

Culture of Life Message #1

But what is the basis of a Culture of Life program really? What are we really talking about and trying to demonstrate when we talk about being “Culture of Life”? Is it just simple “respect” or is it much more than that?

The gospel tells us in Jesus’ own words what the Culture of Life Program is about, and all the Knight of Columbus Programs for that matter.

"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35 (NASB)

And later when Jesus was talking with a scholar of law, probably a scribe, the scribe asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus answers with a rhetorical question and asks him “what is written in law? How do you read it?”

He (the scholar) said in reply, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." He (Jesus) replied to him, "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live." Luke 10:27-28 NASB

These are very simple sounding commands but are probably the most difficult ones to follow. It is easy to love a lovable neighbour but what reward is there in that? To love a difficult neighbour; now there’s the challenge! After all, how many of us have had difficult “neighbours” that we would rather not talk to let alone engage them in a discussion on pro-life issues like abortion, euthanasia or capital punishment? Yet we can and we need to engage them in this sort of dialogue – to explain and proclaim the message of love for God and for our neighbour.

The good news of the Bible is a complete package. We can’t give part of the message – just the good and appealing parts of the Bible. We have to give all the messages even if we know they don’t want to hear or accept messages such as the preciousness of the gift of life and why we need to love it. We need to pass these messages along but in a loving manner so as to let our neighbour’s hearts hear, see and receive this message from the Holy Spirit. And, when people finally get the “correct answer”, as the scholar who spoke with Jesus did, will people be likely to do acts such as abortion, engage in euthanasia or capital punishment? No, because they love and care for these people as they do for God and themselves and will not want to harm them.

You may think it is impossible to change anyone’s opinion, especially non supporters of Culture of Life, but consider Paul of Tarsus who was completely against the new and emerging Christian movement just after Jesus was crucified. He was persecuting Christians in a major way. After a simple discussion with Jesus on the road to Damascus, St. Paul became the most ardent of Christian supporters and one of the great biblical authors.

As you may surmise, the Knights of Columbus in the BC and Yukon State endorse a positive, affirming message of pro-life and believe in carrying that message forward accordingly to

Culture of Life supporters and non supporters of Culture of Life programs. How do you start passing on these messages as it pertains to pro-life? Start small. Start with prayer, the study the issues to become informed and then move on to planting small seeds (unless you have an opportunity to plant a fully grown tree) and little by little and with a little faith you will see real change – change in your efforts and change in the people/neighbours you talk to about these issues. It can be done. It has to be done! It all starts with you.

God Bless,

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