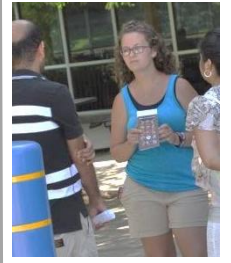


# Practicing What I Preach

CHERYL KAYE WISNER'S MONTHLY UPDATE



OCTOBER 2014

Dear Family and Friends,

It was just one of those days. Yes, one of those days when I went back to feeling like a pre-teen girl and dramatically thought that the world must be coming to an end. Why was I feeling this way? Because on our second day of outreach at the University of Kansas (KU), I felt like I had made no impact. People were being unkind in our conversations, my character was attacked multiple times, and I saw no visible change in the people with whom I was talking.

Experiences like this are rare but when it happens, it causes deep struggles in my spirit. *What am I even doing? Why do I feel like such a failure?* Doubts and lies creep into the recesses of my mind and heart, and I'm left feeling discouraged.



As I was sharing my experience with a wise woman, she looked me directly in the eyes and said, "CK, your success does not depend on what people decide about the things you share with them." Conviction swept over me as I realized that what I was being told was exactly what I teach the JFA seminar participants whom I mentor.

In Justice For All's *Abortion: From Debate to Dialogue* seminar, one of the first things we teach seminar participants is how to be humble ambassadors for Christ. When I'm teaching this particular concept, I share something that we learned from Greg Koukl at Stand to Reason ([www.str.org](http://www.str.org)): "So, how will we know if we've succeeded as ambassadors? Must the person we're talking to fall down on her knees and give her life to Christ? Or does she have to say, 'I changed my mind..."

I'm pro-life now?' Well, those are forms of success, but I'd like to encourage you to look at success in a different way. Let's remember our job as ambassadors: to represent our Sovereign. This takes a lot of the pressure off of us. Our job is to represent Christ well and leave the results to Him. So, in evaluating our performance, our question should be, 'Did this person get an accurate picture of what Jesus thinks and who Jesus is? Did this person have a meaningful interaction with Jesus?' "

When I'm mentoring seminar participants on campus, one fear that they most often face is feeling like they will be failures. I respond by saying, "No conversation you have is a failure. Either God uses you to help that person to change his view, or God uses that person to teach you something."

Often, we let the fear of failure stop us from doing difficult but important things. If we work up enough courage to try something challenging, it's easy to give up the moment we feel like we've failed. But, friends, we don't need to feel pressure to always see results. We have one job: to represent Jesus well and leave the results up to Him.

If the unborn child is a valuable human being like you and me, we can't sit back and let our fears or our discouragements control how we act. We need to valiantly stand for the defenseless and allow God to work through us. We trust that God is the One working in His time, and that representing Him is what we need for success.

The truth about fear, failure, and success applies to everyday life. We all have things we know we should do, but we are scared to do them. Don't let fear hold you back from sharing the Gospel, defending the unborn, or being honest with a friend. Strive to represent Jesus well in all you do and know that you have succeeded at what He has asked you to do.

From talking to this wise woman, I learned a valuable lesson in practicing what I preach. Please pray for me to remain encouraged in trusting that when I aim to represent Christ, no conversation is a failure.

Blessings,

*Cheryl Kaye*



JUSTICE FOR ALL TRAINS THOUSANDS TO MAKE ABORTION UNTHINKABLE FOR MILLIONS, ONE PERSON AT A TIME.

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