



Dear Friend,

I thought the conversation would be miserable. When I first saw him, I considered just letting him walk by because there was something in his expression that looked like a smirk. My least favorite conversations are usually with people who think the abortion issue is a big joke. I engaged him anyway and asked him to sign our "Should Abortion Remain Legal?" poll. After he signed "Yes," I asked him whether he thought it should be legal throughout all nine months of pregnancy. We proceeded to have a wonderful conversation for over an hour, primarily on the question of whether the unborn is a valuable human being.

The main reason this conversation was so memorable is that Marcelo could not have been more different from my assumption about him. He was incredibly respectful, seriously engaged on the topic, and he was even willing to admit when his arguments didn't hold up under scrutiny. He didn't appear to change his mind about abortion in that conversation, but he left seriously considering a different perspective. In addition to that, I had the chance to tell him about Jesus, a chance I certainly would have missed if I had let my bad assumption shut down the conversation before it started.



This Oklahoma State University student, Marcelo, and I spent a long time trying to answer the questions, *Why is it wrong to kill us?*, *What makes us special?*, and *Whatever it is that makes us special, does the unborn have it too?*

This experience made me realize that, despite how oft stated it is that we shouldn't make assumptions, I make assumptions all the time. If I almost missed out on a great conversation over something as mild as a smirk, what else might I be missing? If you're like me, you may also be missing out on the chance to speak the truth in love to people around you. I'd encourage you to look for those opportunities and take them.

On a Personal Note

I moved to Wichita, Kansas, to start working out of the national office two months ago. My biggest prayer request for months leading up to that move was that I would be able to find a church. To be honest, I was pretty worried about it. I've never been very good at following that "do not be anxious for anything" command. I am so thankful that God answered my prayer right away! The Sunday just two days after I arrived in Wichita, I visited a little church my colleague Joanna told me about, and I have had no desire to look anywhere else. Praise God!

The Abortion Disconnect

My colleague Jacob Burow gave an outstanding sermon at his church last month titled "The Abortion Disconnect." You can listen to it here:

www.jfaweb.org/Abortion_Disconnect_Audio

In Christ,
Tim



Upcoming JFA Events

Please keep the following upcoming events in prayer. Please pray for travel safety and good health for the JFA staff, for the minds of the students we are going to train, and for the hearts of the men and women we're going to meet (I will be on the trips in **bold**).

Date	Seminar (SEAT WORK)	Primary Audience	Outreach (FEET WORK) Location & Dates
Jan 11	Univ. of California—Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA	UCSB Students for Life club members	University of California - Santa Barbara (UCSB) Santa Barbara, CA <i>January 14-15, 2013</i>
Jan 12	Sacred Heart Church, Ventura, CA	Thomas Aquinas College Students	
Jan 13	Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Ventura, CA	Saint Bonaventure High School students and Ventura community members	
Feb 7	St Mary's High School, Phoenix, AZ	St Mary, Bourgade and Notre Dame High School students	Arizona State University (ASU) Tempe, AZ <i>February 11-12, 2013</i>
Feb 8	Brophy Prep High School, Phoenix, AZ	Brophy, Xavier and Seton High School students	
Feb 10	Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ	ASU Students for Life club members and community members	
Mar 7	Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, Fayetteville, GA	Our Lady of Mercy High School students	Georgia Tech University Atlanta, GA <i>March 11-13, 2013</i>
Mar 8	Fellowship Christian High School, Roswell, GA	Fellowship Christian High School students	
Mar 9-10	Atlanta-area seminars	Georgia Tech Students for Life club members and community members	
Mar 24	Blinn College, Bryan, TX	Blinn College Buccaneers for Life club	Blinn College, Bryan, TX <i>March 25-26, 2013</i>
Apr 20	Christ Community Church, Tucson, AZ	Christ Community Church members and community members	Pima County Fair <i>April 2013</i>
Apr 26	Faith Christian Academy High School, Arvada, CO	Faith Christian Academy High School students	Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO <i>April 29-30, 2013</i>
Apr 28	Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO	CSU Students for Life club members and community members	