

Women of Destiny

Women's Ministry

Cathedral of Praise Church

Editor's Notes

October 2011

This past summer I struggled with my youngest daughter. She kept fussing and crying about things she couldn't have and things people said that hurt her feelings. I first tried to talk to her and explain things to her, but she just couldn't let it go. When that didn't work I would send her to her room or tell her to just be quiet until we got home, (if we were in the car.) This just wasn't working! So, after some prayer and thought, I decided to re-direct things when she complained about things that could not be changed.

The next time she threw a fit in the car, I let her finish complaining, then asked her to tell me two good things in her life. She couldn't do it! I gave her a couple of answers, but after a few more fussy trips I decided we needed a change of thinking! I remembered a challenge that had gone around Facebook a couple of years ago: post one thing you are thankful for every day for the month of November. (The challenge ended with "I bet

you can't do it!") So, to give her ideas for her next meltdown, we began the wall of "Thank you God."

Every day each girl must write down something they are thankful for in their life, and they can't repeat their own answers. This simple activity has made a huge difference! The meltdowns almost stopped overnight, and even a couple of months later they are infrequent.

I don't know about you, but I sometimes get stuck in a rut just like my daughter. It is so easy to look at all the problems, all the negatives, all that's missing, that we can't even *think* of the good things in our lives.

Are you ready for the challenge? Can you find one thing a day that you can give your Creator praise for? It could just change your life!

Volume IV 2011

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Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. *Philippians 4:4-6 NIV*

Women's Retreat

"UNVEILING"

(The names have been changed to protect the privacy of the subjects.)

"Are you going to the ladies retreat?" Kandace, a member of our home group asked. "I don't know yet," I answered. "Well, Anita wants to go and she can drive and fit five ladies in her vehicle. Do you want to go?" "Not really but Kali wants to go and I am thinking I should go so she can go." Both these ladies usually never get to go to these events. "OK, so we will both go. That's four of us."

"Hey, I am gonna ask Jewell if she wants to go." "She hardly ever goes on these ladies functions and I don't think she will go, but I want to ask her anyway." So I called and she said "YES!" WOW! What a nice surprise! Well let's see if Leeann and Debra want to go. Leeann said yes but would have to drive down late. OK! Great! Debra said it was a little too late notice and could not get off work early. I told her if she changed her mind she could ride up late with Leeann. She said she would think about it. Then they both changed their minds to no, then yes and then it was no and finally I am like ARGHHH!!! "OK, I am gonna just leave that alone and not worry about it. It will work itself out." Whoever goes, goes.

Do I really want to go? Well, I went and just decided, because of all the opposition in my head and in the natural scheme of things, there MUST be a reason I am supposed to go. I decided to make the CHOICE to go EXPECTING something great from the Lord. There were five of us that drove to Eureka Springs early Friday afternoon. The other two, (YES!! they ended up coming, PTL!) would drive up later that evening.

When we arrived to check in with Robin, our organizer and speaker, she had already assigned people to rooms and the group they were supposed to be in. (I say that because it matters to this story.) We were to have a devotional later that evening. Our group decided to

start a little later because we wanted to wait for the two ladies arriving late. We did not know until we registered that these two ladies would be in our devotional group. God did. We started at 9:30pm and did not finish 'til 1:30am. God was at work and faces were "unveiled."

In one room, two ladies continued their sharing and stayed up all night. They discovered how much they had in common. They both went to the same school and even dated two of the same guys! A divine connection had been made. A divine friendship had begun! Both these ladies are excited about this new friendship. God knew who would go and who would not.

The next morning, Robin was our speaker for the main session of the retreat. All I can say is WOW! WOW! WOW! The Holy Spirit showed up! Robin spoke words that were anointed, true and transparent. She had a confidence I have not seen in her before and, I believe, can only come from the Lord. The theme of our retreat was "Unveiled Faces" and she "unveiled" a part of herself that showed her heart. She and Nancy did a fantastic job.

Several of the ladies in my home group went and it was a wonderful time of bonding. I think we got to know each other a little better and saw a little piece of each other's hearts. God knew who would go and who would not. I am so glad I went. In the future, I will look at things a little differently when negative thoughts come.

When our "veils" are let down, we "see" the person God wants us to see. He wants all of us to be "seen!"

CAN'T WAIT TIL THE NEXT ONE!!

Cheena Culp

House of Joy!

It's that time of year again, time to help put on a wonderful Christmas party for the House of Joy Orphanage staff! The House of Joy opened its doors in September, 2005 in Kahovka, Ukraine. Every year Pam King puts on a special Christmas Tea for the staff members in January. We will be collecting gifts November 6th through the 20th.

Along with gifts, Pam is collecting money to give out gift certificates for a haircut and style or manicure for all 38 staff members. This is a very special treat for them! Those donating money for a gift certificate will have the option of sending a personalized Christmas card. Please look for them at the Information Center beginning November 6th.

Thank you, ladies, for your generosity last year. Let's make it another great party this year!

Door Prize Suggestions: (We will accept most gift items that will be easy to transport in airline luggage. You are not limited to the items on this list.)

Women:

Body Lotions and Shower Gels (Example: from Bath and Body Works or something similar)
Kitchen Towel and Oven Mitt sets
House shoes
Notebooks/journals
Kitchen utensils (Spatulas, apple corers, carrot peelers, etc.)
Cologne
Reading glasses 2.25 & 2.50
Nice tote bags
Purses - Small and Medium sizes
Any kind of make-up or make-up sets
Gardening tools/bags

Men:

Nice Leather Gloves
Houseshoes
Cologne
Sharpie pens
Shaving Cream
Razors
Toiletry bags
Sweatshirts
Reading glasses 2.25 & 2.50
Gardening tools/bags

Denim to Diamonds

Save the Date: Oklahoma Women's Ministries LIFE event, January 20th, 2012 at Owasso First Assembly! This year's speakers include Michelle Pilcher (Oklahoma Women's Ministries Director) and Channel 6 anchor LeAnne Taylor. Worship will be lead by Kelly Woods. This year's theme is Denim to diamonds and the menu includes steak and cheesecake! The fun begins at 6pm when the doors open for shopping. Dinner begins at 6:45. Tickets for this event are \$9 and go on sale November 14th. **This event has sold out the past two years, so get your tickets early!** Watch the bulletin for information about purchasing tickets, and please check out "Oklahoma AG Section 5 Women's Ministries" on Facebook. Kay Couch, our Section 5 representative, will keep us updated!

Cookbook

Sweet Cheese Delight

2 cans Pillsbury crescent rolls
2 8oz. packages of cream cheese
1 C Sugar
1 tsp. Vanilla
1/2 C brown sugar
2 tbs butter (melted)
2 tsp cinnamon
1 ungreased 13x9 pan
1 C chopped pecans *optional*

DIRECTIONS

1. In large bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar with electric mixer on medium speed until fluffy. Add vanilla (and pecans if desired); beat on low speed until blended.
2. Unroll 1 can of dough into 1 large

rectangle; press seams and perforations to seal. Press onto bottom of ungreased 13x9-inch (3-quart) glass baking dish. Spread with cream cheese mixture.

3. In small bowl, mix brown sugar, butter and cinnamon. On lightly floured surface, press or roll out remaining dough into 13x9-inch rectangle. Place over filling. Sprinkle mixture over top.
4. Bake at 375°F 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. Cool slightly on cooling rack. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Cover and refrigerate leftovers.

Submitted by Terra Scates

Opportunity Corner/Ministry Corner

Looking for a place to plug in at Cathedral of Praise? Trying to figure out where God would like you to use your talents? Why don't you try one of these opportunities? God doesn't always use the most talented, he uses the most willing!

Can you be someone special?*

Our Wednesday night children's program (called Kids Xplosion) needs your help! We need people to share with our kids! During the "Special Interest" portion of the evening, the children learn about a special topic. In the past we have had topics such as: police, first aid, optical illusions, art, astronomy, music, and more! If you can present a topic Wednesday evening for one month, please contact Pastor Tracy at (918) 245-2434. Thank you for your help!

Snacks, snacks, snacks!

Can you round up something tasty for our English as a Second Language (ESL) class? We'd appreciate your help! Please help us show our hospitality as we minister to our community. Contact Judy Schultz at (918) 245-3957 to schedule your day!

*Volunteers with the Children's Ministry (5th grade and younger) must pass a background check and have attended Cathedral of Praise for at least 6 months.



Sand Springs, OK

Kelly Wilson

October 2011

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November 2011

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December 2011

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January 2012

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Schedule of Events

- October 19th-21st, Sand Springs Schools Fall Break
- October 29th, Venue 129
- October 31st, Halloween
- November 6th, Daylight Savings Time ends
- November 10th, Elevate
- November 11th, Veteran's Day
- November 13th, Children's workers training
- November 21st, Church decorating party
- November 23rd, No Wednesday night service
- November 24th, Thanksgiving
- November 28th, Coupon Club meeting
- December 1st, Women's Ornament Exchange
- December 18th, Christmas at Cathedral "Let there be Light"
- December 21st, No Wednesday night service
- December 25th, Christmas Day, One service
- January 1st, New Year's Day
- January 16th, Martin Luther King Day
- January 20th, Oklahoma Women's LIFE event, Denim to Diamonds

Calendar Legend	
	Cathedral of Praise Events
	Bible Study Nights
	Holidays
	Other Events



Ornament Exchange!

It's that time of year again ladies, time for our annual ornament exchange! Grab a friend and join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. All you need is a potluck dish (or \$6) and a wrapped ornament that costs \$5 or less. We always have fun with our "Dirty Santa" exchange! This year our dinner will be Thursday, December 1st at 6:30pm. Come kick off December with a few good laughs!

Want to receive this newsletter in the mail? Did we miss you on the email list? We'll be glad to add you to future mailings! Drop off your name and address at the information center, or send your email address to wod@cpraise.org.

The Gift

"What is your name?" Kayson asked the healed man.

"Carlos," He replied.

After leading Carlos in the sinner's prayer, Kayson told him where his church was and what times we had service. Carlos told us he'd be there every day. We watched him pick up his board and walk off down the street. We stood there not saying a word watching Carlos try out his new legs. He soon disappeared into the crowd. We looked at each other with our mouths hanging open not knowing what to say. Smiles grew on our faces which turned into joyful laughter.

"God is so amazing," said Kayson.

"Yes!" I said in agreement. "I just wanted to give him money, and God gave him a whole new life."

After a few moments standing there in awe, we headed back toward our rooms. The walk was mostly silent between us. I think we were both trying to comprehend what just happened. We said our quick good-byes at Kayson's door as I pulled out my old skeleton key.

As the door creaked open, something familiar caught my eye on my bed. When the item came into full view, I dropped to my knees. There sat my gift, wrapped in the same old yellowing paper with crusty tape: the very gift I had destroyed back at home.

"No, it can't be." My brain protested. "*How could something I destroyed be sitting here, now?*"

My hand trembled as I reached out to touch it. Memories and emotions of the first time I opened it filled my mind. My body began to feel the ache from the loss of my beloved husband. I was reliving the day I packed up to leave it all behind. The anger came when I remembered what the gift was and how I was unable to save my husband or my mother. As quick as the anger came, it fled in the peace of God that suddenly filled the room. I had a new life now and the excitement grew in my heart pushing out all the bad feelings of the past.

God gently spoke to my heart, "This is your gift and not even you can destroy it. I will not let you throw it away. I have a purpose for you. I want you to take this gift, open it and enjoy the blessings that will come."

This time I tore into the small package like it was Christmas morning. I flung open the box lid, ripped out the white cloth and pulled the string out of the box to reveal the amazing piece of etched glass. It was different this time. The letters said, "Healing" just like before but the colors were spectacular: colors I had never seen before. It sparkled in front of my eyes and I could only smile in amazement over how great God really was.

I laid the ornament in my lap and caressed my fingers over the letters. "*I know Seth wants me to do this.*" I thought.

"God, show me who I need to touch. And while you are healing them, please heal my stomach; in the name of Jesus."

The slight queasiness left my body, replaced by warmth that comforted me. I held my gift close to my body as I lay back on the bed basking in the presence of the Lord. I couldn't believe God still loved me after I tried to destroy the gift He gave me. In His presence I was fulfilled. I was complete. I was who I was meant to be.

I had a sense of wholeness in me now; it was something I had searched for from Seth and other people. Nobody could give that to me, but God. Now I know; He is the One!

.....to be continued.

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(Parts 1-8 are available in the previous newsletters beginning in January 2010. Those newsletters are available online at [cpraise.org-Adults-Women's Ministries-Newsletters](http://cpraise.org-Adults-Women's-Ministries-Newsletters). Please contact Anne Dresel at (918) 245-3446 if you would like a printed copy of back issues.)

Part 9