

March 2016

Dear Sustaining Partner,

“...As for us, there’s no question---we can’t keep quiet about what we’ve seen and heard.” Acts 4:20 (The Message)

Conduct an opinion poll and you will get plenty of mostly useless information. Everyone has clear, strong ideas about everything. If you don’t believe me take a look at your Facebook feed. Everyone is convinced he/she is absolutely right about any given topic of discussion. Most of us will share what we think with anyone who’ll listen. There are times when an opinion is good enough---What do you think of this color? Just a tip---if you’re asked, “Does this dress make me look fat?” it’s best to keep your thoughts to yourself.

However, when important issues such as life and faith, are on the table, it’s critical I know the truth. I believe one of the primary reasons God’s work in my life has been relentless is so that Christ and my desperate need for grace are real to me, and evident to others. In that way my discussion of faith is based on real, day-after-day experience as opposed to opinion and wishful thinking. Big difference!! What I think or hope may be true will not transform my life or yours. If I haven’t lived out Kingdom principles, for your sake I’d better keep my opinion to myself. Frankly, I’ve stuck my foot in my mouth enough times; I have little trouble keeping quiet about what I don’t know is irrefutably true.

But, just try to shut me up when I realize God is spot on and relevant in every area of my life. I cannot keep quiet when He is up to something I could not have orchestrated on my best day. There have been countless times when I’ve been too discouraged to pray, and yet God will hearten me through a conversation with someone, something I read or perhaps just a glimmer of hope in a desperate situation. At the end of last year my heart was broken and desperate to see God work in the life of someone I love very much. On Christmas Day the situation had never looked more hopeless, yet in the middle of a terrible mess God began the process of restoration and healing. Because I’ve seen and heard evidence of God working in hopeless situations I’m happy I can encourage others who struggle to believe. I may stay silent while I struggle, but I must talk about the evidence that proves God is indeed good as I choose to focus my gaze on Him.

This Kingdom principle is infinitely translatable to our work with our clients. Should they go to Planned Parenthood or Family Planning Associates, Inc., they will get biased opinions. Though the pro-abortion camp uses the term “pro-choice” they only want people to choose abortion to deal with an unexpected pregnancy. Pro-choice offers one choice which results in profits---it really is all about opinion, quotable sound-bites and money. If we inspect closely we will discover truth, health and education are not factors woven in to the abortion industry’s motivation. A

fraction of the people---mostly idealistic new hires--- who work in abortion clinics believe they help women and families. Most just keep quiet and do their job...it's a paycheck. It is likely should they find a better job, they'd be gone.

Money, duty or being stuck has nothing to do with the reasons why my team and I continue at Pregnancy & Family Resource Center. Our primary motivation for showing up every day is an understanding of the cost if we fail to take advantage of every opportunity to tell the truth. The cost in our case has nothing to do with money and everything to do with redemption. We must refute the lies with what we have seen and heard with what we know to be true. The truth is of course, there is nothing good contributed to the life of anyone remotely connected to an abortion choice. The fact is as abortion has increased in our country we have witnessed with dismay the undermining of families, faith and the moral foundation upon which our society once operated.

As I have been reading through the New Testament book of Acts I have noticed God sent out each unique voice to a specific audience. Believers shared The Gospel and talked of Jesus based on personal experience which seems to me to have been just what the people needed to hear. I'm thinking if I am ready to give a reason for The Hope within me (1 Peter 3:15) I will continue to witness some remarkable transformations as God uses my journey to encourage someone else. Thus there is no need for me to share my opinion with you. It's sufficient for me to report to you what God is doing down here on Airport Drive in San Bernardino.

Client visits have been up since the first of the year---close to 600 logged to date. We've been blessed by many churches and individuals with material goods to pass along. We've spent nearly \$2,000 in gift cards on formula since January. There is a big need. Also, probably because of the holidays our monthly financial support has dropped about 25%. We're doing fine now, but can't continue to operate with a healthy cushion if we continue to pull from that to meet regular expenses. Please help us by sharing about our ministry with those in your sphere of influence.

News soon regarding the *Annual Walk for Life* (TBD) and the *Women's Tea, "You're a Beautiful Bride."* (August 6).

Happy Easter! Aren't you glad the resurrection is fact, and not just opinion? Hope abounds and does not disappoint.

For Life!

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