

## ULC Sermon Study Resource

*Romans // Life*

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**Prayer:** Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

**Icebreaker:** Are you a pet person? Why or why not?

**Reading:** Psalm 139: 1-18

### Outline:

- I. Life is a gift
  - a. At work behind every single human life is the Creator of all placing his image on them in a totally unique way. Each human is uniquely created by God and is of inherent worth and value.
  - b. As followers of Jesus, the ethic we are invited into is to care for, speak up for, and value every human being as made in the image of God from conception. Every person matters to God and so they matter to us.

**Q: How does our view on life change if we consider that it is planned out by God?**
- II. Your life is a gift
  - a. Not only did God give you life, not only did He form you in your mother's womb, but He saw your life story unfold. That is how important you are to Him. Your life is a gift.
  - b. The twists and turns of your life, the ups and downs, the good and bad decisions, God saw it all before your substance was even formed.

**Q: Do you see yourself not valuing your life in the way that God does? How can you overcome self doubt and self hatred?**
- III. The God of life is with you
  - a. God saw all of our lives unfold and he knew that not one of us would value the gift of life he's given us as we should. And yet, the God of life chose not to abandon us, but draw near to us.
  - b. No matter your story, no matter your hurt, shame, or feelings, God still values you. God still loves you. There is always more forgiveness and grace being offered to you than you could ever imagine.

**Q: How can we draw comfort in knowing that God is with us no matter our circumstances or our decisions?**

### Reflection/Application Questions:

- 1) How can we value the lives of others in the same way that God does? What does that mean in your daily life?
- 2) In what ways can you offer forgiveness and grace to others to be more like God?
- 3) How can we trust in giving control to God considering that our whole lives have been planned out since conception?

### Suggestions for further study:

- Psalm 121:7-8 **Q: In what areas of life can we learn to give control to God?**
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 **Q: In what ways can we honor our bodies as temples?**

### Closing Prayer:

Father God, we thank you for knitting us together in your image through varieties of talents, personalities, and gifts. We know that our lives are given value in your name. Teach us to value all of life. We ask that You help us know You now, and for all of eternity. Amen.