

## For the Children

by Mr. David Ward, CID Life Coordinator

As we contemplate Life Ministry here in central Illinois, it can be hard to pinpoint just where to focus limited resources. The devil is fiercely attacking humankind in so many various ways today! This onslaught of evil can overwhelm us Christians, causing us to become disheartened in a seemingly hopeless situation.

Yet there is good news! We need to remind ourselves, and each other, that our heavenly Father is none other than almighty God! Our Lord Jesus Christ has always been and forever will be victorious. The Holy Spirit has been given to us to sustain and guide us, even unto the end of the age. It is a foregone conclusion that the devil cannot prevail. We can, therefore, engage in this spiritual battle with confidence and conviction.

Which particular battle do we choose, then? Satan has drawn so many lines of warfare! It seems to me that the primary battleground is forming around our children. It is obvious that the devil hates them. They are the most vulnerable. Their trusting hearts leave them particularly susceptible to the attacks of the evil one.

The devil tempts and misleads in many ways. But here are three strategies he seems to be highlighting these days, to destroy the souls of our children.

One is abortion. The devil is a murderer, and here he is most efficient and deadly. Since abortion was initially legalized nationwide in 1973 by the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision, there have been over 63 million "pregnancy terminations" in America. Sixty-three million children have gone missing! Even though this court decision has been overturned, our state and federal governments continue to do everything in their power to promote and expand what they call "women's health care" that leads to death for the littlest children of these women. Christians understand that this evil can only be overcome by the power of God. We absolutely must seek His help and mercy through prayer. See "A Prayer for Wednesday's Child" on this Life page.

Another satanic attack on children takes the form of gender confusion. The devil is a liar and the father of lies. In gender confusion, children are told they may have been born "in the wrong bodies." The claim is that "trans, non-binary, or queer" lifestyles are normal. Parents are told that this is just part of educating students about gender diversity and inclusion. Children are then provided with life-altering hormonal treatments or medical surgery for sexual transformation, sometimes without parental consent. Satan uses these lies to destroy the

bodies of our children and to harm their souls. The young need to hear the truth that the Lord made them male or female in accordance with His good ways and purposes and that our sexuality is a beautiful gift from God.

Finally, the devil attacks our children by “sexualizing” them. He exposes them to perverted sexual influences to corrupt and ultimately destroy them. He uses drugs to break down resistance and pornography to normalize deviant sexual behavior. Both of these are intensely addictive and create powerful bonds to sin. Today little children are exposed to “groomers” and pedophiles through not only “Drag Queen Story Hour” but also sexual propaganda in children’s books. Compounding the numbers are tens of thousands of children entering our country unaccompanied across its southern border. They are seeking a better life and future, but many find instead the dark world of human trafficking and sex slavery. (See the newly released film *The Sound of Freedom*.)

God loves children. He sent His Son to die for them, and for all. He even assigns angels for their care and protection. The Bible indicates that those who harm them will be severely judged. In the meantime, we must remain vigilant in prayer for them and unwavering in our declaration of God’s truth.