1	Pastoral and Moral	Counseling	for Infertility

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2 Counseling the Infertile Couple

- You're the Pastor!!
- How would you counsel a couple who had come to you for advice on dealing with infertility?
- Fully appreciate the pain of infertility
- Be careful about giving unsolicited "comfort" and advice
- Resist the urge to focus on "why" questions?
- Be careful about desperation clouding the couple's judgment
- Set a limit on how much RT the couple will undertake

3 Cases for Discussion

- Couple married 4 years.
- Man infertile due to untreated mumps as a kid.
- Wife wants a sperm donor so she can "have her own child."
- Husband is uneasy about having a procreative "pinch hitter."

4 Cases for Discussion

- Couple married for 6 years.
- Married when older so started trying to conceive immediately
- Trying for 4 years.
- Physician recommends an egg donor since wife is in her early 40's.

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6 Surrogacy Case

- Couple married for 10 years, trying for 6 years
- Conceived through IVF--triplets.
- Miscarried the triplets and had massive uterine hemorrhage.
- Underwent emergency hysterectomy
- They have 5 embryos left in storage from IVF
- They want to hire a surrogate to carry them