

## Core Values of My Preaching/Teaching Ministry

### WHAT I WILL & WON'T DO "IN THE PULPIT"...

1. I will address biblical issues that are relevant to our culture without apology, but I will seek to do so respectfully. 2 Tim 4:2-5 *"Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage — with great patience and careful instruction. 3 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 5 But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry."*
2. I will avoid mentioning the name of a specific political party, or politician's name, out of respect for our nation's laws.
3. I may alert the congregation that there is a party or particular politician that is involved in an unbiblical issue, but I won't name them. I will only alert the congregation to the issue and challenge them to study and determine what a Christian should do.
4. I will respect my Lord's call to preach the truth first and then respect my country's plea for diversity and harmony second. Jer 8:10-11 *From the least to the greatest... prophets and priests alike ... dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. "Peace, peace," they say, when there is no peace.*
5. My first obligation is to preach the Gospel of Peace through Jesus Christ for the salvation of souls. Rom 1:16-17 *I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.*
6. But I must also call the Christian community to repentance based on the Bible's definition of "right and wrong." I must do this whether my community views the issue as a sin or not. Jer 15:19 *"If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve me; if you utter worthy, not worthless, words, you will be my spokesman. Let this people turn to you, but you must not turn to them.*
7. Any issues about which I have an opinion but are not biblical will be addressed away from the pulpit and outside my role as a preacher. I will encourage the same perspective among those that come to our church.

### WHAT I WILL LEAD OUR CHURCH TO DO AS THEIR MINISTER...

8. I will seek to always base any discussion of right and wrong on the Bible. Any other source or authority is to be considered secondary.
9. I will lead my congregation by example to disagree if I must, but respectfully and for sound biblical reasons.
10. I will lead the church to avoid unnecessary disagreements over issues that cause division and have no biblical and moral value. Titus 3:9-11 *But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. <sup>10</sup> Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. <sup>11</sup> You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.*
11. I will encourage people that want to learn the truth about our history as a nation which was conceived out of a Christian perspective but not created to propagate a Christian religion.
12. I will seek to BALANCE my preaching and teaching ministry that neither focuses nor neglects biblical topics that people perceive as "political." Balancing the topics of evangelism and social justice is essential.

### WHAT I EXPECT IF THERE IS DISAGREEMENT...

13. The Elders to confront me privately; if my sermon is unbiblical, challenge me personally if they are irrelevant or deemed inappropriate, and support me publically if they're annoying or just offensive.