

Bob on Fox Business: “Our identity isn’t in Donald Trump”

On April 19, Charles Payne of Fox Business invited The FAMIly LEADER President and CEO Bob Vander Plaats to discuss President Trump’s recent peak of support among white evangelicals in the polls.

But while the temptation is to think of presidential polling and demographics solely in terms of politics, Bob offered a powerful testimony to what it really means to call yourself an “evangelical” Christian: “Christians don’t find our identity in Donald Trump; our identity is in Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ alone.”

Watch the full interview below:

The Timeless Voice: We bring a “tough teaching” to the Capitol

How is bringing the gospel to the Iowa Capitol like Paul bringing the gospel to Athens?

Greg Baker, vice president of church engagement for The FAMIly LEADER, explains:

TFL's Capitol Connection, Ep. 12: "Heartbeat" status...

"Wondering where the Heartbeat bill stands?"

Bob Vander Plaats sat down with The FAMILY LEADER Capitol Team, Chuck Hurley and Danny Carroll, to find out what the options are for the Heartbeat bill's passage as the legislature reaches 100 days in session.

Simple online tool:

We're asking you to pray, to contact your legislator, to invite your friends ... **and we've made it easy for you to do.** The FAMILY LEADER has drafted [a quick, online tool](#) that helps you do all that and more in just a matter of minutes.

Join with thousands of Iowans in standing for life RIGHT NOW!

TFL's Capitol Connection, Ep. 11: "Heartbeat" faces hurdle

What's the status of the "Heartbeat bill"? What's the hang-up? How can we help move it into law and save babies' lives?

Bob Vander Plaats sat down with The FAMILY LEADER Capitol Team, Chuck Hurley and Danny Carroll, to get the latest news

in this video below:

In the video, Bob also mentioned [“The Daniel Difference,”](#) a devotional program on reviving the power of prayer in your life. It’s available for free in the YouVersion Bible app, or more directly [by clicking here.](#)

And keep an eye on your email inbox. The FAMIly LEADER is planning to get the word out far and wide when the next opportunity is ripe for the people of Iowa to make their voice heard on “Heartbeat”!

Bob on MSNBC: Leaders should ‘own’ and confess wrongdoing

The FAMIly LEADER’s Bob Vander Plaats faced questions from MSNBC’s Katy Tur over recent allegations of Donald Trump’s extramarital affairs.

Tur’s questions focused on scandal and politics.

Bob’s response, however, looked to a higher standard. Instead, Bob said, the mark of a leader is to “own” your wrongdoing, confess it, and apologize. If the allegations are true, Bob said, our president has humbling work to do ahead:

[VIDEO: Holy Week Service blesses the Iowa Capitol](#)

On Monday, March 26, Iowa citizens, Capitol staff, and elected representatives gathered in the Rotunda of the Iowa Capitol for a worship service at the beginning of the “Holy Week” leading up to Easter.

The FAMiLY LEADER’s Vice President of Church Engagement Greg Baker explained prior the service that bringing worship into the halls of government can be a healing balm, particularly in such divisive times.

“In today’s culture we focus so much on what divides us,” Baker said. “Let us turn to what unites us: We can turn to our Savior Jesus Christ. This message of redemption has and will continue to transcend time, culture, class, race, and everything else that divides us. It reminds us that no matter who we are, what we do, or where we live ... we all need Jesus’ saving grace.”

Pastor Dan Berry of Cornerstone Family Church in Des Moines echoed the theme of reconciliation in his message from Matthew 22.

“The Sadducees thought it was about the law, the Pharisees thought it was about the law, everyone thought it was about the law,” Pastor Berry said. “The [Sadducees and Pharisees] were the lawmakers of their day, and like today, they became so polarized, they forgot the reason for their leadership. ... But Jesus said the first and greatest commandment was to love the Lord your God with your whole heart, then love your neighbor as yourself, and all the law hangs on these two commandments.”

Watch a short video recap of the service below:

[Join The FAMiLY LEADER in being an ambassador for the gospel of Jesus Christ, even in the very halls of government! Give today by clicking here.](#)

[“Heartbeat” bill brings out heart-wrenching testimony](#)

On March 20, the Iowa House of Representatives hosted a public hearing on banning abortions after a baby’s heartbeat can be detected in the womb.

The FAMiLY LEADER and the Coalition of Pro-Life Leaders assembled a roster of nationally recognized, expert witnesses from around the country to rise to the challenge of defending life.

Watch below a recap and excerpts from the testimony, both pro and con:

[Give now to join The FAMiLY LEADER’s efforts to defend life!](#)

SF359, the bill that includes both a ban on the sale of fetal body parts and a ban on abortions after the baby’s heartbeat can be detected, must next be brought to the floor of the Iowa House before it can become law.

[Watch the Heartbeat video that “changes everything”](#)

The FAMIly LEADER gave the Karaidos family of Des Moines, Iowa, the opportunity to hear their baby’s heartbeat in their own living room.

See why the sound of life “changes everything”:

Want to spread the word about the sound of life?

- [Share the video on Twitter](#)
- [Share the video on Facebook](#)
- [Give to the work of The FAMIly LEADER today](#)

[TFL’s Capitol Connection, Ep. 9: Bill fates decided at “second funnel”](#)

Multiple life and religious liberty bills became the focus of the Iowa Legislature this week as the “second funnel” deadline struck midnight. The FAMIly LEADER’s Nathan Oppman and Danny Carroll discuss what survived the funnel and what didn’t:

Danny shared a number of bills that did NOT make it through committee in time for the final “funnel” deadline of the 2018 Legislative session:

- A Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which would instruct the courts to give religious liberty a fair

hearing in court and require government to use the “least restrictive” means possible of resolving religious liberty disputes.

- The Forum Act, which would preserve religious liberty on college campuses, especially in light of the University of Iowa’s decision to decertify the Business Leaders in Christ student group at the Iowa City campus.
- A “wrongful birth” bill that would restrict parents from suing their doctors when their babies are born with birth defects or handicaps.

[One bill that DID make it through the deadline](#), however, is a bill that would BOTH ban the sale of fetal body parts and ban abortions after a baby’s fetal heartbeat can be detected.

This double life bill, however, still faces some big hurdles, including a public hearing that will be scheduled for next week. Danny Carroll explains the details in the video above.

Make sure you [sign up](#) for TFL’s free, weekly Legislature Updates, which will keep you informed and in the know on key issues impacting your life during the legislative session!

[*Click here now and make sure to check the “Iowa Legislature Updates” box!*](#)

[**Capitol Connection, Ep. 8: What’s really happening on Heartbeat**](#)

Iowa’s life-saving “Heartbeat” legislation – which would ban abortions after an unborn baby’s heartbeat can be detected –

celebrated a HUGE victory in the State Senate last week. But its future in the Iowa House remains much more uncertain.

In this week's Capitol Connection, Bob Vander Plaats, Greg Baker, and Danny Carroll give you the inside scoop on where "Heartbeat" stands:

"I don't know that we have ever seen a day like last week," exclaims Danny, referring to the Iowa Senate's groundbreaking passage of the Heartbeat bill.

But, as Bob explains, last week's victory is only "the first quarter" of a larger contest. Right now, the next big hurdle is encouraging a majority of State representatives to support Heartbeat legislation.

[**Click here to contact YOUR representative and encourage him or her to support Heartbeat legislation now!**](#)

Why is this common sense legislation, supported by nearly 7 in 10 of all Americans, so difficult to get passed?

As Greg explains, the Heartbeat bill is "not just another controversial issue," but a matter of intense, spiritual wrestling. Greg points out the Evil One seeks to rob us of life, and not just from the unborn babies, but also from mothers and from the culture at large.

For that reason, Danny says, it's a real "game changer" to see the pastors Greg brings up to the Capitol nearly every day. To see pastors in prayer and genuinely ministering to government officials gives Danny great hope that hearts and lives will be changed.

Danny also explains that Heartbeat faces two, upcoming deadlines and a stiff challenge in the court system.

But as Bob told his boys when they were growing up, "You'll never be right if you do wrong ... but you'll never be wrong if

you do right.” And defending the lives of babies in the womb is right.

Finally, Danny is urging YOU to get involved: “The most powerful thing a person can do is contact your legislator. ... A personal touch is still the most powerful way we can affect government today.”

[*Click here to contact YOUR legislator today!*](#)

[**VIDEO: “Most important life bill ever passed”**](#)

Watch exclusive interviews and testimony from the floor of the Iowa Senate, which passed SF 2281, a bill that would ban abortions in Iowa after a baby’s heartbeat can be detected:

[*Help TFL see this bill through to law! Give now to keep the pressure on to save babies’ lives!*](#)

[**TFL’s Capitol Connection, Ep. 7: Pray and prepare**](#)

There may be a lull in the Iowa Legislature right now, but it’s the quiet before a storm. In this week’s Capitol Connection, Chuck Hurley and Drew Zahn explain why now is a time for urgent prayer and preparation:

Chuck gives an update on two bills in particular – the “Heartbeat bill,” SF 2281, and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, SF 2338 – both of which have passed out of Senate committee, but need to pass House committee before the “second funnel” date of March 16 if they’re to have any chance of becoming law this session.

Chuck also explains that while our hearts are grieving over the 17 children killed in a school shooting in Florida, our hearts also grieve over the roughly 17 children who are killed in abortions every day in Iowa.

Stopping abortions after a baby’s heart is beating, however, will face a tough road ahead if it’s to become law. That’s why, as Drew says, “A battle is coming, a storm is coming,” and your prayers and prepared attention are needed now.

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