

# SALT & LIGHT

## BIBLICAL CITIZENSHIP



LIBERTYNETWORK.LIVE

### SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

- Summit to End Russia-Ukraine War
- Costco Will Not Sell Abortion Pill

*National*

#### SUMMIT TO END RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR

In mid-August, President Donald Trump attempted taking a decisive step toward brokering an end to the nearly four-year-long conflict between Russia and Ukraine. At that time, the U.S. president made a significant move in announcing an upcoming meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and himself. He stated, "We will have a Trilat, which would be the two Presidents, plus myself. Again, this was a very good, early step for a war that has been going on for almost four years." The announcement followed Trump meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin and a subsequent meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Trump initially described both meetings as positive and productive. In weeks following, Trump has expressed frustration and doubt about whether a Putin-Zelensky meeting will happen, remarking, "I don't know that they'll meet—maybe they will, maybe they won't. It's going to be up to them." Trump continued, "They should meet...I think it's appropriate...I want to see that deal end."

**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 34:14; Romans 12:18.

**PRAY:** A just and peaceable end to war.

**ACTION:** In your own words, write a postcard to President Donald Trump, thanking him for striving to bring a peaceable end to the Russian-Ukrainian war.

President Donald Trump: The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500.

<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/413492>

<https://www.newsweek.com/donald-trump-putin-zelensky-russia-ukraine-ceasefire-war-2119703>

#### COSTCO WILL NOT SELL ABORTION PILL

Costco will not dispense the abortion drug mifepristone at its pharmacies, delivering a major victory to pro-life advocates. Bloomberg reported on August 14 that Costco will not sell the abortion pill at its more than 500 pharmacy U.S. locations. The move follows pressure from pro-life investors and conservative groups that had formally asked Costco and other grocery chains not to dispense the

abortion drug. "It's a very significant win and it's one we hope to build on this coming year," noted Michael Ross, legal counsel for the Alliance Defending Freedom's (ADF) corporate engagement team. ADF was part of a coalition of pro-life groups, firms and financial advisors that sent letters last August to Costco, Walmart, Kroger and other retailers urging them against selling chemical abortion drugs at their pharmacies. The company attributed the decision to the lack of consumer demand for mifepristone and did not comment on whether outside advocacy influenced its stance.

**SCRIPTURE:** Proverbs 10:9; Proverbs 21:3.

**PRAY:** All pharmacies will not sell abortion drugs.

**ACTION:** In your own words, write a postcard to Michael Ross, legal counsel for the Alliance Defending Freedom Corporate Engagement Team. Thank him for encouraging pharmacies to not sell chemical abortion drugs.

Michael Ross, Legal Counsel: Alliance Defending Freedom, 15100 N. 90th St., Scottsdale, AZ 85260.

<https://www.lifenews.com/2025/08/15/costco-decision-to-not-sell-abortion-pill-is-a-huge-pro-life-victory/>

<https://studentsforlife.org/2025/08/14/costco-will-not-dispense-chemical-abortion-pills-at-u-s-pharmacies-a-major-win-for-life/>

#### DEMAND FREEDOM FOR HOSTAGES

On August 17, protests began after the Hostages and Missing Families Forum, a volunteer-based organization, called for a one-day general strike, demanding release of remaining hostages. The strike began at 6:29 am, the moment Hamas terrorists breached the Gaza border fence on October 7, 2023. Hundreds of Israelis gathered, spreading out a huge flag of Israel with images of the remaining hostages on it. Israeli President Isaac Herzog attended with his wife, Michal. "I want to say to the kidnapped who are in the terrible tunnels of Gaza: We do not forget you for a moment and are making every effort to bring you home," Herzog said. The next day, Hamas accepted the ceasefire-hostage release deal proposal that included a 60-day pause and the release of 10 living captives. An Israeli official affirmed Jerusalem's commitment to a comprehensive deal remains unchanged, continuing "Israel's position has not changed [regarding both] the release of all the hostages and adherence to the other conditions defined for ending the war."

**SCRIPTURE:** Isaiah 43:1-4; Romans 11:26.

**PRAY:** Safe return of Israeli hostages.

**ACTION:** Host a prayer meeting to pray for safe return of hostages, healing for families, a just end to the war.

<https://www.christianpost.com/news/protests-held-across-israel-as-hostage-families-call-for-strike.html>

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-says-it-agrees-to-latest-ceasefire-proposal-as-mediators-scramble-for-deal/>

#### ATHLETE TITLES REINSTATED TO WOMEN

In July, the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn) agreed to ban biological males from female sports to resolve a federal civil rights investigation initiated by the Trump administration in February 2025. The investigation centered on a male swimmer who went by the name Lia Thomas. When announcing the voluntary agreement with UPenn, U.S. Department of Education Secretary Linda McMahon stated UPenn violated Title IX by allowing Thomas to compete in female sports. McMahon called the outcome a "victory for women and girls," and in a statement

said, "Thanks to the leadership of President Trump, UPenn has agreed both to apologize for its past Title IX violations and to ensure that women's sports are protected at UPenn for future generations of female athletes." Under the resolution, UPenn will restore swimming records and titles to females displaced by Thomas, send personalized apology letters, adopt biology-based definitions of sex, and publicly state that males will not be allowed to compete in female sports programs.

**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 9:16; Romans 12:19.

**PRAY:** Protection of female sports in America.

**ACTION:** In your own words, write a postcard to U.S. Secretary of Education Linda McMahon, thanking her for investigating UPenn for constitutional infringement of female athletes.

U.S. Secretary of Education Linda McMahon: U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20202.

<https://www.newsweek.com/lia-thomas-upenn-swimmer-transgender-ban-records-update-2093323>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/college/2025/07/01/penn-transgender-athletes-ban-lia-thomas-title-ix/84438014007/>

## CALL FOR GEN Z SPIRITUAL REVIVAL

Pastor Greg Laurie urged Christians at Turning Point USA's Faith Forward Pastors Summit in August to pray for revival amid a growing spiritual hunger manifesting among young men especially. "I wonder if God is at work," Laurie said, noting how 45,000 people packed Angel Stadium in Anaheim for a Harvest Crusade earlier this summer. Laurie noted trends increasingly suggest millennial men and younger are similarly ripe for the harvest despite profound challenges. "There's been a dramatic shift in the culture toward the Gospel and toward Jesus Christ. In the past, elders and baby boomers were more committed Christians, but in the last two years that has changed...Gen Z men are making a commitment to Christ." Conversions jumped 15% from 2019 and 2025 among Gen Z men, and 19% among millennial men, according to Barna Group's State of the Church 2025 initiative released earlier this year. Laurie exhorted pastors to focus on evangelism and shepherding new believers.

**SCRIPTURE:** John 4:35; Galatians 6:9.

**PRAY:** Young people commit their lives to Christ.

**ACTION:** Volunteer to serve in a local youth ministry or community center to share the Gospel with young people in your community.

<https://www.christianpost.com/news/greg-laurie-urges-christians-to-pray-for-revival-for-gen-z.html>

<https://heraldtoday.com.ng/greg-laurie-urges-christians-to-pray-for-revival-for-gen-z/>

## CHINA DEVELOPS BIRTH-GIVING ROBOT

Chinese tech firm, Kaiwa Technology, developed the world's first humanoid robot. Designed with an artificial womb embedded in its abdomen, the robot womb replicates the entire gestation process from conception to delivery. The core innovation lies in artificial womb technology, where a fetus develops in artificial amniotic fluid and receives nutrients through a hose, mimicking natural gestation. Slated for release in 2026, the robot aims to offer a pregnancy alternative for those who wish to avoid human gestation. Kaiwa Technology founder, Zhang Qifeng, presented the robot at the 2025 World Robot Conference in Beijing. With regards to ethical and legal

issues, Qifeng said, "We have held discussion forums with authorities in Guangdong Province and submitted related proposals while discussing policy and legislation." Although many argued that depriving a fetus of maternal connection was cruel, a survey from earlier this year showed 42% of people age 18–24 support "growing a fetus entirely out of [a] woman's body."

**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 22:9-10; Psalm 127:3.

**PRAY:** Godly ethics in technology.

**ACTION:** Host a Prayer and Action Meeting to learn about ethical standards for surrogate technology and contrast with Scripture describing the role of mothers.

<https://interestingengineering.com/innovation/china-worlds-first-pregnancy-humanoid-robot>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-15003205/robot-surrogate-China-pregnancy-humanoid-baby.html>

## SALT & LIGHT MINISTRY MOMENT:

NOTE: Ministry Moment is for educational purposes only. The information offered by organizations is from their websites and should not be used as a substitute for your research.

### AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

**Dr. Jennifer Holloran DSL—President & Chief Executive Officer**

American Bible Society's mission is to make the Bible available to every person in a language and format each can understand and afford, so all people may experience its life-changing message. The Society was founded in 1816 and for more than two centuries has shared the life-changing message of the Bible around the world. To date, American Bible Society has distributed the Bible to over 200 countries and territories. Since its founding, American Bible Society has reached millions of people in the United States and abroad, transforming lives and eternities with the priceless gift of Scripture. In 1835, the Society translated the first Braille Bible, which allowed the Blind to read God's Word for the very first time. The ministry also produced the first pocket Bible for soldiers during the American Civil War, bringing the light of the Gospel to the frontlines of one of our nation's darkest chapters.

**SCRIPTURE:** Proverbs 30:5; Isaiah 55:11.

**PRAY:** The Bible changes lives across the globe.

**ACTION:** For a personal study, complete the American Bible Study Identity in Christ Three-Day Bible Study.

(2025-WDW-Devotional-with-Content-Pages-FINAL-Identity-in-Christ-1.pdf)

<https://www.americanbible.org/>

## AMERICA'S FOUNDING FUN FACTS

"The Bible is the cornerstone of liberty...Students' perusal of the sacred volume will make us better citizens, better fathers, and better husbands."

— Thomas Jefferson

Founding Father, principal author of the Declaration of the Independence and third President of the United States.

## Book Recommendation

Knowing God, by J.I. Packer

<https://tinyurl.com/56eayt6t>