

When Does Personhood Begin?

Genesis 2:7, John 20:22 • Ted Kau
July 9th, 2023 • Journey EC

Name: _____



then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.—Genesis 2:7

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”—John 20:22

What do the laws say about when personhood begins?

Summary: laws use _____ markers

What does biology say about when life begins?

_____ % of biologists surveyed at 1,000 universities agree that life begins at conception.

_____ % of genetic code set at fertilization.

Zygote, morula, blastula, embryo, fetus, child, adolescence, adult are _____ of the same ontology.
they are not separate beings.

What does God’s Word say?

1. An unborn child is a distinct person, Hosea 12:3, Luke 1:41-44
2. An unborn child has _____ with a person (*lex talionis*), Exodus 21:22-25
3. God knew us before we were conceived, Jeremiah 1:5, Psalm 139:13-16, Hosea 12:3
4. Personhood/life/God’s image begins with God’s _____, Genesis 2:7, John 20:22

For further reflection, discussion, application:

- How can you be a loving, persuasive witness to someone who has had an abortion? To someone who is considering an abortion?
- If you are a parent or hope to be one, how can you start graciously teaching personhood to children?
- How would you answer someone who says, “You should not force your religious views on others?”
- Should Christians practice civil disobedience to protest abortion? Can you think of any biblical examples?
- Should Christians support “compromise” legislation, such as banning abortion except in cases of rape, incest, or severe deformity? Why or why not?