

## **Cheryl Kaye's Reflections**



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## **Letting Go and Learning to Trust**

Dear Family and Friends,

"Chris, it sounds like you are telling me that the heartbeat is when humans receive their value, but I need you to help me understand why I should believe that to be true."

I'd been talking with Chris for about five minutes, and through listening and asking questions, I had quickly come to understand precisely what he thought: we need a heartbeat in order to be considered valuable. Chris was a medical student at the University of Central Oklahoma, and I knew he understood the biology of human life. He had already agreed with me that the unborn child is the same human organism from fertilization as it would be when the heart started beating. If it's the same organism at both stages in development, why is the heartbeat relevant to value?

Chris was starting to answer my question when his phone rang. After he had taken the call and hung up, he told me he had to go and asked if I would be back on campus to talk the next day. I told him I would be there the rest of the day, but then I would be going home. He looked disappointed

## Results of My Support Raising Efforts to Date

- As of November 25th, I have reached just over **60%** of my support-raising goal.
- I have enough support raised to increase the number of hours I spend in the JFA office. I thank God that I am getting closer and closer to my goal!

Thank you for your prayers and financial support!



Even though we were talking about serious things, Chris (left), his friend (right), and I had a great time talking with each other. Look at our big smiles!

I was a little disappointed, too, because I felt like we were just about to really start discussing what he believed. He had to go, however, and so I gave him the Justice For All Brochure, and we said goodbye.

Chris walked up to me again over two hours later. He sat down in front of me and said, "My meeting got canceled. Where were we?" I smiled to myself because I was glad that he was able to come back, and I was encouraged to see his excitement. I repeated my last question to him, and we picked right back up where we had left off earlier in the day.

Soon my conversation with Chris transitioned into other things. We talked about how our past experiences have affected the things we believe, and how religion plays a part in forming how we view things like abortion. In the two and a half hours I spent talking with Chris, I got to know him pretty well, and I had the opportunity to share the

Gospel of Jesus with him.

Chris was so appreciative of our conversation that he kept pulling his friends over to talk to me, too. He'd answer his phone and say, "Oh, I'm over in front of the abortion pictures again. You should come, too. I like talking to these people." Or, he'd look at me and say things like, "Out of all the prolifers I've talked to, you make the most convincing arguments." Here Chris and I were—very different from each other—talking about life, beliefs, and God in front of a display that is extremely controversial. I came to care for him as a friend very much during our conversation.

And then it came to an end, and I said goodbye.

Many of you know that I love people deeply and very quickly. I get attached to those around me and want to see them come to know more of the Truth. It can be very difficult for me to have such a great conversation, like the one I had with Chris, and then just walk away knowing I'll never see him again.

It can also be challenging because I find myself questioning whether or not anything I said in a conversation made any impact. I honestly don't know if the conversation I had with Chris caused him to change any of his views or caused him to come to know Jesus.

This is where trusting in a sovereign God comes into play.

I can trust that God is working, even when I do not see. I can trust that even though it pains my heart to tell people goodbye, that God will sustain me. I can trust that God knows the hearts of those with whom I have conversations. Basically, I can trust that I don't need to be in control because God is gracious and loving.

This can be applied to every area of our lives. As simple as it sounds, according to Romans 8:28, we can truly trust that, "God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." In the following verse, Paul, the author of Romans, then clarifies that

"the good of those who love him" is referring to being conformed into the image of Jesus. If we are children of God, we don't have to worry. God is using the situations in which we find ourselves to work things together for this good because of His love for us and for His glory.

Trusting God is something I think that we all struggle with at one time or another. I want to encourage you that no matter what situation you're in, you don't have to be in control. God is working in your life, and you can know that to be true in the same way that I can know that God is sovereign over my conversation with Chris, and I can trust God wholeheartedly with Chris's heart. One of the reasons I love working with Justice For All is that I'm continually learning and growing. Not only am I learning how to better defend the value of the unborn child, but I'm also learning much about what it means to live for Jesus in my day-to-day life. As a JFA staff member I can then pass this on to others. Your prayers and support make this possible and enable me to have conversations with people like Chris. Thank you so very much!

Love and Joy,

Cherryl Karje

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him."

-Psalm 28:7, ESV



This young woman had experienced abortion first hand. I labored to love her and share resources for healing.