

Praise Reports:

- A couple that I met at a local abortion clinic allowed me to drive the woman to the E.R. to rescue her baby from the abortion procedure that she had begun. I will share this amazing story with you in a future letter. Praise God for his mercy!

- I recently gained four new financial supporters!

Prayer Requests:

- Remember the couple above. They have many challenges ahead of them, and they desperately need our prayers.
- Pray that God would bless our ministry with the funding it needs to continue. We are currently looking to raise \$1,600 per month.

Listening Takes Time and Questions

It seems lately I have been getting asked, “What do you say to a sixteen-year-old girl who is pregnant?” As much as I have heard this question, maybe you have heard it, too. Let me share how I respond. Maybe these pointers will be useful to you.

No matter who asks this question, whether a teenage girl or an older man, I know that God placed this questioner in front of me for a reason. I remember to treat this person the way I want to be treated. So, I first respond by acknowledging the question with all sincerity:

“Wow, that’s a really difficult situation. I don’t think any reasonable person would say there’s an easy solution.”

I also try to show empathy by mentioning how a situation like this may have touched me through a friend or a relative.

The next question I ask is:

“Have you been touched personally by this situation?”

I ask because I am trying to find out if this person’s question is personal or just a hypo-

thetical question. If the answer is “yes,” then I follow up by asking questions which show compassion:

“Was this recent? How is she doing?”

Then I continue to listen.

“What kind of support does she have?”

After listening closely to the response, I then turn the focus back to the questioner.

“How do *you* feel about the situation?”

Again, it is so important to listen.

A Good Dose of Humility Goes a Long Way

I am not giving you a script. Do not memorize this or carry this newsletter around in your back pocket in case you get this question. I am just recommending that you be a real person. Sympathize and empathize. Let others do most of the talking. We need to do more listening. Chances are, people who ask a question like this really need someone to listen to their situa-

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tion, and you could be that person. You could demonstrate how well you are listening by finding common ground and agreeing wherever possible. You can do this without compromising your principles.

You know what I have found? It is all right if we do not have all the answers. Sometimes, one of the best things we can say to someone is, "I don't know the answer to that, but would it be okay if I did some checking and got back to you?" This kind of response shows respect, and it demonstrates a sense of humility.

Finally, do not forget ... I am here to help, too. Not only do I love this work, but I also love getting phone calls from you!

Sincerely,

Jacob Nels

**"Let others do most of
the talking. We need to
do more listening."**



**The JFA Team at
Georgia Tech**