

A Mustard Seed of Faith

God has shown me that HE plants those seeds He wants me to pray for – in my heart. He waters them in His way – and YEARS later those seeds may grow and begin to really sprout.

In the early 80's the desire for people to know the truth about abortion and other options was planted in my heart by God. I wanted other women especially to be warned because I had seen first hand in the life of close friends the devastation not only for the baby but for the mothers who aborted.

I always had this strong desire to pray for pictures about abortion, even though I knew the pictures were offensive. In fact I can remember riding down the highway and noticing an empty billboard and praying for God to have someone put up pictures about what abortion really does, and a number to call for other options. It was so strong that I couldn't resist that urge to pray and often I would speak that [prayer] out loud to my kids as we were in route [in the car] somewhere.

Hope, my oldest child remembers that urgency. Praying for safety for unborn babies was a part of all of my children's picture prayer journals even when they were only 3 or 4 years old. It was on the daily prayer list for all of us.

In 2002 Hope called me from Focus on the Family Institute to describe a ministry called Justice for All (JFA) that uses pictures to share lovingly about abortion and to help open up compassionate dialogue about abortion so that abortion becomes more than just a word.

She knew I would be excited because she knew the prayer for pictures had been in my heart for years. She had just completed the pre-Exhibit training and would be joining JFA on a Colorado campus outreach the following week.

My heart leapt as I realize I was seeing fruit from the burden of prayer God had given me years before. I asked God how I could be part of helping JFA. He told me to keep praying for them and more specifically. So I joined their [email prayer team](#) so I would know what campus they were on and the needs they had.

Also in 2002 I began to pray in earnest for the JFA Exhibit program to come to NC. It seemed

like a long shot but my God is big and that's easy for Him if it's His will.

In March 2007 God told me to go to a Georgia campus and experience JFA's outreach ministry for myself. I was SO EXCITED!!!! I LOVE sharing Christ with others. I had numerous opportunities both days I was on the campus of the University of Georgia at Athens, GA.

I marveled at how such ugly pictures could open the door for 15 or even 60 minutes of dialogue with pro-choice students! What an amazing thing God was doing through JFA! I loved it!! The burden for JFA to come NC got even stronger and God said, "Go for it." So I did.

During the JFA Exhibit outreach at the University of North Carolina (UNC) I met a beautiful graduate student named Ashley. I learned that she began to pray at the very same time I had (2002) for JFA to come to UNC. She was involved with a UNC campus pro-life group called Students for Life.

Ashley and I were so excited to realize that God had burdened our hearts at the same time about JFA coming to North Carolina, and specifically to UNC. And now there we were—together seeing the fruit of our prayers as we both actively shared the truth about abortion and alternatives with UNC students through the ministry of JFA.

SO MANY answered prayers! WOW GOD!

I also marveled that God used my pastors, who both came to faith in Christ as students at UNC, to help bring Justice For All to NC, and specifically to their *alma mater*. With gratitude I thanked Him for their obedience.

I've learned that it takes only a mustard seed of faith – and obedience – to respond in faith to a burden to pray as God directs. Years went by before I saw any kind of answer – before seeing God do marvelous things – exceedingly abundantly beyond what I could have imagined.

Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice." I have prayed time and time again that such would be true in my life. For I know that it is His will that I hear Him!

Jan Lewis
Fuquay-Varina, NC