

The Power of Gentleness



KAITLYN DONIHUE'S MONTHLY UPDATE



FEBRUARY 2020

Dear friend,

I recently heard someone retell Aesop's fable about the sun and the wind, and it reminded me of my work with Justice For All.

As the story goes, one day, the sun and the wind were discussing whether gentleness or forcefulness is more powerful. The wind argued that force is much more effective, while the sun contended that gentleness is by far the more powerful of the two. Both deeply convinced of their positions, they agreed to a contest.

Below them, a traveler walked along a frozen road wrapped in a thick coat. "Whoever gets that man to remove his coat wins," declared the sun.

"That will be no problem for me!" the wind boasted with glee. He billowed and blew, clawing at the man's coat, trying to blow it away. But the more the wind blew, the tighter the shivering man clung to his coat.

Finally, the wind gave up, and the sun stepped up to the challenge. Gradually, he came out from behind the clouds and shined down onto the man. Little by little, his warm rays melted the frost that covered the ground and danced in the trees. Soon the man took off his gloves. Then he unbuttoned his coat. Finally he became so warm that he took off his coat, carrying it over one arm.

As Aesop showed through his story, a gentle approach is more powerful than a forceful one, and we see this clearly when we seek to persuade others. Proverbs 15:1 reminds us of this as well. It says, "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

Last spring, when I was in Durango, Colorado with the JFA team, I struck up a conversation with a young woman. She had a lot to say, and I struggled to get a word in edgewise. Finally, I said to her, "You have shared a lot and have barely let me say a word. Is it possible that you aren't letting me talk because you are afraid of what I might say?" She nodded. What she shared next deeply saddened me. She told me that she used to work at



Our outreach last March in Durango, Colorado drew a lot of attention, and we had tons of great conversations. Please pray that our upcoming outreach on this campus (March 30-31) will have a similar impact!



JUSTICE FOR ALL - TRAINING THOUSANDS TO MAKE ABORTION UNTHINKABLE FOR MILLIONS, ONE PERSON AT A TIME

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Planned Parenthood as an escort. One day, while she was escorting a girl inside, a man stood on the sidewalk yelling at the girl.

That experience had colored this young woman's perspective of pro-life people. She assumed that all pro-life people are like that man. Through listening, asking questions, and finding common ground, I was able to prove to her that not all pro-life people are unkind. I gained her trust, and we were able to have a good, open, friendly dialogue.

Gentleness won her trust and opened the door for dialogue about abortion. As the sun in the story above demonstrated, gentleness is powerful. It is especially necessary when we are challenging another individual's deeply-held convictions. May we be gentle and persuasive messengers of the gospel and advocates for life.

In Christ,



RESULTS OF MY SUPPORT-RAISING EFFORTS TO DATE

- As of February 20th, **I've reached 75% of my support goal.** I'm almost there!
- So far 48 families or individuals have partnered with me in my work with JFA!
- If you have supported me over the last year and a half, either through your prayers or financially, I want to say again how much I appreciate you! If not, would you consider joining to help me hit 100%?

