

# Face to Face



A Message from Justice For All Director, Steve Wagner

Christmas 2017

Dear Friend,

Look at the face of Jesus in Rembrandt's masterful *Christ in the Storm on the Sea of Galilee*. It's clear from his expression and the placement of his hand that he's just waking up. The disciples are in utter despair at the mercy of a great storm, but they are about to see another convincing proof of "his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

Jesus is the Son of God, about to support that truth with evidence. Yet it's striking that Jesus is *face to face* with this motley crew, physically present in the boat with them, dazed as he wakes from sleep just as they would be dazed in waking. "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us..." (John 1:14)

In becoming flesh, Jesus dwelt among the disciples in all of their mess. He was *face to face* with their fear and their lack of faith, present with them so that they could relate to his glory in a way particularly necessary for them.

Jesus related to people *face to face*. We aspire to imitate our Savior in this simple motion every time we step onto a college campus to try to help some of those who are far from Christ's perspective come closer to the truth and closer to Christ. We aspire to imitate Christ every time we step into a workshop or seminar to lead a group of Christ's followers in interactive exercises, preparing them to create conversations.

I invite you to look at the art on the right again. Reflect on the very special miracle of Christ's *face to face* relationship with his disciples which reveals a unique dimension of His love for them (and for each of us).

I invite you also to spend some time looking at the pictures from our recent events ([www.jfaweb.org/photos](http://www.jfaweb.org/photos)), reflecting on the striking image you'll see repeated over and over in those photos, too: we are simply followers of Christ, humbly seeking to relate *face to face* with people in desperate need, hoping to save very small children and very desperate mothers from the tragedy and horror of abortion. Thank you for partnering with us to train Christians to make these *face to face* encounters common. Merry Christmas!



**Top:** *Christ in the Storm on the Sea of Galilee*, Rembrandt van Rijn, 1633 (see Mark 4:35-41). Image courtesy of the Gardner Museum, Boston. See [www.gardnermuseum.org](http://www.gardnermuseum.org) for the fascinating story of this work's whereabouts. **Bottom:** Detail

That all may behold His glory,

Steve Wagner  
Executive Director

PS: You can still give a special year-end gift in 2017 using [www.jfaweb.org/donate](http://www.jfaweb.org/donate) or by calling 316-683-6426!



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

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# Making Abortion Unthinkable with JFA

## December 2017



PRAY FOR CONVERSATIONS

*Pray with JFA for “One Person at a Time”:* Last month, we published our year-end report, “2,017+ Conversations in 2017” ([www.jfaweb.org/nov-2017](http://www.jfaweb.org/nov-2017)), featuring names of hundreds of people with whom we interacted in 2017. This month, we suggest using Steve Wagner’s Christmas letter ([www.jfaweb.org/dec-2017](http://www.jfaweb.org/dec-2017)) and the JFA photos page ([www.jfaweb.org/photos](http://www.jfaweb.org/photos)) as additional aids for reflection and prayer. Pray slowly through each name and picture, asking God to cause the seeds planted in the heart to bear fruit. Pray for each person to love unborn children and their parents in action. Pray for each person to grow in the love of God through Jesus Christ.

*Continue to Pray for God’s Provision During the Year-End Giving Period:* We continue to trust God to provide for JFA. You can help by praying with us and considering a special year-end gift.

Read and Pray through “2,017+ Conversations in 2017”: [www.jfaweb.org/nov-2017](http://www.jfaweb.org/nov-2017)

Pray for Our Conversations Using the JFA Photo Page: [www.jfaweb.org/photos](http://www.jfaweb.org/photos)

Use the Christmas Letter to Aid Your Reflection and Prayer: [www.jfaweb.org/dec-2017](http://www.jfaweb.org/dec-2017)

Give a Year-End Gift: [www.jfaweb.org/donate](http://www.jfaweb.org/donate)

PREPARE FOR CONVERSATIONS

*Featured Resource for Equipping Yourself:* Last month, we encouraged our readers to download the “See Baby Pregnancy Guide” app by the Endowment for Human Development (EHD). We’d like to feature the app again, but this time, let’s focus on the heartbeat counter built into the app. Consider Jesus as a 7-week embryo (see below). How many times had his heart beaten by this point? We’re not going to tell you. Find the answer by downloading the app and scrolling to 7 weeks. In addition to the heartbeat count, the app features stunning video of unborn children throughout development. Please use the app and consider giving a gift to EHD to make sure the app continues to be available as a valuable resource for conversations.

See and Download the “See Baby Pregnancy Guide” App: [www.ehd.org/apps](http://www.ehd.org/apps)

Donate to EHD: [www.ehd.org/donate.php](http://www.ehd.org/donate.php)

Share the App with Others Using JFA’s Links Page: [www.jfaweb.org/links](http://www.jfaweb.org/links)

START CONVERSATIONS

*Featured Conversation Starter:* Last month, we shared a post to encourage curiosity and conversation about both the unborn child and the incarnation of Jesus (“See What Baby Jesus Looked Like at 4 Weeks”). We thought that for this month the theme is worth emphasizing again, but this time asking the question, “What Did Baby Jesus Look Like at 7 Weeks?” Share the post using the links below. If Christmas has passed when you read this, don’t worry. You can still share the post as a celebration of the “Twelve Days of Christmas”!

Share the Post: [www.twitter.com/7conversations](https://www.twitter.com/7conversations) ; [www.jfaweb.org/start-the-conversation](http://www.jfaweb.org/start-the-conversation)

### About the *Making Abortion Unthinkable with JFA* Resource Bulletin

For friends of JFA who ask, “What can I do to make abortion unthinkable?” this resource bulletin offers some answers. Beyond supporting JFA financially, which enables JFA’s trainers and volunteers to create conversations that make abortion unthinkable at JFA’s events, you can **PRAY** for the conversations the JFA community is creating (including your own), **PREPARE** for conversations, and **START** conversations.

What can I do to make abortion unthinkable?

Pray for conversations. Prepare for conversations. Start conversations.