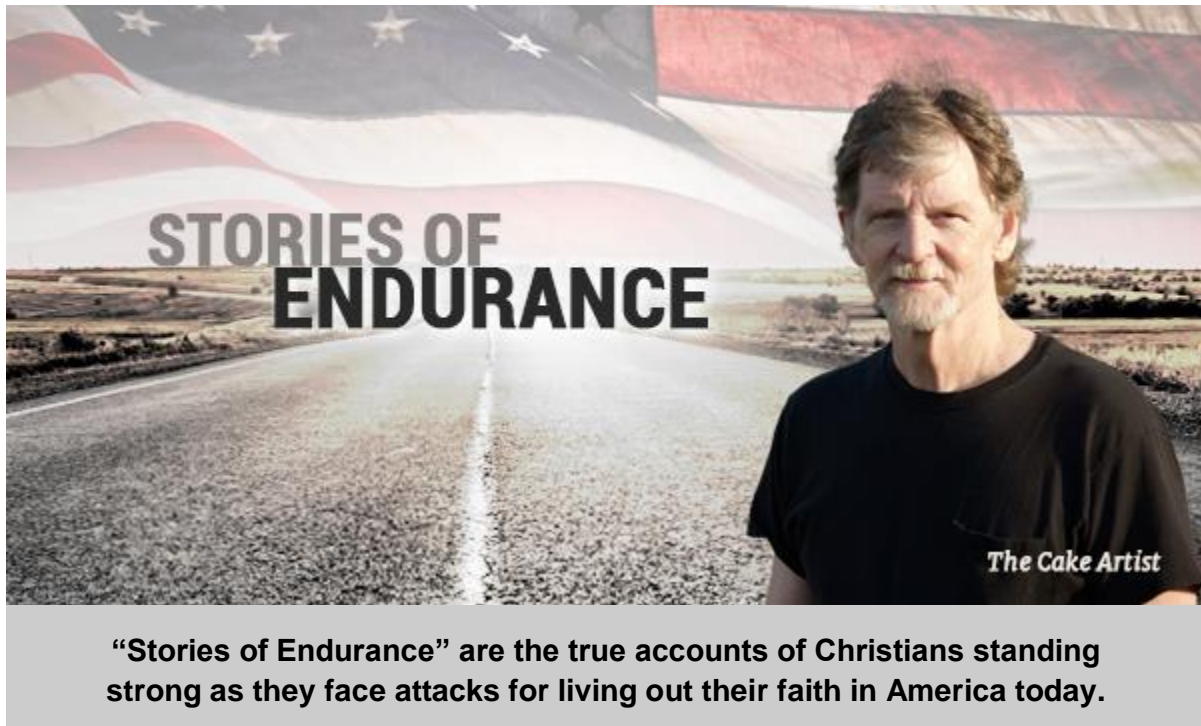




"... let us run with endurance the race God has set before us." — Hebrews 12:1



THE CAKE ARTIST'S STORY: Following Christ through adversity

Colorado cake artist Jack Phillips opened his cakeshop more than 20 years ago not only to provide for his family and his employees, but also to serve his community, share his artistic talents, and — most importantly — to honor God through his work every day.

The very name of Jack's business — Masterpiece Cakeshop — not only reflects that Jack designs artistic cakes, but is a constant reminder to him that he operates his business in service to his ultimate master — Jesus Christ. It also is a reference to his favorite Bible verse, Ephesians 2:10, which says, "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do

the good things He planned for us long ago” (NLT).

As Jack says, “We don't want God to be part of our lives on just Sundays. We want Him to be part of our lives every day.”

Jack was shocked when not just his business, but his faith, and even his family, became the subject of threats and punishment.

Remaining true to his conscience despite threats and punishment

In 2012, two men came into Jack's cakeshop and asked him to design a wedding cake for their same-sex wedding.

Jack kindly explained that he could not design cakes for same-sex weddings. Like millions of people across the globe and throughout history, he affirms the biblical teaching that marriage is the sacred union of a man and a woman. He could not design a cake to help celebrate the same-sex wedding because that would force him to violate his conscience.

The men swore at Jack and stormed out. Then he endured a steady barrage of threatening phone calls and emails. But that was only the beginning. Jack received notice from the Colorado Civil Rights Commission. He was being sued, accused of violating the state's nondiscrimination laws.

Over the years, Jack's faith has led him to decline a variety of custom cake orders — like cakes for Halloween, cakes that are anti-family in their message, and cakes that disparage people or celebrate divorce.

But this time, Jack was ordered by the state to use his talents to celebrate same-sex weddings in spite of his sincerely held religious beliefs. He was also ordered to reeducate his staff and to report to the state any custom cakes that he declined to create for a period of two years.

Throughout the entire journey, Alliance Defending Freedom and our Allied Attorneys have been defending Jack in court, at no cost to Jack.

ADF appealed on Jack's behalf to the Colorado Court of Appeals, but his ordeal was a long way from over. The Court of Appeals upheld the commission's ruling in August 2015. Then, the Colorado Supreme Court refused to even hear the case.

But our appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of Jack was accepted. The Court heard arguments on December 5. And when the Supreme Court issues its ruling later this term, it could very well be a landmark ruling for religious freedom.

Even after everything that's happened, Jack continues to trust in God's plan for his life and for the future of his shop.

A group of generous Ministry Friends has given a \$2 million matching grant to inspire you to support this effort financially. Because of the match, your gift will be doubled dollar for dollar.

Will you stand with Jack and with others who are being punished for their faith, **to provide the strong legal defense they need?** When you do, you're defending your freedom, too.

DONATE NOW

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