It means opening our hearts, lives, and homes (through options like adoption and foster care) to the babies and children that need us. Remember, **life decisions need life support**.

Finally, we must continue to compassionately (but ever truthfully) educate and inspire the public about the sanctity of human life and the importance of helping people build strong, God-honoring families.

**This approach will set us apart as not just pro-life people, but PRO ABUNDANT LIFE people. That is why we take the following pledge:**

**As pro abundant life people, we will minister to women and men facing pregnancy decisions, open our hearts to all of God's children, and dedicate ourselves to eliminating the desire for abortion, regardless of what the law says.**



Blessings,

Roland C. Warren  
Care Net President & CEO

Hear more from Roland on Twitter!  
@RolandCWarren



## You surrounded Carolina with God's love...

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Carolina's story—and others like hers—are also why it's so important to mobilize churches around the country to partner with local pregnancy centers and provide the long-term discipleship and support clients like Carolina need. Carolina didn't need salvation. She was already a believer. She needed the *body of Christ* to come alongside her and help her walk out her faith when her circumstances seemed insurmountable and point her back to Christ to break devastating cycles in her life.

Thank YOU for being there for Carolina. You not only ensure that moms like Carolina who call our national hotline can speak with a caring coach, you also ensure a local pregnancy center and local life-affirming church are there to empower her to experience abundant life in Jesus Christ. Moms and dads feel the life-saving love and compassion that only comes from the body of Christ because of you.

Please continue to pray for Carolina and all the other moms like her facing difficult pregnancy decisions today.

## You can help save lives now and for eternity!

*Your gift today will help parents and their unborn babies have not just life but Abundant Life in Christ!*



Your gift today will be used to share the Gospel with mothers and fathers considering abortion right now... and save the lives of their unborn babies.

Your generosity ensures a coach is there to answer the phone at our national hotline, that our affiliated pregnancy centers have the training and resources they need to support mothers and fathers facing an unexpected pregnancy, and that churches in our growing life-affirming network will be equipped to reach out to and serve parents considering abortion.

Because of you, unborn lives can be saved today and for eternity!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP!**

# OUR CARING PARTNERS: HEROES SAVING LIVES 365 DAYS A YEAR!

Every single day, parents considering abortion find Care Net's national hotline, one of our affiliated pregnancy centers, or a church equipped for vibrant pro-life ministry through our church curriculum. You can help ensure they are able to find compassion, hope, and help 365 days a year by donating monthly to become a *Caring Partner*!

As a *Caring Partner*, you will also receive special benefits, including:

- A designated Care Net team member to serve you
- Updates on how your monthly support saves lives
- An exclusive monthly prayer devotional for your personal spiritual growth
- Invitations to special partner events and ministry updates

### 3 EASY WAYS TO ENROLL AS A CARING PARTNER:

1. Select "Make My Gift Monthly" on the enclosed reply device and return it with your first monthly gift.
2. Visit us online at: [care-net.org/give-monthly](http://care-net.org/give-monthly)
3. Call us at 1-800-518-7909

*Questions?*

EMAIL US AT [CARINGPARTNERS@CARE-NET.ORG](mailto:CARINGPARTNERS@CARE-NET.ORG)



## Finding Courage in Christ...

**you helped Esther choose life  
when she was overwhelmed.**

Esther\* grabbed the chair for support as she felt her baby moving.

It seemed like yesterday she found out she was pregnant, and today she could actually feel a living person moving around inside. She wished she could feel more excited, but she felt numb instead. **The more she thought about how things were, and how unready she was... the more it just exhausted her.**

The idea of raising the baby herself left Esther feeling completely overwhelmed. Adoption? To her in that moment, that felt like throwing in the towel and passing her baby off to a stranger. Abortion looked like the easier choice... but how could it be the *right* choice?

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## Bring a Christ-like response to the abortion crisis to YOUR church!

making LIFE  
DISCIPLES

According to a recent Care Net survey, 2 out of 5 women having abortions were regularly attending church when they had their first abortion. That means we need to overcome *Roe v. Wade* in the hearts and minds of those sitting in our own pews.

As we look toward a post-*Roe* future, our exclusive course—now revamped and even more user-friendly—can transform your church's response to women and men facing unexpected pregnancies. Be prepared to share compassion, hope, and help that can help them choose life!

*I would highly recommend this curriculum as the initial training for any church wanting to create a strategy and ministry to be ready to help men and women facing an unplanned pregnancy. This rebrand is brilliant. Everything is streamlined which eliminates any feelings of being overwhelmed or intimidated by the curriculum. I believe MLD 2.0 is the missing link to help build better bridges between the pregnancy center and the local church.*

Amanda Clark, Executive Director, Richland Pregnancy Services, Mansfield, Ohio





## You can help save unborn lives through your estate planning

There are great days set aside for some not-so-great things in April. April 4 is “Hug a Newsmen Day.” Really? Why would anyone do that? Now here is a day I can get behind; April 5 is “Deep Dish Pizza Day.”

But there are also some very special days in April. Like Easter Sunday! This day reminds us how much God loves all of us, including His precious unborn babies.

Well, there’s a way you can save even more of God’s precious children. And what if I told you that you could do it without incurring any cost now? That’s right. **No Cost.** Just leave a gift to us in your will or estate plan. **And it only takes about 20 minutes with Freewill.com/carenetnational.**

You can reach out to Bob Milton, a member of Care Net’s Planned Giving Team, at [bmilton@care-net.org](mailto:bmilton@care-net.org) or 205-914-4812, for more creative ideas of how you can help.

## Wear Your Heart on Your Sleeve

Share your heart for the unborn and the hope available through the Gospel with Pro Abundant Life merch from the Care Net store! T-shirts, baby onesies, devotionals, New Testaments, booklets, and so much more are available to help you spread the Pro Abundant Life message everywhere you go!

Shop today at: [store.care-net.org/t-shirts-1](https://store.care-net.org/t-shirts-1)

## Finding Courage in Christ...

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Deep down, she knew whatever she chose was going to be hard, and it was going to hurt.

### Facing Hard Choices... with Your Help

Not knowing what else to do, she browsed the internet for answers. After a few minutes, she found the number for the *Pregnancy Decision Line* (PDL)—a national hotline funded entirely by your generosity. Dialing, Esther shared her worries with the PDL coach who answered the phone.

When Esther shared that she was a Christian, her coach gently shifted the conversation to faith so Esther could start to see how **God had perfect control over every detail of her life.** If this was true, then her and her baby’s future was a lot brighter than she’d imagined.

Esther no longer felt paralyzed.

When the call ended, the coach reassured Esther the local pregnancy center would be there for her... no matter what.

**Esther walked away empowered to choose life.**

### Sharing Life-Giving, Life-Changing, Life-Saving Truth

The Gospel of Jesus Christ has the power to transform us from the inside out, but we don’t always walk as faithful followers. PDL, Care Net-affiliated pregnancy centers, and our network of life-affirming churches help redirect parents back to the truth about who they are in Christ and the value of their unborn children to help them choose life.

Because of you, moms like Esther hear the truth that transforms their hearts to choose abundant life for themselves and for their unborn children. Thank you!



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