NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release January 27, 2025

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How to encourage a faith that lasts; AHG Founder Patti Garibay highlights the importance of a strong biblical foundation

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CINCINNATI, Ohio — Parents have a vital role in creating a spiritual foundation for their children. The Bible is clear that parents are tasked with the all-important job of raising their children to seek after God, not just in their adolescence but throughout their lives. However, <u>research shows</u> around 90% of parents have no tangible plans for their child's spiritual development. Instead, an overwhelming majority of parents are delegating worldview development to purported "experts" — and the results speak for themselves.

For three decades, *American Heritage Girls* (*AHG*, *www.americanheritagegirls.org*), one of the nation's premier Christ-centered scout-type organizations for girls ages five to 18, has come alongside parents to guide girls' spiritual journeys with intentionality, wisdom and discernment. In a world filled with competing voices and influences — many dangerous for young girls — *AHG* provides fun, faith-filled programming that encourages girls to foster their own personal relationship with Christ which can be the building blocks for a deep, meaningful connection with their spirituality in adulthood.

"Someone once said that everyone is worshipping something," said AHG Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay. "Unfortunately, modern society has taught young girls to worship anything other than the one true God. It's up to parents to instill a love of Christ in their girls at a young age — to create that solid spiritual foundation that can inspire a lifelong relationship with their Creator. But how can parents nurture a faith in their daughters that is truly their own — deeply rooted, steadfast and capable of enduring life's challenges?"

On the latest episode of *AHG's Raising Godly Girls (RGG)* podcast, *Garibay* spoke with Dr. Teresa Roberts, a leading voice in children's spiritual formation and author of "Raising Disciples," to learn how parents can help their girls foster a faith that lasts. With over 25 years of ministry experience and a passion for bringing the Gospel to the next generation, Dr. Roberts shares how to map a girl's spiritual growth in meaningful ways, how to guide her identity in Christ through the turbulent adolescent years, and why the first 13 years are so critical for building a strong foundation of faith. Dr. Roberts also explores practical ways to introduce spiritual practices into family life, ensuring that faith becomes more than a set of rules and transforms into a relationship with God.

Tune in to this week's <u>Raising Godly Girls (RGG)</u> podcast and "Raising Godly Girls" one-minute <u>radio</u> <u>feature</u> to equip, affirm, and strengthen those on the journey to guide their girls to identify and measure their spiritual development.

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 a single 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 local communities 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 a new 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 six 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 parents. A variety of Christian denominations are also represented as <u>Charter 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 "Raising Godly Girls," 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, Dawn Foglein, ext. 100, or Jeff Tolson, ext. 108.

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