



Raising the Bar in Oklahoma—Part 2

Smaller groups at CHA (Oklahoma) training help their team develop greater confidence.

Training the Salt & Light club from Christian Heritage Academy (CHA) was one of the major highlights for me in 2009!

Last November we had a Chapel presentation for all of the 7th-12th graders at CHA. We then took their sixty "Salt and Light" students (10th - 12th graders are eligible) through our full seminar and later that week they attended our outreach at Oklahoma State University.

We had great trainings in '07 and '08 but the JFA staff and CHA students agreed that the training in 2009 was the best yet. **What was the key? We had smaller training groups!**

We reduced the number of students that each mentor was responsible for. This gave each student more opportunities to ask questions and each mentor more attention per person.

The smaller group format also helps the JFA staff members by removing the temptation of trying to mentor every student. I have attempted this many times and failed miserably. Instead we have 6-8 students that we pour into during the seminar and outreach portions. The students feel much more cared for because with large groups only the loudest and most pro-active students would get the attention and insight they all need so desperately!



Ian (in black) speaks to a student in Oklahoma. He is one of many students who benefited from smaller groups.



I took Benedictine College students through a small group time last September. To my left is Brit Nels, whose husband, Jacob, is a new staff member. She assisted during training.

Mariah Mendelkow, a CHA student, said of our training program, **"I did this all last year but this year seemed a lot more interactive.** It's very helpful to go over these things. I agree that abortion is a topic that America needs to be more informed on."

It will take an eternity for the unborn to defend themselves



Karis blessed us with her willing spirit and prayerful attitude. She shook hands with this OSU student after they spoke.

Encouraging responses from our CHA event!

- "This experience was great. I became more confident in my abilities by going out of my comfort zone. I had a great time and would like to do it again." (Ian Sanders)
- "I think that this training is great. It simplifies the issue and gives easy ways to talk about it. It makes me feel confident. Thank you for standing up for life!" (Ryan Morrisett)
- **"The training was very good! I feel prepared to gently and respectfully discuss tough issues with my peers."** (Karis Cherry)
- "This experience actually taught me a lot! I didn't know a lot about the issue of abortion before this. This taught me a lot about why I believe what I believe." (Chelsea Clifton)

Thank you for encouraging me with support and prayers as I work with students like Ian, Mariah, and Karis!

Praises and Prayer requests for February 2010:

- The trip to Atlanta a few weeks back went very well. We were able to encourage both of the student clubs that we are working with in Georgia this semester!
- **We were able to get connected to several more students for the Kennesaw State club that I am mentoring. More than 25 students have now shown interest there!!**
- Claire Rice was able to finish her support raising over the last several weeks. She visited Wichita last week for meetings and will now be able to help us in Colorado.
- Please lift up our future training opportunities near Dallas, TX. I will be talking with school administrators, donors, and students in that region. Please pray for me to keep the highest priorities at the forefront of this project and for success as I go!
- Many of our trained volunteers continue to lovingly challenge people about abortion regularly. Thank God for empowering them and pray that others will follow.

Defending Human Value together,

Jonathan Wagner
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