



## The Power of Worship by Jaselyn Ramos

Since becoming a believer, I've always valued prayer, the strength in God's Word, and the beauty of worship. But for a long time, I thought worship mainly happened through music—something led by talented singers on Sunday mornings. That was never me. I've never been able to carry a tune, read music, or even find the right note. I was okay with that, believing God had gifted me in other ways. Sure—I listened to worship songs occasionally however that changed during a season of unexpected health struggles. These challenges left me numb, unable to pray, and feeling spiritually lost for words. The usual tools of faith felt out of reach.

During one of those hard days, a friend called to check on me. I half-jokingly said, "You can come pray with me," not expecting her to say yes. But she happened to be in town and showed up that same day. When she arrived, she said, "Before we pray, let's worship." That caught me off guard. I expected a quiet prayer, not worship. Still, I agreed, thinking it would be a simple time of reverence. But what followed was 40 minutes of Spirit-led, unpolished, heartfelt worship—no instruments, no perfect vocals, just honest adoration. Many tears flowed as God's presence filled the room. Something shifted in me. It wasn't about musical ability. It was about the posture of my heart. I didn't have words to pray, but I could still worship.

I was reminded of Paul and Silas in Acts 16. Beaten and imprisoned, they worshiped at midnight. "About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God... suddenly there was a great earthquake... all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose" (Acts 16:25–26). Their worship didn't wait for breakthrough—it was the breakthrough. That became true for me as well.

My circumstances didn't instantly change, but I did. Their story became personal. Worship turned my eyes from pain to God's power. It reminded me that He is still on the throne, still breaking chains, and still near to the brokenhearted. That day, something inside me was set free. I was reminded even when I don't have the words to pray, I can worship Him.

Now, I choose to worship not because life is easy or my voice is strong, but because He is worthy. God walks with us through the valleys and uses our broken moments to reach us—and others around us. Worship shifts my focus from me or whatever is going on, to my focus set on Christ.

*A Prayer of Surrender and Praise:*

*Lord, thank You for being near in every season. Teach me to worship not only in joy but in hardship. Help me lift my eyes to You. Give me faith to believe chains are breaking, even when I can't see it. May my heart always choose to worship You—the One Who is faithful, powerful, and ever-present. Amen*

# August 2025 |



WOMEN'S MINISTRY MISSION STATEMENT: Encouraging women to connect in deeper, genuine relationships both with each other and with Jesus Christ.



# Making Connections

Meet **Monique Kratz**.

I am so blessed. I thank the Lord every day for

- His unfailing love and mercy
- freedom in this land to worship Him
- the Bible, His word of truth
- my church family
- my vocation, that I can give glory to God
- Christian friends, co-workers and parents
- my piano talent
- mental and physical health



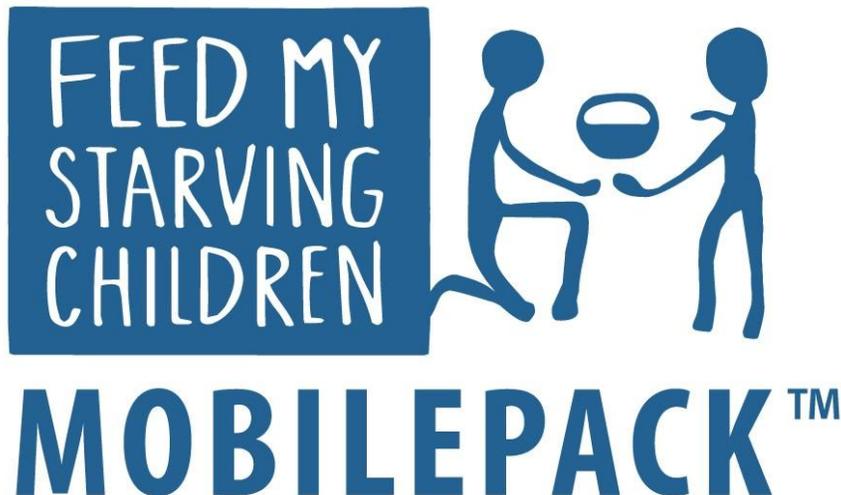
Growing up in the 1960's and 70's, with its break from traditional values and great moral decline from the 1950's, was difficult for me. I knew I believed differently but so many others didn't worship the Lord or attend church, or they only believed in evolution. Throughout my school years, if you believed in creation or read the Bible, you were mocked. So, I soon joined the rest and wasted many years going down the wrong path...drinking, partying, living a life-style where the Lord Jesus could not be found. Through my parents' prayers though, one day the Lord grabbed me by the scruff of the neck and told me, "This is not what I had planned for you." I began to read my Bible through from beginning to end and then again and again, each time learning more and feeling more at peace. I came back to church and picked Franconia because somehow, I knew that it would be the closest Mennonite church to Bible believing and living that I could find, and I hoped someday to be worthy to be part of this group.

Then I met Floyd, the man of my dreams. I was not looking for a husband, as I am divorced and was just planning on being single the rest of my life. But it was too tempting. What a perfect husband, decent man, and loving family. It was a short time together, 7 years, but hopefully he was happy; I know I was. I did my best to take care of him and the Lord allowed me the experience of being a Christian wife. Now I have the blessing of a wonderful God-fearing family, and I hope to support (and spoil) my grandchildren as much as their parents will allow.

So, my biggest prayer is for young people who are going through a very difficult time in their lives and feel down when they compare themselves to others. Don't waste years going down the wrong path toward what everyone thinks is important or feeling bad about yourself because you don't have the things that society calls important. *Jesus Christ calls us to follow Him alone and to view all earthly situations and possessions as insignificant by comparison.*



# Get Involved!



Feed My Starving Children event will be held Sept. 19-20<sup>th</sup> in Pottstown. More information will be provided regarding which day/time Franconia will participate in this event.

Women's Retreat  
September 12-14, 2025



Package= 2 nights lodging + 6 meals  
Franconia is not organizing a group to attend this year. Contact Spruce Lake if interested.

Other Upcoming Activities  
**Sewing Circle**  
Tuesday, Aug. 12  
8 AM – 4 PM  
**Prayer Shawl Ministry**  
Tuesday, Aug. 12  
at 7 PM



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