



Rebecca's Reflections



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A New Sardine in the Office

Have you ever played the game Sardines? It's the game in which the person who is "it" goes and hides. Once he is hidden everyone else attempts to find his hiding spot. As they discover the hiding spot they hide with him in the same location. The last person to discover the hiding spot loses that round and becomes "it" for the next round. Sometimes fifteen people have to scrunch into a closet space or under a table. It can be quite comical!

With that mental picture in mind, welcome to the JFA office...minus the hiding! The home office in Wichita is growing in staff, not in square footage. One of our newest staff members, or sardines, is Cheryl Kaye (CK) Wisner. I work closely with CK, both in that I am her supervisor and that her workstation is less than five feet from my desk. She has blessed me with her presence in my office and as a friend.

CK learned about Justice For All through my teammate Jon Wagner. Jon introduced her to the idea of working part-time at the JFA office to help me with keeping the data entry of our thousands of volunteers up-to-date. Although CK had seen a presentation about Justice For All's training program, she had never experienced it first-hand. After three months of working in the office, CK travelled with our team to the University of Kansas (KU) to experience her first seminar and outreach. Below are a few snippets of her reflection after attending the *Abortion: From Debate to Dialogue* seminar:

Since I've been working in the office for the last three months doing data entry, I had read what other people were saying about their experience in learning to dialogue. I knew what people liked; what people didn't like; where people thought the seminar was strong; where people thought the seminar was weak; I knew that sometimes it was

really hard; and I knew sometimes people used millions of exclamation points because they were so excited (!!!!!!!). Overall, I saw that so many people thought that Justice for All was greatly equipping them to dialogue about abortion and they felt like they had really learned and done something valuable. Going into the seminar and outreach, I had high expectations because I had read comment after comment on how much people appreciated this work...



CK (on the right) is using the skills she learned in the *Abortion: From Debate to Dialogue* seminar to converse with this University of Kansas student.

The seminar totally met my expectations. I learned so, so much going through it. I definitely agree with all of those response cards when they say how helpful the practice dialogue was. I felt like it really helped me wrap my mind around what a dialogue should look like...

Here's what she had to say about her outreach experience:

The day had some really great conversations. I didn't necessarily see a lot

of change, but I knew that people had started the process of re-evaluating what they believe and why. That soon became my goal: help people to see what they believe, why they believe it, and get them to wonder, "What if I'm wrong?" There was one biology major where the conversation turned from abortion to death to the Bible. I had the opportunity to share the Gospel with this young man. He seemed so thankful and told me that I had given him a lot to think about.



CK (on the left) talking to three students at the University of Kansas during her first outreach with Justice For All

It was one of the most exciting and cool conversations I had ever had!

Prior to my seminar and outreach experience, I felt my heart leaning more and more towards this pro-life ministry. However, I didn't want to rush into anything. I did want to be wise. I wanted to see what the seminar was like and what outreach was like before I allowed myself to get really excited. I can honestly say that with each next step I took I felt more and more passionate that this is what I feel like God has made me for. I'm so excited that I'm equipped to engage in dialogue and love people while pointing them to the truth. I can't go back to the way life was before I went on this missions trip. I know it sounds cliché, but I'm serious when I say that this last weekend changed my life. I feel God growing and stretching me in big ways and I feel like I'm falling more and more in love with Him because of this experience. I'm crazy excited for the future... crazy excited.

Although CK thought it sounded cliché when she shared that her experience with Justice For All's training program "changed my life", CK's life has changed significantly. Unlike most people who use that phrase as a mere expression and leave their life unchanged, CK has committed to work full-time with Justice For All as a two-year intern and is currently raising support to do so.

Please pray that God continues to bless us with many new employees like CK for our sardine can.

Rebecca J. Hasche

Please praise God for...

- The 39 people trained in the Wichita area last weekend at two churches that are new to our program. This included people from three colleges in the area who want to bring JFA to their campuses. Here is one participant's comment: *God is truly using you to bring Christ into the world. I've really struggled adding compassion to truth and this helped me tremendously.*
- During mid-April we held outreach for two days at Wichita State University. We were able to equip many pro-life students to get involved.

Please pray for...

- A student we met during a recent outreach whose friend's 12-year-old sister is pregnant and being pressured by her mother to get an abortion. The girl we met is very pro-life and has committed to sharing the information she learned from us with this family and to taking them to a local pregnancy center for help. Please pray for God's love and truth to win over the hearts of everyone involved in this situation! I found this verse especially encouraging: "...the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1:5