



David is Ready to Serve

How my good friend furthered JFA's goals while waiting for his own to unfold

Over the last year David Farinola has become one of my best friends and has been a huge encouragement to me in my work at JFA and as a brother in Christ.

One of David's life goals is to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps. Due to complications with his admittance situation, David has to wait until at least April of 2010 to find out whether he'll be chosen to serve in that way.

During this time of waiting **David has done anything but waste time.** He teaches as a substitute in Wichita, spends significant time with his family, works extensively as a volunteer in the JFA office, and just recently ventured out with our team to the Oklahoma State (OSU) training and outreach.



Even though David and I have been great friends since we met a year ago, my respect for him deepened after he blessed the OSU students with his passion for truth and willingness to communicate effectively with his peers. I asked David to reflect on his first JFA training and outreach experience. His response is below...

"Some of the most meaningful conversations I will have in my lifetime took place on the campus of Oklahoma State last month. **It was as though the conversations were meant to take place—as if the appointments were divine in nature.** Student after student approached the JFA exhibit with a lifetime of different experiences, which led them to their current view on abortion.

One female student approached and volunteered that she had an abortion and saw the fetus once it was removed from her body. She told me she will never forget the sight and is still deeply saddened by it. Her lips quivered as she spoke. Even through this obvious pain, she still believed women should have a right to choose abortion. I believe she found some justification for her action in holding to this pro-choice view. As gently as possible, I reassured her that no one who came to Oklahoma State with JFA was there to judge her for having an abortion. I sensed she took comfort in the fact that we had come in a spirit of mercy and love, and not judgment. We parted ways as she left for class and I was left to wonder at the affect of our conversation on her life. Throughout the rest of the day, she returned twice and spent considerable time with some JFA staff members and I came to discover **she was in fact shifting her view of abortion.** She found healing with those who were willing to ———>

It will take an eternity for the unborn to defend themselves

Speak honestly and gently with her on the truth of abortion. This is only one of many conversations I was engaged in while at the university for two days.

The most effective part of the outreach was without question **the true pictures of abortion, which made our work much easier.** First, they were effective in drawing students to the exhibit. Second, after viewing the reality of abortion, most of the students were prepared to dialogue about their emotions and about the issue itself.

The training was of great value in preparing me to question, listen, and defend my views when necessary. Training also equipped me with the basic knowledge and confidence necessary to engage in dialogue. **The outreach itself provided the irreplaceable application of skills.** It also provided great insight into the arguments on both sides of the issue and was a place where hearts and minds were changed on abortion, and to be a part of that changes your heart as well. Witnessing the impact strengthened me to remain committed to sharing and defending the truth whenever possible."




Praises and Prayer requests for December 2009:

- Please pray for our clubs in northeast Georgia. One needs at least fifteen people to sign on as members (to be officially recognized by the school) as soon as possible.
- Please pray for my safety as I travel to California for Christmas in a few weeks.
- Thank God for David Farinola and for his willingness to help JFA and serve our country. Please pray for him as he continues his training and waits for his chance to serve.
- Praise God for the amazing work of the fifteen OU students during our recent Oklahoma trip. Pray for them as they continue to reach out to the OU community as well.
- Continue to pray for our two new interns, Josh Pedrick and Claire Rice and for our new staff member, Jacob Burow, as they continue to raise their support this month.

Throughout 2009, your incredible support helped me equip people like David, who go on to equip others.

If you weren't able to partner with me in 2009, please consider sending an end-of-year gift or making a pledge for 2010 (see enclosed coupon).

Defending Human Value together,


Jonathan Wagner