

Lighthouse provides safe harbor

May 7th, 2013 marks the 5th year anniversary of Lighthouse Ministries of Montana. The idea of Lighthouse was truly inspired by the Lord. It also came out of my own past experiences of abortion and sexual abuse. The foundation of Lighthouse is to offer a safe place for people to talk about these silenced topics and to work through healing without judgment or condemnation.

God has incorporated many beautiful details in the foundation of this ministry that I continue to be amazed at even after five years. The most significant detail was that our date of incorporation was set around Mother's Day. This was a noteworthy time to begin for a post abortion ministry. For me the great significance is that as a woman and mother who made the choice to abort years ago and has received so much healing from the Lord since then, Mother's Day is a very special and poignant time of year.

God's details and heart for this ministry continue to come into focus for me. I had driven by The Bridge Church many times in the past and never before noticed the Memorial for the Unborn Bench on their property. Last month the Bridge invited me to speak about Lighthouse Ministries. I shared with them how grateful I was for the memorial and that even the scripture engraved on it was very meaningful to me.

Matthew 11:28 "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." As a person who has walked through years of shame and condemnation from abortion, that bench and verse represent an extended hand of grace to me. I thanked them for being a "bridge" to me or to anyone who may be burdened from their past.



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Ministers Notes
By Teresa Best,
Founder

I discovered that there are six more benches placed around the Gallatin Valley. The theme is "Resting in God's Peace". These benches have been offered as a place of peace to mothers, fathers, and families of unborn children who have died through miscarriage or abortion. I would like to thank the Gallatin Valley Right to Life organization and their donors for sponsoring this project. I personally receive this "place of peace" as a gift of healing. It would be a wonderful thing for the Gallatin Valley and surrounding communities to be known as a place that offers peace, rest, and love to people who are hurting from abortion.

The topic of abortion is so difficult to discuss openly because of the intensely strong views. Before working through many of my own issues about abortion, I think that even if I had wanted to go to a

designated place, the fear of being judged by others would have stopped me. There was a time when I believed that I didn't have the right to honor my babies since I had chosen abortion. My loss from miscarriage also left me with no place to honor my tiny baby's life. After working through so much of this past pain and reconciling with the Lord, I am grateful now for a place to bring flowers and pay my respects to my children from abortion and miscarriage. I believe continued healing will take place for me and my family each Mother's Day as we sit and honor them in freedom and with unburdened hearts. My hope is that it will be a healing place for many others as well.

We, at Lighthouse Ministries want to offer a safe place for people to have conversations about abortion and abortion recovery. We have found that sometimes people just need to be given the freedom to ask questions or just be heard in order to explore if they are in need of healing. We are here to listen. If a group process is part of that journey, Lighthouse offers post abortion recovery groups three times a year also. For more information about Lighthouse or groups contact us:

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