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# Our Bodies In Spiritual Transformation VI

## **Slogan on a ProChoice T-shirt:**

*"The Pro Choice Movement... the radical idea that women own their bodies."*

The T-shirt designer explains:

*You can't break into some one else's house and take their things because it is their property.*

*What is property in comparison to one's body? If a society of property and material is to be a free society, fundamentally it must be made clear that people own their own bodies. Their boss doesn't own their body, nor does the government. A man doesn't own his wife's body. What is this freedom we hear so much about if a woman doesn't own and control her own body?*

<http://www.contempl8.net/pro-choice-shirts.htm>

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**1.** Read the quote above. Is it possible that ProLife advocates and Christians believe this statement about body ownership though they are anti-abortion?

- In what ways do *natural law* (do not encroach upon other persons or their property) and the fact that *none of us are self-sufficient* refute the idea that a woman (or a man) owns her body?

- Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20. What does this passage teach us about the issue of body ownership?

- What steps would help a person change their conviction about body ownership to embrace the truth that God owns his/her body?

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**2.** Read James 3:1-12. Would you agree that the tongue is the most potent organ we must manage? Share with one another your own experiences "taming the tongue". Share with one another what has worked and what has not.

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**3.** Read 1 Peter 3:1-6. What aspects of managing outward appearance are particularly challenging for women? What aspects of managing outward appearance are challenging for men?

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**4.** Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. Of diet, exercise and rest, which one is the most challenging for you to manage? How might members of your fellowship support you in managing these areas so that your body serves your desire to live for God and serve others?

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**5.** Read Romans 12:1-2. Discuss the relationship between yielding our bodies to God and not being conformed to the world. What is the relationship between yielding our bodies and being renewed in our minds?

Will you take the step of consciously and formally presenting your body to God as a living sacrifice? When will you do this?