

# President Kennedy's Inaugural Words Still Resonate with Americans

✘ Ask not what your country can do for you...

If you were alive in the 20th Century, chances are you can complete that sentence.

Indeed, key themes from President John F. Kennedy's inaugural address still ring in the ears—and hearts and minds—of many Americans 50 years after he said them.

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## Open Doors Calls on Clinton to Help Iraqi Christians

✘ During early evening on Dec. 30, an elderly Christian couple—Fawzi Rahim, 76, and his wife Janet Mekha, 78—answered their doorbell at their Baghdad, Iraq, home. When they opened the door, a bomb placed on their steps exploded. Both were instantly killed.

Rahim's brother, Falah al-Tabbakh, told the Associated Press: "When I went there, I found both of them cut to pieces near the gate of their house."

During that night at least seven other Christian homes in Baghdad were targeted, resulting in at least 13 people being wounded. The carnage came a week after al-Qaeda-linked militants renewed their threats to attack Iraq's Christians.

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# Report: California Church-Goers Want Marriage Help

✘ Although traditional marriage is under attack in California, there is still plenty of room for the faith community to offer a helping hand to engaged and married couples looking for answers. So says a report from the California Healthy Marriages Coalition (CHMC).

The report reveals that a majority of church-goers—whether frequently, regular, occasional or rare—believe that religious organizations should offer pre-marital counseling, marriage enrichment programs, and help to couples with marriage problems.

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# Born-Again Ex-Porn Star Debates at Cambridge University

✘ Chalk one up for the Kingdom of Light. Former Porn Star Shelley Lubben is creating waves in the pornography industry with her new book “The Truth Behind the Fantasy of Porn.”

Now, Cambridge University has invited the born-again Lubben to debate pornography on its United Kingdom campus. Lubben starred in about 30 adult movies between 1993-94. During that

time, she caught herpes and HPV before quietly leaving and entering recovery.

That's where Lubben found Jesus Christ—and she's not being quiet about harmful impacts of the porn industry anymore. Lubben now serves as executive director of the Pink Cross Foundation, working to save men and women that are trapped in porn.

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## **Will Murderous Ex-Haiti Leader Target Christians?**

✘ The sudden unannounced return of former Haitian President Jean-Claude Duvalier to Haiti puzzles everyone associated politically, socially and spiritually in that beleaguered nation. Haiti suffered a devastating earthquake one year ago, then a cholera epidemic, and then riots caused by election irregularities. This makes his return to Haiti suspect.

Duvalier who's also known as "Baby Doc" was ousted from power in a popular uprising 25 years ago. He's been living in exile in France since his ouster.

President of Christian World Outreach Dean Yoder says, "I just can't imagine why he came back."

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# Pakistani Police Allegedly Make Threats after Murdering Christian

Pakistani police are threatening the father of an 18-year-old Christian man whom officers raped, killed and threw into a sewer last week, according to area Christians.

Christian residents of Akhter Colony, Karachi who pulled the body of Waqas Gill from the sewer on Jan. 11 protested an alleged police cover-up by placing the corpse in the middle of a street and chanting slogans against officers of Mehmoodabad police station. They said local officers kidnapped and sodomized Gill before shooting him dead on Jan. 9.

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## ORU's Rutland Offers Unique Leadership Mentoring Opportunity

✘ News headlines speak of a leadership crisis of worldwide proportions—but true leadership begins with the Church.

That's why Dr. Mark Rutland, president of ORU, is hosting the National Institute of Christian Leadership in 2011 in partnership with Ministry21Network, founded by *Ministry Today* magazine publisher Steve Strang.

"A year of study in transformational leadership." That's how Rutland describes the National Institute of Christian Leadership. Rutland understands that turnarounds are some of

the most difficult challenges to overcome. That's because he's spearheaded several major organizational turnarounds in his career.

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## Minister Arrested in Front of White House

☒ *Charisma News Online* this morning reported on Rev. Patrick Mahoney's plans to hold a [peaceful demonstration](#) in front of the White House today. Mahoney went through with his plans and, as expected, was arrested in front of the White House Tuesday morning.

Mahoney was calling upon President Obama to "publicly, passionately and boldly speak out against the human and religious rights abuses by the Chinese government against their own people" when President Hu Jintao visits the White House on Wednesday.

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## Report: 2010 Sees Good, Bad for Family Values

☒ As January 2011 winds down, the last of the 2010 reviews are rolling out. One area that has yet to be addressed is the family values front—until now.

The World Congress of Families News, an international family-values group, just published its list of "The 10 Best and

Worst Developments for The Family in 2010.”

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# Human Rights Activist Risks Arrest at White House

A single chair and pictures of Nobel Prize Laureate Liu Xiaboo with a Christian woman who was brutally beaten by the Chinese government.

Those are the elements of a peaceful protest that Rev. Patrick Mahoney, director of the Christian Defense Coalition, plans to launch this morning in front of the White House.

✘ The demonstration, which Mahoney is planning in a “no demonstration” zone, comes a day before Chinese President Hu Jintao will visit the White House. Mahoney will kneel in prayer on the chair, knowing that his actions could land him in jail.

“We are calling upon President Obama to publicly, passionately and boldly speak out against the human and religious rights abuses by the Chinese government against their own people when President Hu Jintao visits the White House this week,” Mahoney says.

“Sadly, the Obama Administration has remained painfully silent when it comes to the China’s utter disregard for human rights and religious freedom. He has refused to speak out against their policy of forced abortion and gendercide against Chinese women.”

Mahoney says the empty chair represents all those who could never attend a State Dinner because they are being persecuted

and in prison for their religious and political beliefs. The demonstration also represents the empty chair from the Noble Peace prize ceremony in Oslo, Norway when Xiaobo could not accept the award because the Chinese government had imprisoned him for speaking out for freedom and democratic reforms in China.