How Would the Good Samaritan Respond?

For the last several months I've been challenged by the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

This passage (see Luke 10:25-37 below) also motivated me in my work with JFA. Many people I talk with desire to limit who they are “responsible” for and most people struggle with how to help the unborn, even when they manage to remember that thousands of them each day are “left for dead”. The parallels are not perfect but I think that this passage can help each of us think more clearly about our motives. It may even propel us to be more proactive and more prepared to stop injustice and to serve the defenseless.

I thought about only giving you my ideas about this parable but I don’t want to deprive you of the learning process I had while wrestling with the story and considering the potential implications for my life with relation to abortion or any other injustice.

Below are three questions to consider. I’d love for you to send me your answers through regular mail or email so that I can be along for the ride as you process. On the back are some conclusions I have drawn but please take a while to ponder these questions before reading my conclusions.

1. Who are all the people that are “hurting” or “left for dead” when it comes to abortion?

2. What are the main action steps we can take from this passage as we seek to help in the midst of any injustice, including abortion?

3. What are other thoughts from the passage that you have and what are some challenges that arise as you consider trying to live out potential action steps.

It will take an eternity for the unborn to defend themselves
What if we saw unborn babies as our neighbors?

Three main parallels I draw from the Parable of the Good Samaritan:

1. Don't ignore the injustice of abortion.
   - Acknowledge what abortion is and where it occurs.
   - Frequently converse with people who may be abortion vulnerable or are connected to people who are.
   - Learn where the abortion clinics are and be aware of leaders who seek to increase access to abortion.
   - Study enough to be effective but don't let research deter you from action.

2. Do what is within your power.
   - Pray for wisdom and courage to take action steps.
   - Be honest, attentive, and gracious. People will seek you out instead of fleeing from you during a crisis. Everyone who is in a crisis pregnancy situation or is ashamed or scared will turn to someone—will they turn to you?
   - Bring the subject of pregnancy up with your peers before it is a crisis. Whether you are a parent whose peers may be pressuring kids to abort or a student whose peers may be in the midst of a crisis pregnancy, be prepared to help before the crisis.
   - Bring up the topic with care and humility. There is a great chance to help clarify the important issues and bring out the truth well before a hasty decision or crisis could cloud people's thinking.

3. Bring along others to partner with when your influence, knowledge, or resources are limited.
   - Find where your local pregnancy resource centers are.
   - Bring all those in crisis pregnancy to these help centers and make sure the connection goes smoothly.
   - Find out what your church is willing to do to help—before a crisis comes up.
   - Learn to train others to talk about abortion graciously.

Prayers and Praises for March 2011

- We presented four times to a total of 200 in Georgia and gained new training partners for future years!
- Prayer for safety as part of our team travel to San Antonio, Denver, and Fresno over the next few months.
- We just added a staff member and are praying for a few others to commit to the support raising process and our mission.

Defending Human Value together,
Jonathan Wagner

Stephen Wagner has spoken to thousands of students about defending the unborn, has had thousands of conversations about abortion with college students, and wrote a book on the subject.

Amanda Coles, with brochure, has talked with hundreds of people about abortion. One girl emailed her to get help with a crisis pregnancy and Amanda helped her find resources and the baby was saved! See her video that documents this story on our website at: www.jfaweb.org/HOW.html (bottom of web page)

Anne Wunder (in blue) is just one counselor from the growing number of pregnancy resource centers we partner with across the country.

Check out JFA's new and improved website at www.jfaweb.org