



# Learning Without Doing is Dead

Update from Jacob Burow - September 2013



The first thing I did at outreach was grab a clipboard and take two students to do surveys. I wanted them to see me lead by example. Then I took the next two and got them started. Soon, all ten were engaged in dialogue. Then I was there to debrief with them after each conversation and answer their questions. After two hours of outreach we sat in a circle sharing stories, and I asked a question: “How many of you are more confident that you can talk about abortion now than you were after our seminar yesterday?” Every hand went up.

well for us. If all we did was teach people to share the truth about abortion in a classroom setting, but none of our students ever applied that knowledge, how useful would that be? James says, “Faith without works is dead” (James 2:17). Similarly, book-learning without practical application may not be real learning at all, and worse yet, it may be dead.

The students that I referenced above were staff members from Students For Life of America (SFLA). SFLA is an organization that helps college students around the country start pro-life clubs on college campuses. After experiencing the Justice For All training program, one of them wrote:



My colleague Josh Brahm (standing behind the sign) talked with this middle-aged woman (on left) at a Metro Station in Arlington, VA. Our team of SFLA volunteers watched as, over the course of an hour, this woman changed from pro-choice to pro-life. She specifically said that if we had displayed poor attitudes and had not been willing to engage in civil discussion that she never would have listened.

This past weekend, the Students for Life of America team traveled to a Washington, D.C. area Metro station with a simple goal in mind: engage in productive dialogue regarding the issue of abortion. Through this dialogue, our team was able to change the minds of eight self-proclaimed abortion proponents...

People learn best by hearing *and* doing, not just by hearing. This dynamic works

There is an unfortunate tendency in America to treat political discourse as an ugly

thing, where opposing sides constantly seek out ways in which they might be able to undermine, attack, or discredit those who disagree with them. In our outreach, we actively worked against this stereotype by seeking to respectfully dialogue with those who held views antithetical to our own. While this dialogue is oftentimes difficult at first, the entire team was ecstatic by the end of our three-hour long outreach due to the incredible responses from those we spoke with.

Here is how the article ended: “A very special thanks to...Justice For All for the incredible training they provide in regards to this form of outreach. If you are interested in learning how to change people’s hearts from pro-choice to pro-life, be sure to get in contact...”

I’m convinced that Justice For All offers the best pro-life training in the world. Why? Because we teach our students how to respond with grace and truth to the toughest arguments *and* because we get our students out **doing** it. We accompany our students to the mission field and stand by their sides while they

demonstrate their faith by their works, their learning by doing.

The impact of this simple two-and-a-half hour outreach with ten students was amazing—eight people changed their minds on the spot! Thank you to everyone who invests in me so that I can invest in future pro-life leaders who are making a difference in everyday life!

In Christ,

*Jacob Burow*



We presented the JFA interactive seminar to the leadership team of Students For Life of American at their home office in Arlington, VA.

## Upcoming Seminars

### Abortion: From Debate To Dialogue

October 12 – ADD Seminar, Wichita, KS (Outreach on October 16-17)

October 19 – 22 – ADD Seminars, Yukon, OK (Outreach on October 23-25)

November 2 – ADD Seminar, Atlanta, GA (Outreach on November 4)