

REDEEMING THE STORY

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION OR PERSONAL THOUGHT:

STORIES: *Memoirs*, Chapter 17, No Support for Life and Chapter 18, The Antithesis of Choice

These are included as they present a clear picture of the world's value-system and concept of "choice."

1. What church did Belinda grow up in?

2. What influence did she have from the Protestant church?

3. How does the "pro-choice" camp view choice vs the way the prolife camp views it?

4. What were Belinda's choices?

5. At what point did Belinda visit an abortion clinic and how far along was she?

Get EQUIPPED: Redemptively Overcoming Abortion in the Church
SESSION 5 – REDEEMING THE STORY
ABORTION: THE PARTICIPANTS AND THE TRAUMA

6. Why did she refuse pain medication?

7. How might knowing Belinda’s story help a woman or couple better understand the consequences of abortion?

STORIES: *Memoirs*, Chapter 19, The Tangled Aftermath and Chapter 20, Searching for Acceptance

1. What were the things Belinda was not warned about that happened after her abortion?

2. What did Belinda call it rather than a medical procedure?

3. What did they do with Belinda’s baby?

4. What was the final nail in the coffin of her relationship with her boyfriend?

5. What is the subtitle of Chapter 20, *Searching for Acceptance*, and why is it called that?

6. Describe Belinda’s behavior following her abortion.

7. How was she treated in response?

Get EQUIPPED: Redemptively Overcoming Abortion in the Church
SESSION 5 – REDEEMING THE STORY
ABORTION: THE PARTICIPANTS AND THE TRAUMA

8. What might have helped Belinda out of this self-sabotage?

STORIES: *Memoirs*, Prologue through Chapter 2

***Memoirs*, Prologue:**

Though Joni grew up in a healthy, loving, and Christian home, what did she know nothing about from her upbringing that would have better kept her from making poor choices regarding sex and abortion?

***Memoirs* Chapter 1, Having Professed to Be Wise, I Became a Fool**

1. Joni's story was set in 1980 before Pregnancy Centers were available in her area. What were her actual alternatives and the support for those?

2. What choices did the woman at church give Joni?

3. What would be a more redeeming response by someone at church?

4. What did Planned Parenthood tell her? Was anything true?

Get EQUIPPED: Redemptively Overcoming Abortion in the Church
SESSION 5 – REDEEMING THE STORY
ABORTION: THE PARTICIPANTS AND THE TRAUMA

5. How would a Christian pregnant girl know for sure that what she is told at Planned Parenthood is not the truth?

6. How can parents know how to respond redemptively?

7. How can youth groups and singles groups do better at preventing people from choosing abortion?

Memoirs, Chapter 2, What a Web We Weave...

1. What did Joni have to keep straight?

2. Who was Joni angry at?

3. On the painting of Jesus on the cross, there was a list nailed to Jesus' hand. What was at the top of Joni's list?

Get EQUIPPED: Redemptively Overcoming Abortion in the Church
SESSION 5 – REDEEMING THE STORY
ABORTION: THE PARTICIPANTS AND THE TRAUMA

4. What was Joni’s first trigger to bring her out of denial and what was her reaction?

5. What was her second trigger and how did it make her feel?

6. What did she experience after her son was born? [Nightmares, audible hallucinations, inability to bond with her son.]

GROUP DISCUSSION: How many people do you know who have lost a child to abortion (No names or confidential info)? (Write down on your 3x5 card how many participants at your table and how many known abortions are represented.)

If doing this with a group:

GROUP DISCUSSION: How many people do you know who have lost a child to abortion (No names or confidential info)? (Write down on your 3x5 card how many participants at your table and how many known abortions are represented.)

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK:

Pre-class reading for session 6

CLASS DISCUSSION AND CLOSING THOUGHTS: Questions, insights learned from teachings, stories

CLOSING PRAYER