

JUSTICE FOR ALL

Training Thousands to
Make Abortion Unthinkable for Millions,
One Person at a Time

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Oklahoma & North Texas

Newsletter
May 2010

Dear Friends,

I am now being supported by 48 families (30 monthly) and 2 church congregations, bringing my funding level to **54%**.

Please continue to tell others about my work and send your [commitments](#) in to the JFA office if you have not already.

News & Notes

There are many ways to measure success, but the most joyous of those is the review of success stories which find their way back to our office.

The seeds planted over the past months are already beginning to grow. Since people often assume that this is primarily a women's issue, I have chosen to share two stories about how men were affected.



From a student in Colorado: "I've always said that I'm pro-life, but I never knew what that entailed. . . . I now know what abortion does to a child. This exhibit shows that even a Pro-lifer can be changed. I always kept abortion in my mind as a back-up plan if I got a girl outside wed-lock pregnant. After the exhibit I could never ever consider it again. Thank you JFA for showing me the error in my way and revealing to me what it really means to be pro-life."

From one of our trained volunteers in Georgia: "They were walking past when I asked them if they had had a chance to look at the display yet. . . . I took them to the first side while asking them what they thought about abortion. . . . Andy told me he hadn't thought about it much, but he was pro-choice because he thinks the woman should have the right to choose. As soon as we rounded the corner and he saw the very first picture of a baby at 8-weeks (no picture of abortion, just fetal development), I could see his mind explode. He

immediately went on and on about how he had no idea the baby was so developed. . . . After only about 5 minutes he said 'I don't think I can be pro-choice anymore. I just had no idea.' . . . Praise Jesus! I was so happy he was able to use me in such an incredible way. Only the Holy Spirit can orchestrate conversations that incredible."

"Does the Bell Toll for the Unborn?"

It was Wednesday 19 April 1995 at 9:02 A.M. I was a student at Oklahoma Christian University, but on this day my instructors were life, death, and tragedy. My classroom was the Murrah Federal Building down the road. It had just been blown to bits. Of the 168 people lost, 19 were children. Three unborn children were not counted in the official tally.

Following the bombing, Oklahoma Christian planned a memorial service during chapel time. Immediately after chapel the bells were to toll 168 times while the whole community sat in silence in the forum.

I missed chapel that day because I was sitting in the office of my dear friend and professor Dr. Elmo Hall discussing philosophy. While I didn't mind missing chapel, I was somehow drawn to the poetic idea of tolling bells and was determined to be in the forum to count each and every one.

Concluding a philosophical conversation with any college professor, let alone the venerable Dr. Hall, is no easy task. So, rather than force an awkward end, I invited Dr. Hall to stroll with me down to the forum to remember the 168.

"No. I'm not going," was his flat reply.



So flat, in fact, that I knew there must be more to the story. “Why not?” I asked.

He began calmly, “It’s a matter of principle. My daughter Shari was six when she died. It was a terrible disease, and she suffered.” He paused, then became more passionate. “She died alone. No newspaper reporter came to my house to interview us. No one called her a martyr. No one rang any bells. What is so special about these 19 children that they deserve all of this?”

“Never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.”

“I’m sorry,” I said, “I didn’t know you had a daughter.”

“No, you didn’t,” he concluded without looking up.

I was in the forum, but I couldn’t count the tolls. Somehow I felt that I had been put in my place. All I could think about was Elmo’s daughter. Why are some deaths more important than others?

Fifteen years later I still struggle with this question. Over 3,000 died in the attack on New York City. As a nation we responded with an ocean of tears, billions of dollars in spending, and a “War on Terror.” What about the 3,000 unborn who die EVERY DAY in this country? Where is the justice for them?

We react to death differently depending on our relationship to those who died, how many died, and how atrocious the manner of death. In this sense death is relative . . . but is death relative for God when not even a sparrow falls without his knowing?

Our culture does not accept the shedding of innocent blood, however it only acknowledges the blood it sees. The silent, unseen victims of abortion die daily without a single tolling bell, a bell that could not acknowledge each life lost even if it tolled every minute, every hour, every day. To avoid atrocities such as abortion, we must toll the bell and guard against becoming deaf to the sound.

Perhaps John Donne said it best:

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friend's or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

(Meditation 17)

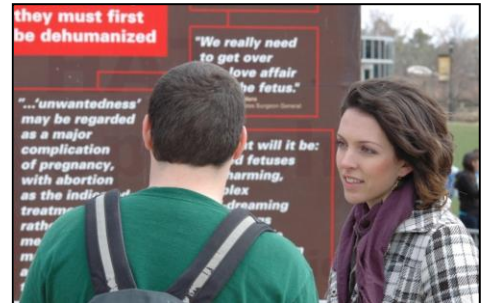
May Mission Trip

From time to time we hear a story of a brave firefighter who rescued a child from a burning building. Imagine being that firefighter, knowing that you put all of your training to use and allowed God to use YOU to save a life!

Would you like to know that feeling? Our May Mission to south-

ern California will equip you to rescue unborn children, and their parents, from the violence of abortion.

Join us the 22nd through 29th of May 2010 for a week of life-changing outreaches, fellowship, prayer, learning today's best pro-life apologetics, and fun in the sun at the University of California-San Diego and Pasadena City College. Although the official deadline to enroll has passed, we have a few spots left if you can join us on short notice.



[Details and Application](#)

So on the one hand we toll the bells for our children and families lost to abortion, but on the other we celebrate, ringing the bells for every changed heart and life saved.

I thank God and you for partnering with me in this mission.

Very truly yours,

John Michener
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