

“The Truth As We Know It”

The Tabernacle of Faith

1/18/15

Today I want to talk about the ministry of the Tabernacle of Faith. I have had the privilege to travel extensively and minister in many churches and have enjoyed it all. But I have not done anything that meets the fulfillment that I have as the Senior Pastor of the Tabernacle of Faith. In May of 1982 God moved on us in a powerful way to begin a new church in Piedmont. For three years, my wife would move the furniture around in our living room and the people would gather and we had church in our living room until we were able to build a small building in which to have church.

From the start we made the commitment that we would stand firm on the truths of God's word and would not yield to the temptation to cater to the whims of the people, but would attempt to lead in the truth, though some of our teachings may be controversial. More on that as time develops in this radio broadcast.

Our Sabbath morning service is always nourished by wonderful praise and worship, Our Sunday morning service is an informal Bible study. Our Wednesday evening youth service begins with a simple meal, then ministry to the youth, plus Bible study for the adults.

When I moved to Piedmont in 1975 God began to deal with me about Christian Education and the need start a our own school. When I realized that the educational leaders of the country were deliberately trying to take God out of our culture and their plan has been to turn our children against anything that smelled like Christianity. Beginning by taking Prayer and Bible reading out of school in 1963. Step by step they have succeeded in removing God and things Christian out of our culture under the guise of the separation of Church and State. I determined that I had to do what I could to protect the children in our little church. So when we began to have our services in 1982, from the first service we set out some goals we had for our church ministry. A Christian school was a part of it from the start.

When we first started having service, we had no facility to house a school, so it took some time before we were able to begin, but in the fall of 1989 we opened Piedmont Christian Academy with 12 students. That was 26 years ago and we have seen many of our students going on to successful lives in ministry of many different careers. It is very exciting to see them come to you as little kindergarten children, watch them grow up, and twelve years later to hand them their diploma and see them become productive citizens. I have had that joy many times over.

The greatest responsibility we have as parents is to pass on to the next generation our values and our faith in God. I know that South Carolina has some fine public schools and Christian teachers working in the school system, but they are not allowed by law to share their faith with the children they are teaching! So our children are not hearing the Bible read or prayers being said. In fact they are taught many things that are directly

opposed to biblical truth. Statistics tell us that if a person has not made a decision to follow Christ by the time they graduate from High School, only one in four ever will. Our lives are like a relay race, we live our lives and hand the baton off to the next generation to carry on what we have believed. The race is often won or lost in the hand-off! How well are we doing in passing on our faith to our children? We are told to: Deu 6:7 "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." The source of God's blessing in America has been the God fearing Christian founding fathers of our nation and the Christian stand we have enjoyed through the years. Are we losing this battle for Christian faith in our land?

The Christian school is an extension of the parents to reinforce what we as parents are attempting to instill in our children. If you have school age children and want them to get an excellent Christian Education, please contact Piedmont Christian Academy at 864-845-5154. Our rates are reasonable and our program has a proven record of success.

Another important part of our ministry is our ministry to the unborn. In 1991 I was introduced to the prolife work through Operation Rescue and Pastors for life. I attended a meeting with Operation Rescue and the scripture in Proverbs Pro 24:10-12 which says: "If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small. If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain, If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?" It became my problem! I could no longer just preach against it, I had to take a stand against it in a personal way.

God has convicted me in a great way that we needed to stand up for the unborn. Since the Roe - Wade Supreme Court decision in 1973, 56,000,000 people have been legally murdered in the United States. How can we as fellow Christians stand by and let this happen to our country? The Bible is clear that life begins at conception. Psalms 139:14-16, tells us "Thank You for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in Your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed."

As a part of our ministry at Tabernacle of Faith, we take our place each year as a part of the Life Chain which meets for one hour for prayer alone a busy highway on the first Sunday of each October. Also we stand and pray for one hour as a witness at the local abortion clinic on the second Saturday of each month. It is heart breaking to see mothers bringing in their daughters to have their grandchildren killed! How have we gotten to this place?! How can we justify the killing of our unborn family? I am reminded of the story of King Manasseh as told in 2 Kings 24:3-4. It was the sins of Manasseh that was the final straw that brought the judgment of God upon Judah and

led to their removal from their home land. "Surely at the commandment of the LORD came this upon Judah, to remove them out of his sight, for the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he did; And also for the innocent blood that he shed: for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; which the LORD would not pardon." These are strong words! Surely the same applies to us. How can we expect God to continue to bless our country when we are killing so many of the next generation? What is so sad is that so many who are having abortions also claim to be Christian! Where is the Christian Church? Why are not more of us crying out on this very important issue? God will surely judge us for not stopping this awful sin in our nation. Each year on January 22, at the anniversary of the Roe- V- Wade supreme court decision, there is the March for Life in our nations capital. We have had a delegation in that march for the last twenty years.

I trust this simple introduction of the ministries of the Tabernacle of Faith has been edifying. If we can be of service to you in any way, please contact us at 864-845-5154.

This we do know, The Bible is God's Word, God's word is true, Jesus Christ is God's son, Jesus died to save us from our sin, Without Jesus we are eternally lost. There is no other name on whom we can call. Atheism is a temporary condition for every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!