

New Hope Community Church  
Gestational Surrogacy

- Living in a sinful, broken world results in heartache, sadness, and disease. The great hope of those who follow Jesus is that one day, that will no longer be the case. One day, our Heavenly Father will usher us into a new heaven and earth that no longer suffers the effects of sin and brokenness. Until then, we live with hope but in a less-than-perfect world.
- In Genesis, God's original design for men and women is to leave their mother and father and become one flesh. Then, God tells the first couple, Adam and Eve, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it" (Gen 1:28). We know that children are a part of God's original plan.
- There are many reasons why a couple may not be able to conceive or carry a child to term. From medical conditions to abuse, prior sin or God's sovereign plan, we recognize that infertility is not a part of God's original design for humans but is often the result of living in a broken world.
- Even though surrogacy was a common practice in the Old Testament, the issue of gestational surrogacy is not addressed in the Bible. Because there is no clear directive in scripture, we must allow clear principles in God's Word to guide us.
- Life begins at conception. Therefore, any medical procedure that will lead to the death of even one unborn child who was conceived when the man's sperm fertilized the woman's egg, the cells began to divide, and the human embryo began to grow into a little baby is not acceptable.  
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- **Ps 139:13-14** For it was you who created my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I will praise you because I have been remarkably and wondrously made.
- Infertility is a medical condition that, for many couples, has a medical remedy. If someone has cancer, they should seek treatment. If someone has a torn ligament, it should be repaired. For many couples, surrogacy is a medical remedy for their medical condition.  
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- **James 5:14** Is anyone among you sick? He should call for the elders of the church, and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.
- Even though a couple may seek input from church leaders, friends, and family, the decision to use gestational surrogacy is an issue that is ultimately between God, the couple, and the surrogate.

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- **Rom 14:4** Who are you to judge another's household servant? Before his own Lord he stands or falls. And he will stand, because the Lord is able to make him stand.5 One person judges one day to be more important than another day. Someone else judges every day to be the same. Let each one be fully convinced in his own mind.
- If using a surrogate is a way to bring glory to God, then carefully plan and define each person's role going forward and seek God's blessing. All that we do is to be done to glorify God.
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- **1 Cor 10:31** So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.
- Our conclusion is that, for married couples struggling with infertility, gestational surrogacy may be seen as a morally good choice, a choice that brings the blessing of children to their families.
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- **Ps 127:3-5** Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a reward from him. 4 Children born to a young man are like arrows in a warrior's hands. 5 How joyful is the man whose quiver is full of them! He will not be put to shame when he confronts his accusers at the city gates.
- Some may be hesitant to embrace the idea of gestational surrogacy. Others view it as an opportunity to celebrate life and generosity. Whatever your personal position, as Elders and Pastors, we welcome the opportunity for dialogue and discussion.
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- **Rom 14:2-3** One person believes he may eat anything, while one who is weak eats only vegetables. 3 One who eats must not look down on one who does not eat, and one who does not eat must not judge one who does, because God has accepted him.