

Ministry Update from Rev. Al Baker Post Conference Review of the God's Voice Conference

Please give thanks to the Lord for an amazing weekend at the God's Voice Conference at Fairview Baptist Church, Edmund, Oklahoma, a suburb of Oklahoma City. I was one of the six main speakers at the conference. The others were:

Janet Mefferd, the host of two nationally syndicated Christian talk shows heard on more than 400 radio stations-Janet Mefferd Today and Janet Mefferd Live. Her message on why we need to listen to God's Voice from His word was a great opening to the conference. Janet is extremely knowledgeable on social issues from a Reformed perspective and is a leader in promoting God's voice over the Revoice movement.

Reverend Tom Littleton from the Southern Baptist Convention. Tom worked for many years in New York City with David Wilkerson during the height of the AIDS epidemic, ministering to homosexual men dying from AIDS. He knows first hand the devastating effect of homosexuality and his research into the foundation of the modern LBGQTQ+ movement and how it has gained traction in the evangelical church is vital. Tom showed how this all began in his opening message.

Peter LaBarbera is the founder and president of Americans for Truth About Homosexuality which counters and exposes the LGBTQ movement. His message on the tactics, manipulation, and strategies of the LGBTQ movement is eye-opening and vital if we are to move forward to stop this scourge in our nation.

Stephen Black, a former homosexual, now married for over thirty years with three children and three grandchildren, is the Executive Director of First Stone Ministries in Oklahoma City. Stephen spoke passionately on the power of Christ to transform homosexuals. He gave a strong rebuttal to those in Revoice who say that homosexuals are born that way and rarely show any ability or desire to move away from homosexuality or same-sex attraction.

David Pickup is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, living in Dallas, who works mainly with men and boys who are dealing with unwanted same-sex attraction. He spoke on a very important topic, "Must Stay Gay? The Push to Ban Therapy and Why It Matters for the Church." I am anxiously waiting his newest book, of which I have read the forward, entitled, "How To Make a Homosexual."

I was asked to speak on "How Revoice Entered the Presbyterian Church in America: A History and a Warning."

While all of these messages were powerful, informative, and challenging, I was moved most by the three personal testimonies of former transgender or homosexual people. If you cannot listen to every message, then listen to the three testimonies. You can find them at www.godsvoice.us. Click on to "resources", click on "livestream", click on the "session" you wish to hear, and click on "listen again."

The three testimonies are:

Laura Perry and her mother Francine. Laura became a transgender male and then was converted and came out of that. You can hear their powerful testimony in session two, beginning at 1:10 and ending at 2:02. If you can only listen to one thing in the program, this is it.

Unbelievably powerful and encouraging to anyone who has a child or friend in the transgender movement.

Andrew Franklin, a former homosexual who majored in theatre at U. of Oklahoma and then worked in theatre in New York City. Converted, now married with three children under five years of age. Returning to NYC to plant a church. Session two at 2:20 and ending at 2:36.

Laura Leigh Stanlake. Laura was a lesbian who became hooked on porn which led eventually to lesbianism. She was converted and now faithfully serves the Lord Jesus in the First Stone Ministries. Session three 3:00 and ending 3:15.

My sermon is in session three, beginning at 27:00 and ending at 1:14.

I have one major take away from the conference. While I am sure many in the PCA hold the same views I and the others in the God's Voice Conference have, that homosexuality is a sin from which people can be saved, delivered, and transformed; that same-sex attraction is sin, that it is not something with which people are born, and they can only lament their hard lot in life. Instead, we believe what the Bible says, that they are to repent and if they are new creations in Christ then they have the power to overcome their sin. But here's the difference between God's Voice leaders and what I observe in the culture of the PCA. We tend to lack the boldness, the directness, the plain speak, the passion, the unashamedly and firmly held conviction that the gospel of Jesus Christ does actually change people. There is absolutely no victory in the message of Revoice. One who holds the Revoice position offers no hope at all of freedom from sin and its debilitating effects.

I will have much more to say on this issue in my Forget None of His Benefits coming out this Thursday.

Rev. Al Baker