



## Lessons to Take into Fall

Last month, I wrote about the transformation of Rich Suplita. I learned lessons from my time with him that I have highlighted below. Use them in your conversations regarding abortion and faith.

- **Don't give up just because someone is indifferent to you or to the truth.** I made some good points to Rich in 2007, and he still confessed in March 2011 that he hadn't thought through our original discussion. I could have just walked away frustrated this last March. Instead, I pressed on and graciously shared truth with him. This time he was much more receptive to my questions and comments. Rich was thankful that I had studied up on his previous concerns. Our initial conversation wasn't wasted; it was simply a vital first step.
- **Challenge people firmly, yet graciously, once you've earned the right to be heard.** Use questions instead of just making statements. I spent time listening to Rich, and then I asked him, "Have you been open to studying the best evidence against your views about Jesus and the credibility of the Bible?" Here's another challenge I offered: "Did you walk away from church because phony Christians let you down or because you disagreed with what Christ taught or how he lived?"
- **Pray earnestly for God to open people's eyes and hearts to the truth.** Ultimately, the issue of abortion and the issue of faith are part of a greater spiritual battle that the Apostle Paul wrote about in Ephesians 6. Rich's story helps me remember to pray fervently for hearts and minds to be changed and for strength to stay patient and gracious no matter how people respond.

### JFA's September Schedule\*

Date	Seminar ( <i>SEAT WORK</i> )	Outreach ( <i>FEET WORK</i> ) Location & Dates
Sept 10	Benedictine College, Atchison, KS	University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS (Sept 12-14)
Sept 11	Corpus Christi Church, Lawrence, KS	
Sept 17	Homeschool Seminar, Fresno, CA	Fresno City College, Fresno, CO (Sept 19-20)
Sept 18	Fresno Community Seminar, Fresno, CA	
Sept 29	Dayspring Christian Academy, Greeley, CO	University of Colorado, Boulder, CO (Oct 3-5)
Sept 29	Focus Leadership Institute, Colorado Springs, CO	
Sept 30	Heritage Christian Academy, Fort Collins, CO	

\* I will serve as a trainer for the Kansas and Colorado events.

Do you know someone like Rich who is open to discussing issues like abortion or beliefs concerning Christ, morality, and life's purpose? **Who could you impact by listening without judgment and asking thoughtful questions?**

Defending human value together,

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*It will take an eternity for the unborn to defend themselves.*