



## A Young Mom shares Her struggle to Make a Good plan for her Child

I am a 23-year old mother of 4 children that don't live with me due to the involvement of Children's Aid. The way I got involved with Jewels for Jesus is that 2 weeks before my last child was due to be born a Children's Aid worker came to my house and told me that they were pulling my child from me after birth. I was working with a lady from the Crisis Pregnancy Center in my town who had told me about private adoption and I had the support of some of my family as well so I put together two back up plans in case they did take my child.

My first back up plan was that a member of my family step forward to parent my child and my second back-up plan was an adoption through Jewels for Jesus. After my son was born, Children's Aid put him in foster care. My first back up plan failed because my family member had a lot of their own problems which were too unsolved for CAS to agree to let a newborn baby be placed in their care. So, my pregnancy support worker (who I admire) contacted Jewels for Jesus for me and I set up an appointment to meet an adoption worker. The worker from Jewels for Jesus came to my house a couple of times until all the forms were filled out and signed. Then the next appointment she brought some profiles of families that wanted to adopt. My worker informed me that they

were all good families but that one of them would likely stand out to me more than the others. Sure enough, one couple did and now my child is with two of the best people that I have ever met. I couldn't have asked for a better couple to parent my child. When I met them, their worker was with them and mine was with me as well as my pregnancy support worker who has helped all through this time. My gorgeous little boy went home with his new parents shortly after that.

Sure, losing him still hurts me, but the pictures and letters soothe my pain and I also have a lot of support for the decision I made. I also keep telling myself that I made a good decision for my child. He has the best. That's all I want for all of my children. For once I wasn't thinking about myself.

Annie (name has been changed)

*"Thank you for the pictures of my daughter... it's proof that I made the right choice with God's help. He helped me pick a perfect home for her and a perfect life for her and all of this wouldn't have happened without you....You are my rainbow after the rain and before the rain. You're someone I'll never forget and you're someone I'll always have in my heart and thoughts. I find the decision easier because of the respect and honor with which you graced my life and my situation...." A birth mother*

## Following where God leads

"Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me in a straight path..." Psalm 27:11 (NIV)

During my second semester at Tyndale University College, I contacted Jewels to see if they would consider taking me on for my first internship. I did not quite know what I would be able to offer Jewels, as my area of study was not heading toward counseling or social work. However, my interest and concern for adoption has always been an area I have held close to my heart, even before I was a believer.

The staff at Jewels decided to take me on to work alongside Margo, who at the time was responsible for the promotion of Jewels. This opportunity began to bring clarity to where my strengths were best put to use: marketing and promotions. After my placement, I knew that I would love the opportunity to work with the women at Jewels again, but still did not know in what capacity or if an opportunity would arise.

Since my walk with the Lord began, I have always felt certain that God chose me to be a speaker for Him, but could never pinpoint exactly how that was to come about. I know that my strengths are not meant to lead as a Pastor or as an Evangelist, but know that my passion is to motivate and encourage others, and to see people be the best they can be given their God-given talents.

As graduation approached, doors began to open for opportunities in promotions and recruiting. I was now sure of the area in which God wanted me to work but still had to figure out the organization and location. This brings me to introducing myself to you as the Promotion & Outreach Director at



Jewels For Jesus. God's timing is amazing and I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to work with this organization again. Although this position is part-time, I am very excited at how Jewels is growing, and recognize the need for more exposure. My aim is to bring a greater awareness of the services and needs here at Jewels to the GTA and surrounding areas. I am looking forward to this challenge and would like to thank all of our supporters and those who are our best advertisers. Keep up the good work, word of mouth is an amazing tool.

Along with this position, I am also working part-time in a job share with our Office Assistant, Helen Hancock, so if you call into Jewels on a Monday or Tuesday don't be surprised if I answer the phone!

As I move forward in this new endeavor, I praise God for his guidance thus far and ask you to pray with me for His continued leading in the weeks/months ahead.

"Wait for the LORD; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the LORD."

Psalm 27:14 (NASB)

- Heather Crockett

## Urgently needed

- diapers in size 4 & 5
- Canadian Tire money

## Praise Items

God has blessed us with so many material blessings this past month.

We give praise for donations of:

- a palm pilot
- clothing, formula and diapers for our care cupboard
- \$5,000.00 from the F. K. Morrow Foundation and \$25,000.00 from the Bridgeway Foundation toward a functioning networked computer system for the office
- two infant car seats
- two filing cabinets

And much, much more. Thank you to everyone who gives so generously to this work and for those who beseech God on our behalf for our needs.

Mark your calendars!  
Saturday November 6th  
**Silent Auction**  
Details to follow

## Want to Help us Spread the Gospel?

Beyond meeting the physical needs of young moms and their children, we desire to minister to their spiritual needs as well. We have discovered that our care cupboard clients are especially open to videos. Recently donated "Jesus" videos were well timed with the release of "The Passion", and many of our clients asked us if they could take one home to learn more about this Jesus. Kids videos are very well received, and we are excited about having the opportunity to share God's truths in simple ways that will minister to both child and parent. But we need your help. Christian materials are VERY expensive. We are looking for partners to help us by donating Christian videos for children (even gently used are welcome) and CD's or tapes with Christian lullabies.



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email: [helpline@JewelsForJesus.net](mailto:helpline@JewelsForJesus.net)  
Website: <http://www.JewelsForJesus.net>

Dear Marian,

I would like to support the work of JEWELS FOR JESUS MISSION INC.

\_\_\_\_\_ making a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ receiving information on the monthly Pre-authorized Support Plan

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_



Spending of funds is confined to Board approved programs and purchases. Each gift designated toward an approved program will be used as designated with the understanding that when any given need has been met, designated gifts will be used where needed most. Gifts of more than \$5.00 are acknowledged and receipted with an official receipt for income tax purposes.

07/04

## A Note From Marian



It's vacation time. Time to vacate, time to refresh, time to rest. I am taken back to the time when God rested: God, resting from work – and blessing that time of resting, making it holy, set apart, 'uncommon', special. I

wonder what God did on that day – the day He was resting. Did He go for a walk in the garden? Come for a visit with Adam and Eve? Genesis 3:8 says that "[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the Lord God as He was walking the garden in the cool of the day." Whatever it was that He did, He wasn't working and it was blessed.

Then in Exodus God translates this into our lives by declaring in the 10 Commandments: "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy...On it you shall not do any work...Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy" Genesis 20:8-11. Telling us to rest. Like we wouldn't think of it. But unfortunately many of us don't think about resting – life has become so busy that seven days don't seem like enough. Sometimes we even feel guilty if we rest – knowing that there is so much to do. Yet God underscores the importance of resting: definitely one day out of seven and, I believe, the importance of time apart from the 'common' to enjoy the blessings of the 'uncommon'.

I know Joan is enjoying the 'uncommon' as will others of the staff over the course of the summer. My prayer is that they will be able to rest and be blessed in this time of putting work aside.

Then I think about what Jesus said about 'rest': "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take

my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11: 28-30. I don't know about you but 'taking a yoke and a burden' doesn't exactly sound like 'resting'. This sounds like the opposite of resting...it sounds like work!

Actually, this is what I am doing – resting while I am working (and working a little extra because others are away). I have a ways to go to fully understand this. Oswald Chambers (*My Utmost For His Highest*, August 20), says that "whenever anything begins to disintegrate your life with Jesus Christ, turn to Him at once and ask Him to establish rest. Never allow anything to remain which is making the dis-peace."

We don't have to wait until vacation time or the Sabbath to have rest – we are promised it 24-7 if we are willing and ready to take up the yoke, the work of Jesus. His agenda, His calling on our lives, His design and creation in which you and I are an integral part. The thing I notice is the freedom this gives us – it's His agenda, not mine; He's in charge, not me. And that freedom definitely brings 'rest'. Trouble is, I'm still learning about how to listen for His leading, and then, knowing it, to follow it. I guess when I am feeling 'dis-peace' it's a good signal to know I'm carrying my own yoke, not His.

I pray that you too will have rest: rest from your common life to be able to enjoy the blessing of the 'uncommon'. But even more than that, to know the rest that comes with the freedom of walking in the will of the Lord – no matter where you are or how busy you are.

Resting in Him,

Marian Boyd  
Adoption Program Co-ordinator