



# Recipe for Divine Dialogue

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Want a tasty outcome? Julia Childs, a student in the Justice For All training program, not Julia Child, the famous cookbook authoress, is a great example of how following the recipe leads not to *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, but to mastering the art of tasteful conversation about abortion. Here's the recipe:

### Recipe for Divine Dialogue

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|---|---|
| 1 cup Seat Work   | 2 cups Feet Work                              |
| ½ teaspoon listening to presentations                         | ¼ cup listening to JFA staff in conversations |
| 2 tablespoons practicing conversation skills in a small group | 1 tablespoon starting conversations           |
| ½ cup being mentored by JFA staff                             | 1 teaspoon debriefing with JFA staff          |
|   | ¾ cup praying for humility                    |

In the large mixing bowl of your experience combine the seminar presentations, small group practice, and mentoring by JFA staff. Blend it together for five to six hours. Some recipes call for nuts to be stirred in, but pro-life advocates work just as well. Chill batter overnight. Pour batter onto a college campus and bake all day at an outreach event. Makes a lifetime of servings.

**Read Julia's review of the finished dish on the back of this recipe. Delectable!**



### **¼ cup listening**

To the left, Julia Childs, in the orange jacket, learns by listening to JFA staff member Tim Brahm. Below, she participates in a conversation while Tim assists. Real-time modeling and mentoring by JFA staff are critical ingredients in our training recipe.



The reviews are in, and the JFA recipe for *Divine Dialogue* is delicious! Below is Julia's review of the dish she was responsible for making and taste-testing:

**Featured Review**  
by Julia Childs

She was walking by the poll table with a determined pace and a frown stamped clearly on her face. The prospect of confronting a grumpy-looking woman about abortion was not on my agenda. I was not going to interrupt her. However, as she started to walk by, I knew...I knew I had to engage her in a conversation. It suddenly came out of my mouth:

“Good morning. Would you be so kind as to sign our poll?”

As the Georgia Tech librarian started to sign “Yes, abortion should be legal,” I inquired if she thought abortion should be legal in all circumstances. She was not sure about that, but she was adamant that abortion should remain legal. As we continued our conversation, I could see the Lord start to change her heart. Her face started to soften, and a look of concern and amazement replaced the glower. As we finished talking she gave me a big hug.

“Thank you,” she said. “I

**was going to sign that it should be legal, but now my mind is changed, and I could never do it [support abortion]!”**

That was Tuesday. Wednesday morning came and went. When late afternoon arrived, so did the librarian, and she gave me another hug. As we were talking, a Justice For All staff member recognized her. Apparently, the staff member had talked to her three years earlier. At that time the librarian had said she wanted her daughter-in-law to get an abortion because she feared having to care for the new child as well as his four other siblings. She had felt it would be too much. No one at JFA had known what happened to that unwanted little one, but this is what we found out on a Wednesday afternoon three years later:

The daughter had not gotten the abortion after all, and now Cameron, “My Little Fella” the librarian called him, is starting pre-school, and is the joy of her life! Oh, how good is our God! A grandmother changed her heart to understand that the millions of

children aborted each year are all someone's—God's—Little Fellas.

Three days earlier I had walked up the steps to the JFA seminar not knowing what to expect. Would it be three days of having no answers, of being yelled at with little results? But as the staff started sharing their wisdom...it laid a foundation in me, one that would allow me to build a conversation that might actually lead somewhere. As I sat in the training seminar, the weight of the unexpected did not vanish; but the training did give me the confidence to ask the first question, knowing that by God's grace I would be ready with the second one. I thought the subjects and depth covered in the seminar were well chosen... I found the seminar, staff, and supplements rather splendid.

I look forward to working with this wonderful group again, and in the meantime, I continue in prayer for the Lord's blessing on you, His emissaries, for all His Little Fellas. ■

**¾ cup praying for humility**

Time spent in prayer before and during an outreach brings much needed humility into every conversation. We listen better and we are heard more clearly when we are truly humble.

**1 tablespoon starting conversations**

After adding all of JFA's ingredients for success, Julia is starting and carrying on her own conversations about abortion.



For more on how the ingredients in our recipe help pro-life advocates become gracious ambassadors who can talk about abortion in an effective manner, visit my archive page at [www.ifaweb.org/John-Michener](http://www.ifaweb.org/John-Michener) and watch the YouTube video “JFA Training in a Nutshell.”

-John Michener

