

More Advocates

We Can't Wait. It's a Good Thing You Don't Need to Either.

JFA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY LETTER

JUNE 2015

Dear Friend,

After JFA trainer Catherine Wurts spent just 20 minutes preparing Amanda to change hearts on abortion, Amanda talked with her friend later that day and persuaded her not to kill her baby. “Lucy” was born later that year.

I shared Amanda’s story during an hour-long presentation to a youth group prior to our UCLA events a few weeks ago. Emma and her sister were present. Emma wrote on her response card: “Now I know how to talk productively with someone about [abortion].”

When I hear people say things like this after my presentations, I wonder if they will actually go and do anything with what I’ve taught them. I can only trust God to help them take the next step. In this case, Emma’s mother wrote to tell me that Emma and her sister did go *the very next day* to talk to kids in the park about Jesus:

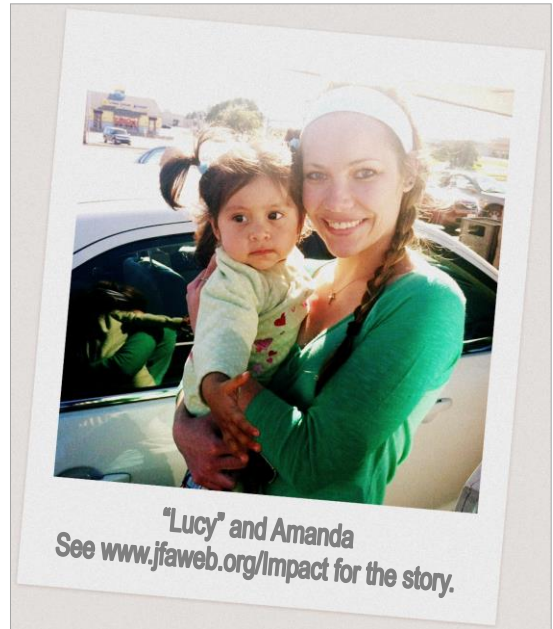
“[Even though they had considered doing this in the weeks prior], they never did it until yesterday. They said that a few of the things you said gave them the confidence to go ahead and give it a try... Thank you for being an inspiration to my girls to talk with others about their faith. They were really excited about it.”

Emma and her sister talked to a girl who turned out to be a Christian already. Although the results of that conversation may not have been as dramatic as those Amanda experienced, the step the sisters took was monumental. Now that they have initiated a conversation about a topic that’s equally controversial to abortion (Jesus), they’re just one small step away from starting a conversation on abortion.

More conversations. That’s the JFA passion I described in [last month’s letter](#). JFA’s twin passion is to activate more advocates – like Emma and her sister. They illustrated our second passion for *more advocates* by living out that first passion for *more conversations* after just one hour in a JFA presentation.

This causes me to pause and reflect. I’m convinced that JFA’s two-day training program provides the best basic training we have to offer a pro-life advocate. Through a seminar event (“Seat Work”) and an outreach event (“Feet Work”), our mentors shepherd the average pro-life person from knowing little or nothing to actually engaging in conversations with pro-choice advocates. The pro-life participants learn by doing, with mentors nearby to help. As convinced as I am that this two-day program is an amazing experience for those who participate and those we engage during campus outreach events, I’m just as convinced that shorter presentations can help some people like Emma change hearts and minds.

I’m struck by the reality that *we cannot wait*. With thousands of children, women, and men affected by abortion each day, we cannot wait for people to get themselves together to block out two days to spend with JFA. Although we wish it were possible to give everyone this *great* experience, we must give more people something *good* now rather than risk giving them nothing at all, ever. We will still passionately



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

113 N. MARTINSON, WICHITA, KANSAS, 67203 316.683.6426 WEB: WWW.JFAWEB.ORG BLOG: WWW.HBMM.NET STEVE@JFAWEB.ORG

encourage people to join us for two days. But for the vast majority who cannot, we won't wait. We'll give them something. We'll give them a presentation, or an interactive workshop, or an experience at Feet Work without preparation at Seat Work (like Amanda), or...we'll even help them learn at home.

In truth, this "something for everyone" approach has always been embedded in the culture of JFA. We are now simply being more purposeful by energetically promoting these other modes of preparing advocates. We can't wait to reach more people – more advocates who can initiate more conversations with those who disagree with us about abortion.

Now you don't have to wait either. Sure, if you can take two days for Seat Work and Feet Work, do it! If you can take a week to attend a JFA mission trip, that's even better. If you can only attend a JFA presentation, you won't regret it. And if you are consumed with family and work responsibilities and have only a few minutes to spend at your own kitchen table after your kids are in bed, we have something for you. Whatever your situation, we can help you learn to change hearts and minds.

Here's your guide, then, for learning to use JFA's powerful strategies for changing hearts and saving lives, whether you have a few minutes or a few days.

- **FLAGSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (2 DAYS+):** The best way to learn these skills is to participate in JFA's flagship training program, including mentors who personally shepherd you through a Seat Work (seminar) event and a Feet Work (outreach) event. Call our office at 316-683-6426 or see www.jfaweb.org/flagship to find out if our upcoming calendar of events includes your area, to learn about turning a JFA event into a personal mission trip, or to learn how you can help us come to your area by offering to serve as a local JFA representative.
- **PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS (30 MINUTES+):** JFA speakers make engaging presentations to churches, schools, adult education classes, conferences, and youth events. Do you want to invite a speaker for your event? Do you want to attend a presentation already scheduled? Call our office at 316-683-6426 or see www.jfaweb.org/presentations for an upcoming events calendar, speaker bios, and descriptions of our presentations.
- **LEARN AT HOME (ONE HOUR+):** Perhaps you have very little time but want to make a difference. You don't have to wait for a JFA speaker or training team to come to your area. You can use our "Learn at Home" guide to equip yourself in just *one hour* to have conversations and change hearts about abortion *now*. See www.jfaweb.org/learn-at-home for everything you need, including four simple 15-minute exercises and links to additional resources. To get you started, I've enclosed a one-page summary of the "Learn at Home" guide.

Although our two-day flagship program is the best way to learn to dialogue, and inviting a JFA speaker for a face-to-face presentation is a great benefit to your group, you can use the "Learn at Home" road map to prepare yourself now to change hearts and save lives. *We can't wait* to hear how your conversations go!

With anticipation,



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Wagner". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Steve Wagner
Executive Director, JFA

P.S. Don't ever hesitate to call the JFA office (316-683-6426) to ask for a fifteen-minute help session with a JFA mentor as you "learn at home" or to schedule a JFA presentation in your city.

See updates and pictures from our recent events, including outreach to UCLA:

www.jfaweb.org/recent-updates