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For a Limited Time, Send My Book to Anyone for Free



WWW.STEPHENMWAGNER.COM

STEPHEN WAGNER'S MONTHLY UPDATE

JANUARY 1, 2011

Note: Some of you haven't heard from me in months or years. Please accept this letter and offer of my book as my attempt to begin to reconnect. Let me know how you're doing, your updated contact information, how I can pray for you: www.hbmm.net, www.facebook.com/steve.wagner. – Your friend, Stephen

Dear Friend,

Imagine if someone said to you, "Have you had a chance to start a conversation about *slaughter, death, guilt, blood, and gore* recently?"

I think that's how my frequent calls to "start a dialogue on abortion" come across to most people. Along with the ugly subject matter, discussion of abortion is often marked by debate, disagreement, hurt feelings, and offense. Most people can't stomach these interpersonal companions of abortion any more than they can stomach the blood and gore of the subject itself.

Still, if we really believe unborn children are human beings who matter, we *must* be ready to engage the topic. Silence isn't neutral. Being silent takes a particular position on the value of the unborn. It says they don't deserve our best efforts to help them. If we say we're pro-life, and we don't seek to help people think clearly about abortion, can we really say we're pro-life after all?

That's why my book, *Common Ground Without Compromise*, brings hope to the person who genuinely cares about the injustice of abortion. While it's impossible to remove all of the negative aspects of the abortion topic, common ground removes the hurtful debate elements and replaces them with a friendly atmosphere of dialogue. And dialogue isn't just easier to stomach. It also makes all parties *want* to engage. One pastor from Houston, Texas recently illustrated this:

I'm a bi-vocational pastor. In addition to my ministry responsibilities, I teach K-5 music in an elementary school. At church, people value my insight on moral and spiritual issues. At school, my thoughts are just the opinions of another teacher. Because of this I feel the same fear as others when engaging in conversations about such weighty topics as life or choice. I'm secure in my viewpoint, but I don't want to merely offend. The day after reading Common Ground Without Compromise the topic of abortion came up during a school lunchroom conversation. Rather than keeping quiet as before, I fully engaged in the conversation. I felt confident, but more importantly the content of Stephen's book enabled me to be compassionate as well. It felt good and natural. I wondered why I had been fearful for so long. – David Duty

This pastor exemplifies the reason I wrote the book. I want people to have good conversations about abortion. People want that conversation, but the idea has never been introduced to them so that they feel comfortable starting or continuing it. For me, the book's subtitle, "25 Questions to Create Dialogue on Abortion," isn't an accident. If the book doesn't get people talking, it's a failure.

This is why I'm excited to remove one last impediment to good dialogue: money. For a limited time, I'm offering the new eBook version* of *Common Ground Without Compromise* for FREE. Go to www.commongroundbook.com and click the link that says, **Read and Use the Book for FREE**. The link takes you to a simple request form. Fill it out and you will receive the first part of the eBook in your email inbox.

The first part? Didn't I say the book is free? It is, but I can't resist giving you an incentive to do the very thing for which the book was created: *talk to somebody*. In order to receive Part II (Chapters 5-12), all you have to do is send me a short email report on a conversation you had using Part I (Chapters 1-4, including six of the twenty-five questions).



You've heard me characterize our Justice For All training as a combination of *Seat Work*, *Feet Work*, and *Repeat Work*. *Seat Work* entails practicing a conversation in our seminar. *Feet Work* entails having a conversation with someone who disagrees during a planned JFA outreach. *Repeat Work* means having a conversation with someone in your everyday sphere of influence.

My free *Common Ground* eBook offer follows that pattern. You fill out the form and receive a portion of the book so you can read it to get comfortable with starting a conversation (*Seat Work*). Then you have a conversation with someone who disagrees with you about abortion or whose opinion is unknown to you (*Feet Work*). You send a short email report to me at commongroundbook@gmail.com and receive the rest of the book.

Then, because you had such a good experience, you send portions of the book to other friends who disagree with you to have conversations with them (*Repeat Work*). Along the way, you send your pro-life friends to www.commongroundbook.com so they can get a copy of the eBook and have the same experience of creating dialogue.

There's one other reason to share this offer with others. It's a great way to tell friends and acquaintances about my work training pro-lifers to dialogue about abortion. They get to see some of my work first-hand, and the form they fill out at www.commongroundbook.com gives them a chance to say they're interested in more information about supporting my work. Of course, if you also encourage your friends to support my work, they'll be much more likely to show interest in that. Many people support workers like me because they somehow get connected personally. This eBook offer is an easy way to help your friends connect! (Note: The eBook offer is free for everyone, regardless of interest in supporting my work. It's also free to everyone regardless of perspective on abortion.)

I hope you're as excited as I am to share this offer with people. I'm mindful that this month many churches and pro-life groups are marking the 38th anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision. I pray that my offer of the *Common Ground* eBook* will give average pro-life advocates something concrete they can do to change the hearts and minds about the victims of that decision. Thanks in advance for helping me bring my book to a new audience. Let's get people talking!

Partnering on "common ground,"

Stephen

* The print version is still available for purchase. See the link at www.commongroundbook.com.

Prayer Requests & Updates

- **eBook Offer:** I'm aiming to have **1,000** people request the free eBook by March 31. I'm asking God to motivate **100** of those to have conversations, tell me about it, and request Part II of the book. I'm asking God to motivate **50** to sign up to support my work with a regular gift.
- **Support Update:** Many of you sent end-of-year gifts to JFA to help me continue training pro-life trainers. Thank you!
- **6 Training Seminars and 4 Campus Outreach Days in Arizona (January 21 to February 3):** Pray that 300 of our seminar attendees will join us for outreach at either University of Arizona or Arizona State University. See the "Where Is Steve Speaking" link at www.stephenmwagner.com (right side) for event details.

Now You're Talking!

This month is the 3rd Anniversary of the publication of my book on common ground. To celebrate – and to get more people reading and using it – I'm giving an eBook version* away for free.

Step 1: Go to

www.commongroundbook.com.

Click on "Read and Use the Book for FREE." Fill out the simple form.

Steps 2, 3, 4, and 5 (in no particular order):

- Receive Part I (.pdf file) & read it.
- Send the link to any of your friends so that they can get the book for free, too. You can use the Facebook and Twitter icons at www.commongroundbook.com to share the offer.
- Send the eBook file to a friend to start a conversation.
- Email me at commongroundbook@gmail.com with a short reflection on how the conversation went. Receive Part II of the eBook and repeat!