

## What Respect Life Means to Me - 8<sup>th</sup> grade winner - Brittany Woods

What does respect life mean to me? To me it means that abortion is wrong. The Church teaches us that a new life starts the moment of conception. Life is sacred and is a gift from God. No matter what color, race, religion, disorder, or stage they are at. A person is a person no matter how small.

A life starts with a heartbeat and should end with a heartbeat when God says it's time. It shouldn't be our choice to take someone's life who is living, breathing and growing just like us. Why does it make a difference when we're in the womb and when we end a life from killing someone outside of the womb - it's still ending life for no reason. Both places were children of God so why would you end a life when it hasn't gotten to show you his or her talents and gifts God has given that child to share.

Someone asks God, "Why haven't you created a person to cure cancer"? God replies, "Maybe I have you just don't know because they've been aborted". People say, well, in the case of rape, abortion is okay, but is any situation okay to end a life?

Everyone who supported slavery and everyone who supports abortion was born. Life is like a roller coaster. It has its ups and downs, but enjoy every single moment. The good, the bad, the beautiful, the ugly, the inspiring moments and thank God through it all because we are God's children and we're all here for a reason and if we aborted that reason that's showing that an unborn life does not have the same values as a born life, but to God we all are equal and were given this life for a reason. And remember a person is a person no matter how small.