



Some Hunger for Truth, Some Fear Truth

Update from Jacob Burow - October 2012



Where to begin? I think our University of Kansas outreach days were some of the hardest our team have experienced emotionally and spiritually. We have heard many tough stories over the years, but it seemed there was a higher concentration of people whom we met who shared how they had been affected by abortion, or just how hard life had been on them.

All of the stories from last week form a mosaic, and it is hard to pick out one or two tiles that would do justice to the whole picture. But here are two conversations I had that stand out because of how they contrast.

Wesley was walking by and stopped at one of our tables the first morning. I asked him where he would draw the line on human rights, and he replied that he had not formed an opinion yet. That began a twenty minute conversation in which he asked really good questions about pro-life and pro-choice positions.

I loved his honesty and willingness to learn and compare ideas without feeling attacked. Wesley had genuinely not given the abortion issue serious thought, so we talked about a lot of arguments, and I showed him how the question always came back to, what is the unborn? After I had made a biological and philosophical case that

unborn humans should have equal value to born humans, Wesley said he appreciated me taking the time to educate people rather than just shout at people. He said that he had to get to class, but he would consider everything I had said. I asked if he would be interested in sharing one of our brochures with his friends, and he said yes. This open-mindedness stands in stark contrast with another conversation I had at the end of the second day.

A Jewish man and his five-year-old son approach me as I sat on some steps talking to a student near one of our tables. He asked if either of us was Jewish. We looked at each other and then back at the man.

“No, I’m not Jewish,” I responded.

“Well, I am out today telling people that today is the Jewish new year!”

Awkward pause.

“Happy New Year,” we said to him. “Are you a student here?” I continued, not sure where to go with the conversation.

“No, I am just here helping my friend who runs the Jewish center.”

An idea popped into my head. “Cool. So I have a question for you. Who do you think Jesus is?”

He literally took a step back. “He was a Jew,” he replied with a shrug.



Wesley listened as I explain the pro-life position to him.

“Okay, but do you think he actually rose from the dead?”

I was surprised to see him turn and begin to descend the stairs as he said, “No, that was just a story.”

“Would you be open to hearing some evidence that he actually did rise from the dead?” I said.

“No, I’m happy being Jewish.”

“Wait. So you care more about being religious than knowing the truth?”

He shrugged. “You know the Israelites have always been stubborn.” With that, he turned and walked off.

Scripture tells us that some plant seeds, some water seeds, but it is God who gives the increase (1 Cor. 3:6). I was glad to have been given the opportunity to plant seeds in these two soils. I trust that God will bring the increase.

Colorado Trip

Please pray for me and my teammates as we travel to Colorado September 26. We will be gone for nine days which will include four seminars and three days of outreach at University of Colorado at Boulder. Please pray for all of those who will be participating in the JFA training program. Thank you for your prayers and financial support which make this work possible!

Many blessings in Christ,

Jacob Burow



Check my blog for a post about the street preacher (above) whom I challenged to be more Christ-like in the way he shared the gospel.