

It's in Our Nature



Christmas 2018



A Message from Justice For All Director, Steve Wagner

Dear Friend,

I remember seeing news stories about “The Miraculous Journey,” a massive 14-piece sculpture by Damien Hirst, when it was unveiled in 2013 in Doha, Qatar. I was amazed at the scale of this public dialogue tool, chronicling the development of the unborn from fertilization to birth. (I thought, “I wish everyone could see this. It would be sure to get people talking.” Indeed, you *can* use the picture links we’ve just posted at www.jfaweb.org/doha to get people talking!) Shortly after its unveiling, the sculpture was covered, and it mysteriously remained covered for about five years.

Just last month, though, the sculpture was “born again” and is now back on public display. It illustrates the nature of the early human being at work. His human nature moves him from comfortable dependence on his mother’s womb out into the harsh realities of a foreign world, and his human nature enables him to confront those challenges.

At this time of Christmas, we’re reminded of how the Son of God, possessing the divine nature as the second person of the Trinity, took on that same human nature and “lived in it” with perfection, as human life was meant to be lived. Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, our human nature has been made new by faith:

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (II Cor. 5:17-21)

The Son of God took on a second nature to save us, and now a new set of activities can become “second nature” for us. Just as the nature of the early human enables him to accomplish all of his activities, our new nature enables us to bring the word of reconciliation as Christ’s ambassadors to lost people operating in an old nature based on old things.

As we celebrate Jesus this Christmas and come into the harsh realities of a new year, with all of its challenges to the smallest humans on earth and to women distressed by unintended pregnancy, this is our prayer for ourselves and for you:

“Loving Father, through Your Son Jesus you gave us a new nature to love and serve you. We trust you will strengthen us to live according to this new nature, as we seek to bring the word of reconciliation to every human being involved in unintended pregnancies.”

Thank you for partnering with us to help Christians discover the abilities of this new God-given nature through practical dialogue training. It is a joy to see them extend the word of reconciliation to those who so desperately need it.

Merry Christmas!

Steve Wagner
Executive Director

PS: You can still give a year-end gift in 2018 at www.jfaweb.org/donate or by calling **316-683-6426!**





Loving Every Human Being with JFA

Resource Bulletin – December 2018



PRAY FOR CONVERSATIONS

Pray for Our Spring 2019 Events: Pray for the events we’re working to plan in the following places for the spring. Pray for wisdom on the shape to give the events in each place. Pray that the events will be well-attended and will create thousands of conversations that will change hearts and save lives.

- Washington, D.C.
- Fairfax, VA
- Lafayette, LA
- Springfield, MO
- Lawrence, KS
- Wichita, KS
- Denton, TX
- Austin, TX
- Houston, TX
- Brookings, SD
- Albuquerque, NM
- Atlanta Area, GA
- Los Angeles, CA
- Denver Area, CO
- Lansing, MI
- Norfolk, NE
- Phoenix, AZ
- Your Town?

See a Calendar of Recent and Upcoming Events, including Photos: www.jfaweb.org/calendar
Invite a JFA Training Event to Your Town: www.jfaweb.org/invite-the-jfa-training-program

PREPARE FOR CONVERSATIONS

Featured Resource for Equipping Yourself: Richard Stith has made a distinction between construction of a car and development of a Polaroid photo that can help you understand and illustrate for friends how the unborn child is a human organism from the time of fertilization. You can read his entry-level treatment of this topic, “Arguing with Pro-Choicers” (*First Things*, Nov. 4, 2006), and his scholarly article, “Construction vs. Development: Polarizing Models of Human Gestation” (*Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal*, 2014), through the link below.

Download and Read Richard Stith’s Articles: www.jfaweb.org/extending-your-learning#biology

START CONVERSATIONS

Featured Conversation Starter: Use the recent re-unveiling of “The Miraculous Journey” in Doha, Qatar to create a conversation about unborn children in a natural way. To help, we’ve posted a link to the photo essay by Penny Yi Wang which she published in 2013 at the original unveiling. Note in our post that we aim to begin the conversation with common ground:

Whatever your views on human development and abortion, can we all agree these amazing pictures show sculptures that are an amazing human feat illuminating an amazing human journey? (Damien Hirst's "The Miraculous Journey" was just re-unveiled last month.)

Share the Post: www.twitter.com/7conversations or www.jfaweb.org/start-the-conversation

What can I do to love every human involved in unwanted pregnancy?

About the *Loving Every Human Being with JFA* Resource Bulletin

Friends of JFA ask, “What can I do to love every human involved in unwanted pregnancy?” This resource bulletin offers some answers. Supporting JFA financially enables JFA’s trainers and volunteers to create conversations that kindle affection for unborn children and their parents, but beyond that, you can **PRAY** for conversations the JFA community is creating, **PREPARE** for conversations, and **START** conversations.

Pray for conversations. Prepare for conversations. Start conversations.