

# AN EPITAPH FOR WARREN

At the outset of the presidential debates this year between John McCain and Barack Obama, Rick Warren arranged what many consider to be the most illuminating and informative interview with the two men during their run for the White House. The event gave insight into the philosophies of the candidates and helped shape opinions of voters.

Back in 2006, Fox News featured a television special entitled “Can Rick Warren Change the World?” It offered some interesting glimpses of this man and his work. Throughout the show, reporters interviewed Warren about his best-selling book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, his ministry at Saddleback Church, and his leadership in the church growth movement.

They also spotlighted his attempts to move beyond the boundaries of this country with a global network of churches to revolutionize the way we tackle what he believes are the five biggest problems facing the world today: poverty, disease, illiteracy, spiritual emptiness and egocentric leadership.

As the interview progressed, a nagging question seemed to taint the ambitious pastor’s hopes and plans: Can it really work? Can one man – or one church, or one network, or one nation – really heal all of the hurts of the world?

Warren did not shy away from questions. At the end of the interview, he offered four words to be written on his tombstone: *At least he tried.*

The question is appropriate for the associates of Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home: Can we heal the hurts we find around us, in our own world?

What a powerful commendation for any of us as we come to the end of our roads: At least he (or she) tried.

We build such a reputation one day at a time, one person at a time.

--Beecher Hunter