

# Did I Say the Right Thing?

REBEKAH DYER'S JFA UPDATE

MARCH 2022



Dear Friend,

Conversations about abortion touch some of the deepest parts of the human being. They naturally lead to discussions about the value of human life, why we are here, and why human beings and their experiences matter at all.

There is a great weight to these kinds of conversations. It's a weight I think we should welcome because it's a gift to be able to sit with someone and talk about the most important things in the life God has given us. But this weight also brings many questions and thoughts into my mind afterwards. Did I say the right things? Did I explain things clearly enough? Why did I forget to make that really important point? Why didn't I ask that question?

Last year, I spoke with a young man at Wichita State University for about three hours. My conversations on campus aren't typically that long, but this particular person had a lot on his mind. I could tell he wanted someone to talk to. Our conversation started out about abortion but it quickly turned to reconciling the goodness of God in the midst of suffering and evil.

"Marcus" had a lot of questions, one of them being why God allows evil and suffering to occur in this world.

There are very good intellectual responses to the problem of evil but there is also an emotional side to this question. Dealing with the emotions that are wrapped up in this question can be challenging. Our conversation was an opportunity for me to be open about some of my own emotional struggles with this question, but it was also a time to encourage him and point him to Jesus who is the only reason there's any hope at all in this world.

We can suffer all kinds of evil here and it can seem like there is no resolution and no justice, but even though it feels like that, it doesn't mean healing isn't coming. C.S. Lewis said, "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world."

I believe God is pleased to work through our efforts to



*University of Texas at San Antonio, Feb. 2022*



*Tarleton State University, Feb. 2022*



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

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reach people. God could easily reach them on His own, but He chooses to use us. When we talk about issues of great importance, issues that relate to the eternal well being of a person, I think it's normal to look back and feel like we might have missed something — we forgot an important point, we didn't say something well, or we ran out of time and weren't able to get to a certain point. I don't think I'm the only one who struggles with these things.

Maybe we did make a mistake. Maybe we just did our best in a really difficult conversation. We can look back and learn from our experiences, even our mistakes, and grow. In the midst of the doubts these experiences and questions can bring, I think it's deeply important that we don't allow these doubts and questions to keep us from engaging those around us. We can face these challenges in confidence knowing that God will use our conversations in ways we probably won't see in this life. He is faithful.

The time we are given here on earth is all the time we need. The time we have in conversations with every person we meet is enough. Sometimes we'll have a lot of time, like I had with Marcus. Other times, we'll only have a short amount of time. God will not short change us. He will work in every interaction, conversation, and relationship we have, no matter how big or small. We can count on that.

Thank you for standing with me in this mission.

In the love of Jesus,

Rebekah

### Recent and Upcoming Events (Partial List)

**February 13-15:** *Abortion: Debate to Dialogue* Seminar and Outreach at Texas State University (San Marcos, TX )

**February 16-17:** *Abortion: Debate to Dialogue* Seminar and Outreach at Univ. of Texas at San Antonio (San Antonio, TX)

**March 13-16** *Abortion: Debate to Dialogue* Seminar and Outreach at University of CA at Berkeley (Berkeley, CA)

**March 20-23** *Abortion: Debate to Dialogue* Seminar and Outreach at University of Arizona (Tucson, AZ)

**April 1-5:** *Abortion: Debate to Dialogue* Seminar and outreach at Fort Lewis College (Durango CO)

