## \*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*

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## **MARCH 31 IS EASTER SUNDAY**

## Raise girls to be an 'Easter woman' amidst egg hunts and Easter bunnies, says *American Heritage Girls* founder

**Patti Garibay**: 'It is our job as parents and leaders of young girls to inspire them to live their lives in tune with God's Word'

**CINCINNATI, Ohio** — As the world prepares to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on <u>Easter Sunday</u>, it can be easy for families to get caught up in the festivities. While the Easter bunny and egg hunts are fun ways to involve children throughout the Easter season, it's important to remind kids of the real reason Easter is celebrated, according to *American Heritage Girls (AHG, <u>www.americanheritagegirls.org</u>) Founder and <i>Executive Director Patti Garibay. Garibay* has worked with girls ages five to 18 and their families for nearly three decades and has seen firsthand how important it is for parents to emphasize the spiritual backgrounds of holidays to their daughters. Watch this special Easter message based on the *Raising Godly Girls* Radio Minute about building Resurrection confidence in girls featuring *Patti Garibay* here.

"Here's a little Bible trivia for you — who were the first to learn of the resurrected Savior? Every Gospel confirms that the same group of women at the crucifixion were first to learn of Jesus' resurrection," Garibay said. "Women were known as untrustworthy at that time — so why would Jesus choose them to discover the empty tomb? It was unexpected.

"Similarly in our modern world, women are still viewed as untrustworthy, emotionally fragile, and incapable despite the '<u>girl-power</u>' trend taking over society. And yet, since the beginning of creation, God has entrusted women with the sacred. Populate the earth, lead Israel, birth a Savior, witness miracles... Scripture is chock-full of examples of strong, God-fearing women.

"It is our job as parents and leaders of young girls to inspire them to live their lives in tune with God's Word. What the world needs now is not more Instagram celebrities, but godly women of character who seek after the Lord. This Easter, I encourage all families with girls to challenge them to be an 'Easter woman,' proclaiming the resurrection and welcoming other unlikely, unexpected souls to join in the eternal Kingdom of God."

*AHG* was <u>founded almost 30 years ago</u> when *Garibay* grew uneasy with the Girl Scouts of the United States of America's decision to take "God" out of the Girl Scout Promise. Since its founding, *AHG* has been providing Christ-centered, authentic, positive, and values-driven outdoor activities and other character and leadership development opportunities for girls across the nation. More than 60,000 girls and their families in all 50 states as well as girls being served in 15 countries around the globe have found friends, fellowship, and fun through *AHG*'s unique programming.

For suggestions on how to involve girls in the Easter story, see *AHG's Raising Godly Girls* blog post with helpful tips.

Tune in to this week's <u>*Raising Godly Girls (RGG)* podcast</u> and "*Raising Godly Girls*" one-minute <u>radio</u> <u>feature</u> to equip, affirm, and strengthen girls to become an "Easter woman," this Holy Week and Easter season.

American Heritage Girls was founded in 1995 by a group of parents who wanted this faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters. At *AHG*, girls ages five to 18 meet together as <u>a single</u> Troop at the same time and then break out into Units by Levels. This gives *AHG* girls the important social experience of interacting with friends and godly mentors of various ages; members also learn leadership skills within a group setting. *AHG* Troops are located in <u>local communities</u> across the nation. If none exists in a given area, families can bring the *AHG* Program to their own area. An *American Heritage Girls* Troop Development Coach is available to provide resources to potential Charter Organizations and other families to form <u>a new</u> Troop. To hear more about the purpose, mission, and vision of *AHG* from *Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay*, click here.

Today, there are <u>Troops</u> in all 50 states and girls being served in 15 countries around the globe. Girls can join a Troop at any time; if a Troop is not available nearby, they can become a <u>Trailblazer</u> and enjoy the *AHG* program alongside their parent. A variety of Christian denominations are also represented as <u>Charter</u> <u>Organizations</u> for Troops. Thousands of volunteer members across the country are helping girls grow in their faith, cultivate a heart for service, enjoy the great outdoors, and have more fun than they can imagine.

*AHG* offers various resources under <u>*"Raising Godly Girls,"*</u> including a weekly podcast, one-minute radio features, a blog, and guides for parents. All *"Raising Godly Girls"* platforms and materials offer guidance and biblically-based advice on various topics affecting girls today, such as bullying, identity, anxiety, and body image issues. *"Raising Godly Girls"* provides parents, educators, and faith community leaders with tools, resources, and Scripture-based advice to help raise girls after God's own heart.

*AHG's* new podcast, <u>"*Raising Godly Girls*,"</u> features fresh episodes every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Subscribe and follow on any major podcast platform or visit <u>raisinggodlygirls.com</u>. Additionally, the <u>"*Raising Godly Girls Minute*" with Patti Garibay</u> airs on 1000+ Christian radio stations across the country.

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To schedule interviews with *Patti Garibay, founder and executive director of American Heritage Girls,* contact Media@HamiltonStrategies.com, Beth Bogucki, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Jeff Tolson, ext. 108.

To inquire about airing the <u>*"Raising Godly Girls Minute" with Patti Garibay*, contact Michael Hamilton, 610.584.1096, ext. 101.</u>