## Samaritan's Purse

## **Stance on Abortion and Contraception**

American Life League reached out to Samaritan's Purse regarding their views on abortion, contraception, euthanasia, and the LGBTQ+ lifestyle. Baylor May, correspondence specialist for Samaritan's Purse, responded with the following information that shows their opposition to abortion, euthanasia, and the LGBTQ+ lifestyle. Their stance on contraception (end of statement) was not clear:

As our Statement of Faith affirms, we believe that human life is sacred from conception to its natural end; and that we must have concern for the physical and spiritual needs of all people (Psalm 139:13; Isaiah 49:1; Jeremiah 1:5; Matthew 22:37-39; Romans 12:20-21; Galatians 6:10). Our projects do not in any way support abortion or euthanasia but instead promote the Gospel of eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. Additionally, Samaritan's Purse, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, and Mr. Graham regularly highlight the rights of the unborn and the underserved through advocacy and prayer.

Mr. Graham and Samaritan's Purse also believe and operate under the biblical teachings on marriage; "We believe God's plan for human sexuality is to be expressed only within the context of marriage, that God created man and woman as unique biological persons made to complete each other. God instituted monogamous marriage between male and female as the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. For this reason, we believe that marriage is exclusively the union of one genetic male and one genetic female (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:5-6; Mark 10:6-9; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9)."

I am happy to share about our work to teach biblical principles in regard to family planning:

We recognize that an effective strategy must begin by raising awareness and informing people from diverse backgrounds about this issue. This can be a difficult task, as the majority of people in developing nations do not know about birth control or family planning. As a Christian organization, all

of the principles we teach in any area of programming begin with the foundational understanding that God created the world, and He created it a certain way. Our lives are most fulfilling and healthy whenever we live according to God's design for creation and relationships.

In a follow-up message, ALL asked if they provide or teach women in their health programs about contraception specifically. They stated:

To answer your question, no we do not provide contraceptives or teach about them in our women's projects. Rather, this project focuses on offering tangible aid to women in crisis through mother-to-mother support groups, prenatal care, equipping communities to fight gender-based violence, and building birth centers.

Since we do not provide any training related to birth control, we do not have a specific statement on it. However, as I shared before, we have very clear statements on the sanctity of life.

More examples of their work with women can be found at <u>samaritans</u>purse.org.uk/what-we-do/women-at-risk.

## https://www.samaritanspurse.org/media/fact-sheet-samaritans-purse/

Samaritan's fact sheet includes their work with infectious diseases and women's programs. These facts are what also prompted ALL to reach out to Samaritan's Purse and ask about their position on contraception.

https://www.samaritanspurse.org/article/franklin-graham-cissie-graham-lynch-march-for-life-in-d-c/

This article is about Samaritan's Purse's president, Franklin Graham, and his daughter Cissie attending the March for Life in Washington, DC, in 2020. Included

in the article is a tweet from Franklin about the March for Life:



What an incredible crowd in Washington, D.C., for the March for Life. Tens and tens of thousands of people—all there to stand for life—Protestants, Anglicans, Orthodox, Catholics, everyone. This is such an important issue for our nation. Since Roe v. Wade in 1973, over 61 million babies have been killed by abortion in our nation. That's shameful. I pray that the American people and our politicians will wake up to what abortion really is and put an end to it.

https://www.christianpost.com/news/franklin-graham-talks-spiritual-state-of-us-at-march-for-life.html

The above article states that Franklin Graham said the following regarding abortion and birth control: "And it's [life] precious, and we can't use abortion as birth control."

https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/organizations/581437002/202022269 349302277/full

A look at their 2019 tax returns shows that Samaritan's Purse has given money to various United Ways, a group that does donate money to Planned Parenthood. (See more about United Way at <a href="all.org/charity-watchlist.">all.org/charity-watchlist.</a>) However, SP has not given money to United Way since 2019.

https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/organizations/581437002/202342409 349300729/full

According to their most recent tax return form, Samaritan's Purse did recently give money to a pregnancy resource center, as well as Alliance Defending Freedom.

## **Stance on LGBTQ+ Lifestyle**

https://samaritanspurse.org/our-ministry/statement-of-faith/

As part of their statement of faith, Samaritan's Purse states that they do not support same-sex lifestyles.

https://ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/news/2020/05/03/lgbtq-advocates-hold-protest-as-samaritan-s-purse-winds-down-coronavirus-outreach

LGBTQ+ protested Samaritan's Purse's presence in Central Park, New York City, in 2020 due to their traditional marriage stance.