

May 2019

THE SPICE

A taste of what's happening for women.

*Women's Ministry Mission Statement:
Encouraging women to connect in
deeper, genuine relationships
both with each other
and with Jesus Christ*



THE WORD

**"I am the good shepherd; I
know my sheep and my sheep
know me."**

— John 10:14 NIV

Think About It

**Think about a time when you
were sure that God was nowhere
around. Was it a hard trial you
were facing? A loss? A
rejection? An illness?**

**Sometimes we think we know
exactly what we need. But God
knows what we need more than
we do. Often, the answer comes
in a way we never expected.**

**If we could let go of our
expectations and let God do his
work in us, we will see Him in
ways we didn't expect. Like Mary
at the tomb, we will be in awe and
filled with joy!**

Do You See Him? by Kristi Wile

I love the resurrection story! I try to imagine what it must have been like to be there when Jesus just appeared in the Upper Room after seeing his suffering and death and knowing He'd been placed in a tomb. Can you imagine? Let yourself think on this for a bit. We've known this story for a very long time and sometimes we need to put ourselves *in* the story in order to understand how incredible it was. How incredible it *is!*

In John 20: 10-18, we read of how Mary Magdalene was at the tomb. She was overcome with grief and we can envision how hard she must have been crying. She'd loved her Lord with all her heart and now He was gone. What would this mean for their lives? But we read that "she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus." (verse 14) It wasn't until He spoke her name that she recognized Him. Picture the joy with which she was overwhelmed! Don't you wish you could have been there?

This week, I sat beside a friend who is going through a difficult trial. Her pain is real. Her needs are great. I want to help. I made a suggestion I thought was reasonable. No sooner were the words out that she closed her eyes to hold back tears. I worried that I'd hurt her, that I'd crossed a boundary. No, she assured me they were good tears. Just that morning, she'd asked God to meet that very need.

We sat in quiet awe for several minutes, each of us in worship of the God who knows more about what we need than we ever will. He knew that both of us needed to see Him in that moment. It was beautiful.

Sometimes we can be so blinded by our tears, by our pain and suffering, that we cannot see Jesus even as He stands right in front of us. But He will call us to himself. John 10: 3-4 says "He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out... and his sheep follow him because they know his voice." Also in verse 27, we read "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." We have to know Him or we won't recognize his voice.

Friend, do you know Jesus? Do you realize when He is with you and meets your need? Do you recognize his voice when He speaks through His Word to you? Do you see Him?

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Making Connections



Meet **Jaselyn Ramos**. Interview with Carol Landis.

Jaselyn enjoys photography, crafts of all kinds, and the challenge of something new and different. Her days are full with her family-husband Rey and two sons, Rey and Jayden; extended family; soccer; and homeschooling Jayden. Her devotion for God spills out as we talk. She shared of recently realizing as they expect more of their son, Rey, as he matures, likewise, God expects more of us the longer we've walked with Him. As we see how He works in our lives, and experience His faithfulness, life becomes less our way and more His way.

Jaselyn grew up in a small Central American community in New York City, nestled among other various cultural communities. She was the first of three daughters born in the United States to her El Salvadoran parents. Her older brother and sister were not able to join the family in United States until years later. Although living in America, she was raised as an El Salvadoran child, and

felt the culture shock when she entered kindergarten. New language; new people; a different world. Her husband Rey, also from New York city, only lived about 7 blocks away, but they did not know each other, until a friend of her older sister introduced them when she was in her teens. It seems Rey was smitten at first sight. However, they did not reconnect until a few years later, right before he moved to North Carolina for a fresh start. They dated long distance for a short period of time, until he moved back to New York so they could be together. They married soon after.

When son Rey, was about 3 months old, a lost job brought them to southeastern Pennsylvania to live near Jaselyn's uncles. After their move to this community, Jaselyn earned her associate degree and was employed for a year and a half, doing administrative work at a medical office. She then became a stay-at-home mom. The business courses required for her degree, which did not seem necessary at the time, have become very helpful as she handles the office responsibilities for Rey's business, Rey's Carpet and Flooring. This is yet another example she shared of God's leading and faithfulness. "Most of our plans have turned out differently than we thought," she said, "and while God's plans are different, they work, and are better."

It was the loving persistence of their realtor, Martha Wolgemuth, that brought them to Franconia. After moving to Pennsylvania, Jaselyn realized the absence of the peace she knew as a child when her family attended a small conservative Hispanic evangelical congregation for a few years. And she strongly desired that genuine peace. She and Rey visited several local churches, before Martha's invitation. Martha awakened seeds that were planted earlier in their lives and were an important part of their spiritual heritage.

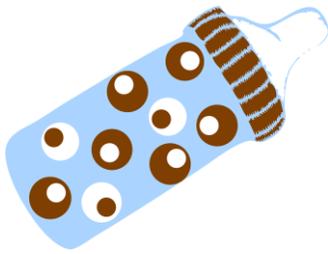
A favorite verse of Jaselyn's is: "Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the ... LORD is finished." 1 Chronicles 28:20

What's Happening for Women

Baby Bottle Boomerang!

Franconia Women are pleased to support the Pregnancy Resource Clinic of North Penn.

Between Mother's Day and Father's Day, we are doing a special offering. On Mother's Day, you can pick up a baby bottle from the Women's Ministry table in the church foyer. Take it home and fill it up with coins, bills, or even checks! Return the bottle to the same table by Father's Day. It's that easy! And every family member can participate! Watch for more information!



Attention Mothers of Preschoolers:

Kathy Wenger's home is open to you on **Thursday, May 9th, 6:30-8:30 pm.**
 You may come and go when it suits you best. This will be the last meeting until the Fall.
 Infants are welcome. Feel free to bring a small snack to share.
 Please let Kathy know if you can come even if it's last minute!
 Email mkwenger@comcast.net or Text 717-519-7180.
 Address: 8 Rosy Ridge Court, Telford.

Project of the Month:
New Bath-sized towels
 (Place your donations in the basket outside the library)

Save the Date:
Comforter Blitz
 has been scheduled for June 26 & 27!
 Please mark your calendars!
 More information to follow.
 Location: Upper Fellowship Hall

Are you connected?

- Franconia's Fragrance & Spice Facebook Closed Group. Or alternate email group for non-facebook users. Receive daily encouragement and connect with your sisters in Christ.
- Scripture Memory Challenge 2019. Join other women who are encouraging each other to memorize God's Word.

Let us know if you are not connected!

May

A Taste of What's Happening for Women

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
		Prayer Shawls 7-8:30 pm (weekly on Tuesdays)				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Love Walked Among Us, 7pm		Mothers of Preschoolers 6:30-8:30 pm		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<i>Mother's Day</i>		Sewing Circle 9-3				
		Love Walked Among Us, 7pm				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Baby Bottle Boomerang offering between Mother's Day and Father's Day. Pick up your baby bottle!						
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	 Memorial Day	Knotting Comforters 9-3				

Contact for more information

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