

PW Renewal News

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

October 1, 2011



Jesus said,

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Matthew 13:45-46

If jewelry could talk then La Peregrina would have much to say! La Peregrina is the name of a famous pearl with a history going back to the 1500's. It was found near Panama by an African slave and presented to Pedro de Temez who granted the slave his freedom or so the account goes. Pedro presented it to King Philip II of Spain who gave it to Mary the first of England. After her death it returned as crown jewels of Spain for the next 250 years. When the French ruled Spain through Napoleon's older brother Joseph Bonaparte the pearl fell into his hands and he bequeathed it on to his nephew Napoleon III. Napoleon the third sold it in financial trouble to the Hamilton's an aristocratic English family and the pearl visited places such as Buckingham and Windsor. In 1969 the pearl was auctioned and bought by Richard Burton as a gift for his wife Elizabeth Taylor. And soon it will be auctioned again and its journey will continue, very fitting considering the name means, “the wanderer.”

As you think of the different owners, and monarchs who have possessed this pearl—I can't help but feel that the African slave considered it the most precious. Among the subsequent owners this was a piece of jewelry among their other riches. But for this unnamed slave it was the find of a lifetime! He went from owning nothing, not even himself to being set free—all because of this pearl!

Jesus speaks of a pearl called the Gospel and how precious it is. This pearl takes slaves of sin who own nothing and are going nowhere and gives them freedom and life. This pearl takes slaves and brings them into the family of God. As you look at your life and all the riches God has bestowed on you—isn't his cross, his salvation the greatest of all?

Pastor Joe Johnson – from his weekly Directions Devotion 9/7/11



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.

VALERIE@PWRENEWAL.ORG



Register Today!

Renewing Our Vows

Nov. 4-5, 2011

Rockford, Illinois

**New Life Ev. Luth. &
the Baymont Inn**

Early-bird Registration
ends October 5th

Friday

Registration 3-4:30pm

Opening 4:30pm

*Kathie Wendland shares
"Fulfilling My Vows to the
LORD"*

Dinner & Worship

Saturday

Being His Bride

Keynote Naomi Schmidt

Lunch & Break Outs

Details & Registration Online

WWW.PWRENEWAL.ORG

What Would Serve You?

As always, PWR is looking to be an encouragement and a help to pastors' wives'. We have a list of ideas, but would like to know what would be the most useful to you.

So, beyond the Renewals, monthly devotion, and current Devotion book, feel free to share what you might find supportive.

Here are some current ideas we've had:

Daily Scripture Devotional Journal, Monthly Prayer Calendar, or Online Book List of suggested reading.

Would you like any of these? Do you have other ideas? Please share.

Planning a Get-Together or Retreat for PWs?

Wonderful!

I would love to help you get together with your sisters in Christ and encourage one another.

- ✿ **Let me post your event on the PWR website!** I can even link an invitation, schedule, directions, and your contact info. It's just fun to see what else is being planned. And who knows, it might give someone elsewhere a good idea.
- ✿ **Utilize any of the Bible studies that have been written just for PWR.** A number of studies and leader guides are available under Spa Time on the PWR website. Feel free to use. We'll keep adding new ones as they get written.
- ✿ **Place group orders for Expressions of a Joyful Life or the PWR shirts.** I can save you shipping by sending one box to your gathering.
- ✿ **Let me send you some PWR goodies!** Tell me how many ladies are coming and I'll send some fun stuff to treat everyone.
- ✿ **Or just ask for ideas and suggestions.** I'll share what I know.

God's richest blessings on your time together!