## ABOUT VISION AMERICA

Our mission is to inform, encourage and mobilize pastors and their congregations to be proactive in restoring Judeo-Christian values to the moral and civic framework in their communities, states, and our nation.

Who is Vision America? Vision America was founded by Pastor Rick Scarborough to reach across the nation and help mobilize thousands of his fellow pastors of all denominations. He recognized that if he, as pastor, did not promote active citizenship within his congregation then participation dropped dramatically. Conversely, if he was proactive in speaking to the moral issues and encouraging civic involvement in his church many more people took their citizenship seriously and became active.

Why is this activity necessary? Studies of voting behavior among citizens who regularly attend church indicate that between two-thirds and three-fourths of them still do not vote regularly or at all. According to the Barna Group there are 324,000 Protestant churches in America, not including Roman Catholic parishes and Orthodox Jewish synagogues, with an average Sunday worship service attendance of 100 adults. If only 66 percent are not voting, that means there are over 21 million adults who are absent from the political playing field. In addition, thousands of local, state and federal offices lack the influence of God-fearing, Bible-believing citizens who do not step up to run for those positions. We are not losing the war by being "outgunned," we are losing by forfeit.

What is the solution? Vision America is all about empowering the "shepherds" to lead their "flocks" back into being salt in our nation. If pastoral encouragement increases participation, then the obvious answer is to reach out and work with more pastors to encourage and assist them to promote their congregation's citizenship responsibilities in addition to their spiritual growth. Pastors are usually overworked, underpaid and under heavy demand, which is why an organization that focuses specifically on their needs is crucial.

Why another organization? Vision America has gathered the credibility of leaders such as Dr. D. James Kennedy, Rev. Don Wildmon, Paul Weyrich, Dr. Ronnie Floyd, Rev. Peter Marshall and a growing list of nationally recognized pastors to launch this work. This actually involves pastors in oversight and accountability at all levels of the organization and legitimately IS grassroots focused. No other organization exists exclusively to involve, represent, and serve pastors and their congregations in the realm of reforming culture and government from a traditional Judeo-Christian perspective. It is their organization, and it brings decades of public policy reform, education and training support right to the local church.

Can this be done? For the sake of the United States of America and the future of our families it MUST be done. The United States of America has come to a critical moment in its history. The challenge, which confronts us today, is neither economic nor military. It is moral. Our nation is abandoning the bedrock moral values, which are our heritage from God, and the very foundation of our liberty. There are those in America, whose goal is nothing less than the transformation of our country in their own image, who openly ridicule and belittle people of faith. They seek to silence our witness and to banish Christianity from the public square. We cannot allow this to happen!

Christian involvement in civil government is not optional. It is an essential part of our calling from God to be salt and light in a dying culture. God's people in Christ must address the great moral issues now before the nation. The church has been entrusted by Almighty God with the tools necessary to reverse America's moral decline and effect lasting change if only she will engage in this momentous struggle before it is too late!

Vision America exists to mobilize God's pastors throughout this land to stand together as His faithful spokesmen once again. Our passion is to rekindle the "fires of righteousness" which once burned so brightly in America's pulpits. We hold to the following core values and have shaped the ministry of Vision America around them. We seek faithful pastors who believe as we do and who will stand with us for our God and for our country.

## We Believe in

The Sanctity of Human Life - We believe the Word of God teaches that human life is sacred because humankind is created in the image and after the likeness of God.

The Sanctity of Marriage and Family - We believe that God instituted marriage and family as the basic building block of human culture. We further believe that God has established marriage as a sacred covenant between a man and a woman for life.

**Personal Decency and Moral Integrity -** We believe God established human sexuality for the physical expression of love and commitment between a man and a woman in holy marriage. Apart from that divine intent, sexual activity becomes nothing more or less than the selfish manipulation of another human being for personal satisfaction or financial gain.

**Religious Liberty** - We believe that freedom of religion is the foundation of America's liberty. We oppose any and every attempt to suppress or to marginalize the free expression of religion in America.