

PW Renewal News

A Monthly Devotion written by a WELS/ELS pastor's wife with some encouraging updates, prayers & news.

January 1, 2012



“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.” - I John 1:7 NIV

My husband and I, in a walking dash to get into the church and out of the cold winter wind, nearly knocked her over. I stopped and apologized, stumbling over words to explain why we weren't used to the low temps. Since we live in Mexico, a winter visit to the Midwest was a wakeup call to our bones.

She smiled, nodded, and chatted with me till we got inside the church. There the pastor told me, “Cheryl comes every week.”

Cheryl goes to church every week in Minnesota; I go to church every week in Mexico. To think that we pray to the same God, trust in the same Savior, and cling to the same soothing comfort of forgiveness in Christ, is – if you stop a think about it – a little mind boggling.

Yet they're out there, those kind Cheryls. And Susans. And Veronicas. And all the other women that share my faith.

What a blessing! But do I always treat these fellow Christians – whether they are far or near from me – with the pure kindness and respect the Lord wants me to show to them? Am I always grateful for the other Christians in my life?

The short answer: no. I daily fail to fully appreciate the other believers God brings into my life. My only hope is to cling to Christ, who forgives me for these failings and promises to grant me the strength I need to be gracious toward other Christians.

During the next month, I will be making an extra effort to look out for, and appreciate, women who are walking through life, clinging to the same source of hope, strength, and comfort as me. I encourage you to do the same.

Prayer: *Dear Jesus,*

Thank you for bringing others into my life who share the faith I have in you as my Savior. Help me to show that gratitude in the way I communicate and interact with them. In your name I pray, Amen.

Rachel Hartman



PLEASE SHARE!

If you have prayer requests, news you'd like to share, or would like to help by writing a devotion for the newsletter, please let Valerie know.

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