

Stand for Truth ..even if you stand alone

Years ago I heard it said that Christians selfcensor up to seven times in conversations. I was shocked by this, but it led me to become more aware of my own self-censorship. God began to show me every time I hesitated to speak up - to push back on the prevailing cultural world view or pass up an opportunity to share God's word. I was deeply convicted by this because secretly I knew I was letting fear control me in some way, and ultimately I was being a coward.

As a follower of Christ, I know the message I carry will be offensive to the world. The world will not accept us because it did not accept Jesus. I should have known better and I should have been better prepared to share my faith, but I wasn't.

Knowing this, and the fact that we live in a country where so many bravely fought and died for our God ordained rights should compel us to speak freely and live out our faith with a clear conscience. This made the concept of cowering in self-imposed fearful silence completely unacceptable to me.

Fear is a feeling. Cowardice is a choice. The scriptures have some sobering words regarding the cowardly. The cowardly are the first mentioned in the book of Revelation as those who will spend eternity in hell; "But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This made here. is the second death." Rev 21:8.

God is serious about the cowardly, listing them along with murders and sexual idolaters. This should cause us to examine our lives closely to make certain we are not walking under any deception.

I have become determined to know the truth and us. It motivates us. to speak it with love whenever I have the opportunity. For how can I say "I love the Lord" and watch silently as people die for lack of wisdom? Proverbs 5:23 "He shall die for lack of instruction, and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray". Proverbs 10:21 tells us "The lips of the righteous nourish many, but fools die for lack of wisdom."

Through this, my eyes have opened to the devastation caused by "polite silence". It is shameful and history is filled with examples of people keeping silent in the face of evil. We now live with the wreckage left in their wake.

I would dare to say the men and women of the 60's, who perhaps knew all the Bible verses about "being knit together in the womb" and "created in His image" but still didn't speak up, never expected their silence would lead to abortion up to birth, which is still legal in 9 states. This has resulted in well over 60 million children dead during their lifetime. They didn't expect that selling aborted baby's body parts and using aborted fetus cells for vaccines would be common practice in the coming years.

No, Satan never shows you the full picture. He would rather us believe we are being merciful to the downtrodden and go away feeling good about ourselves. Do we think we could ever be more merciful than God?

When we go against God's Word under the guise of mercy we are straying from the Truth. We are putting ourselves in the place of God and saying to the world that we know better. It is not love to affirm sin. It is hate.

You must hate that person or hate the Word of God to affirm what is contrary to God's word. We are exchanging the truth of Gods' word for a lie and worshiping ourselves rather than a Holy God. You may as well tear the whole book of Hebrews out of your Bible. Chapter One is clear and ends with an ominous warning in verse 30 "Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things are worthy of death, they not only continue to do these things, but also approve of those who practice them." May this never be said of us.

From my office I can hear the voices in the lobby. There is soothing music, low murmuring, and a peaceful ambiance. This calming atmosphere is intentional because we are keenly aware of the battle raging around us and the prevailing darkness just beyond the doors.

This is a unique place. Choices are made in these rooms that will affect entire generations. Lives are forever changed by the decisions

Essentially, we are a Pregnancy Resource Center. In reality, we are fighting a spiritual battle with powerful forces that seeks to steal, kill and destroy anything created in God's image. We know death is lurking just beyond the doors and many of our clients are teetering on the edge of destruction. This does not deter

Daily we get to see the power of Truth at work putting Satan in his place. Men and women come in here determined to end the lives of their unborn children and leave with a completely different perspective. They are given a new understanding of who they are, and a new relationship with their Creator. They understand their true value and the value of the precious life they are called to protect - not end.

What changed? They were told the truth and it set them free.

I'm sure Satan thinks the end is already determined with many of the men and women we see. They are surrounded by lies and hopeless. It is awesome to see God use this place to flip the script, taking the challenges they are facing and use them as opportunities to magnify His great love for them - just like He did when He saved you and me.

Satan hates what we do here and the truth we boldly speak because he knows it shatters deception. The truth sets captives free from the shackles of shame that lead to making desperate decisions. When we speak truth, we speak from the nature of God. When we keep silent we take part in the work of evil acting as prison guards for hell.

Truth is mentioned hundreds of times in scripture, often in reference to God's own character. Interestingly, truth and mercy are often mentioned together. I think those who have been held captive by deception and sin would even say that truth is a mercy to the hell- heavy soul.

Satan has no power except to distort and he twists truth and mercy both. We see this weaponization of compassion everywhere today. The scriptures warn about this in Isaiah 5:20 "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil..." The world calls it merciful to affirm sin and to speak against it now is not only intolerant but in many places it is criminal. The court of public opinion has escalated to actual trials with sentencing and jail time. People are scared to stand up and speak truth because they might lose more than a friend. They might lose their freedom. We must ask if we cannot speak freely, what kind of freedom do we have?

Together, let's resolve now to be brave and speak the truth. It is an act of love. True love for God and for His people compels obedience to God and His word. If we claim to love the Lord and follow Christ, there is simply no other option for us. We must speak truth - even it's uncomfortable - even if we lose friends - even if we lose everything even if we stand alone.

Alexander Solzhitsyn, a survivor of the Soviet labor camps and author of the Gulag Archepelago says this "You can resolve to live your life with integrity. Let your credo be this: Let the lie come into the world, let it even triumph. But not through me."

I am so grateful for the people that God used to change my life, people who were brave enough to tell me the truth. It was only then that I began to truly walk with the Lord. They did not affirm my sin but upheld truth, helping me to understand my separation from God. Their actions were life-changing for me and I

have been blessed now to share with others this same kindness.

In love and truth,

Some Days are



This shining day began as I helped a client coming into The Abella Center with her newborn baby girl – the proud Mama to a beautiful child, weighing just 4 pounds at birth and only 4 weeks old. I was excited to meet with her because this baby is a miracle in so many ways. Being born prematurely, she was now healthy and thriving. This little girl will probably never know that the first time her mother came to us, she was planning to have an abortion. She was scared and alone. She was afraid of being unable to provide for a third child and did not think she would have any support from her family.

But as they came through the door, we saw that the baby's grandmother was also here. It was delightful to learn she was a Christian and helping her daughter with her three children. Seeing her lovingly hold her sweet granddaughter and knowing how close this little girl came to never even taking a breath made me overwhelmed with gratefulness for this place and to be a part of this ministry. God had indeed provided a solution.

We counseled this young mother through the first part of her pregnancy, walked beside her to help with needs for her other children as well as for this tiny new baby. We were blessed to pray for her by name daily, as we do all of our abortion-vulnerable clients. This little girl was a special gift from the Lord. I was able to see firsthand the beautiful baby and family that had been prayed for over and over again. I was able to witness as God intervened, helping her make a decision for LIFE. God really does turn hardships into blessings.

A great blessing for me came when I learned about this ministry. One of my regular activities is listening to Faith Radio 90.1. A few years ago, I tuned in on an interview with Pastor Eric Erskine of Havana First Baptist Church and Kimberly Nelson, Executive Director of The Pregnancy Center of Gadsden County. They were discussing how PCGC impacts lives in Gadsden and surrounding counties. During the conversation, Kimberly expressed their desperate need for a new ultrasound machine! This vitally-needed pro-life technology vividly impacts a woman's decision in choosing life or death for her child. Seeing her baby's heart beating and the baby moving around inside her body is stunningly impactful.

Hearing that interview so touched my heart that I began to consider ways to give a substantial donation. With tears running down my cheeks, I asked The Lord to help me sell my RV so that I could donate to PCGC and be a part of this purchase. Within two days, God came through and

A Volunteer Story

the RV was sold and the donation was more than I ever thought I would be able to give.

I retired shortly after this and the Lord has made it possible for me volunteer at this special place. In these past months, I've witnessed God doing amazing things in people's lives through the ministry of The Pregnancy Center of Gadsden County. At the Center, I have met women from all walks of life facing difficult decisions and they are desperately in need of help. We provide pregnancy testing, STI testing and treatment, expedited partner care, ultrasounds and material items for both Mom and Baby. We are able to share the sweet Gospel of Jesus Christ with all of our clients and offer extensive biblically-based counseling and mentorship. We continue in relationship with these families for up to two years and are able to walk with them through a beautiful season of life as they and their babies grow.

If this one tiny baby were the only child saved through the efforts of PCGC, then these efforts have been worth every penny, nickel, dime, quarter, and dollars that are so generously donated.

In reality though, so very many lives are changed as we each one walk into PCGC – clients, volunteers, employees, visitors – we all are changed!

Walk for life with PCGC

"Whatever you have done for the least of these, you have done For Me" Matt25:40

Have you walked with us in our Walk for Life before? Perhaps this year, you'll join us. Come be a part of the lifesaving, life changing ministry work we do here! Our Walk for Life is a perfect opportunity for you and your church to get involved.

This is not a strenuous event. There are lots of benches and we will even have drinks available. It's not hard to get sponsors either; just a few friends and family members will be plenty. There will be prizes, delicious food, and lots of laughs. A great time with great friends!

So, what is it worth? Perhaps a life.

It may be hard to believe but every little step really does matter. The steps you take to get sponsors make a huge difference to the women who step through our doors and in turn give their unborn babies an opportunity to take their very first steps.

This event is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. We count on these funds to strengthen this ministry and further reach out to the women we see. With a strong Walk, we look forward to getting a few steps closer to purchasing a Mobile Medical Unit, adding to our advertising campaign and touching more lives with our message. Ultimately, more families will be transformed by the love of Jesus Christ - and perhaps, more lives will be saved.



Lives saved, hearts changed because someone stepped out with a purpose to help others, as a small act with a larger statement, a statement of love. Together, we will be loving others with the love of Christ, one step at a time.

Saturday, November 4th, 2023 Havana First Baptist Church 8:30-11:30

Register today at www.LetsWalkforLife.com!

We are Hiring

We are in need of a woman who is bi-lingual, in Spanish and English to act as an office assistant and client advocate. This position will offer a first impression of our ministry to clients and the community. She must be exceedingly friendly, professional and

resourceful. Additionally, this person must demonstrate proficiency in written and oral communication, have strong administrative and computer skills and be a self-motivated learner. Most importantly, this person needs to have a thriving relationship with the Lord, an unwavering dedication to following God's Word, a humble heart for the lost and a passion for protecting the unborn. 15-20 flexible hours per week. To find out more please contact us today at 850-539-1221 or info@pcgc.life

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A copy of the official registration information may be obtained from The Division of Consumer Services by calling 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) toll-free within the state or visiting www.Florida.ConsumerHelp.com. FEIN 49-368/829

All services offered are free of charge. PCGC is supported by churches, individuals and businesses who have a heart for the unborn and those facing crisis pregnancy.

affirming decisions while sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

I he Pregnancy Center of Gadsden County is a non-profit organization dedicated to ministering to women facing planned and unplanned pregnances, offering the education and the resources needed to make life-

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Havana, FL 32333 PO Box 573 of Gadsden County The Pregnancy Center