



Ministering in Jesus' Name

Over the past year, I have had the privilege of developing a relationship with a woman named Susan. I first met her last November when she was 8 months pregnant with her son. She shared that she was a refugee to Canada from one of the islands and was attempting to make a life here for herself, but admitted how difficult it was to settle in, find good employment and make ends meet. Now pregnant, she was even more concerned about being able to provide stability, shelter and the basic needs for her child. Susan was looking for assistance to explore the options available to her including placing her son for adoption or sending him back to her island to be raised by extended family, which is typical in Susan's culture.

Only a few weeks after I met her, and before she had a plan put in place, Susan delivered a healthy baby boy. It was a privilege to share in the hospital time with her - the joy she experienced as she held him and cared for him, but also sharing in her grief, as she knew she was not in a position to parent him at this time in her life. Susan confided, "It was a very stressful time. It's hard to bring a child into this world. Sometimes you don't have what you want to support a child. I was so afraid I would lose him." Immediately after spending time with him, Susan knew that placing him for adoption was not the best plan for her; however, she was also not in a position to take him home. At this time, Susan learned of another option available to her, which



allowed her to voluntarily place her son with Family and Children's Services temporarily while working towards getting herself set up in order to be able to provide for him. Susan admits, "It was very hard, very painful to leave the hospital without him."

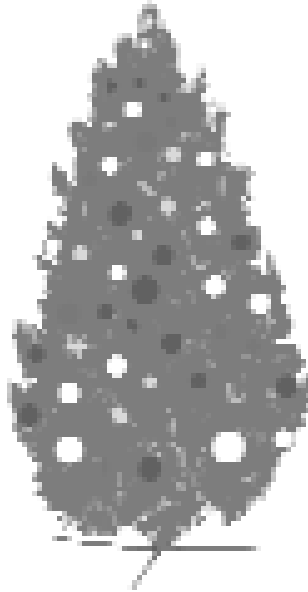
Although Susan was working with another agency to put a plan in place for her son, the relationship that we had established allowed Susan to feel safe and comfortable to remain in contact by calling from time to time. During the weeks and months that followed, Susan would occasionally call me to talk about her son, how much she missed him and the intense sadness she felt. What a privilege to listen and care for her, and to bring her and her son before the Lord.

About a month ago, I heard from Susan again. This time, it was to share in her joy that, after 10 months, her son had been returned! I made plans to drop by and enjoy a visit with them. Because of many of you and your generosity, I was able to go with an overflowing box of supplies from our care cupboard, including a snowsuit, warm winter clothing, some brand new toys and a few non-perishable food items. Little did I know (and perhaps, you, when you donated them) how much those things would mean to her. During our time together Susan shared about

continued next page

Christmas List (new items only please):

- white, grey or black tube socks – children & adult sizes
- black pantyhose or tights
- fairisle sweaters – toddler–6x & adult sizes
- restaurant gift certificates (i.e. Tim Horton's, McDonalds, Swiss Chaler)
- grocery store gift certificates (i.e. Loblaws, Dominion, A & P)
- phone cards
- Lego or Duplo sets
- games – ages 4•8
- teddy bears (not too big)
- scented body lotion, bubble bath or soaps
- Veggie Tales videos
- picture books by Max Lucado or other Christian authors
- children's Bibles
- devotional books for young moms
- pretty picture frames (for 4" x 6" photos)
- scented candles
- pretty mugs
- calendars • wall or pocket
- boxed chocolates
- hot chocolate
- herbal teas
- Christmas wrapping paper, ribbon, gift tags, gift bags, tissue paper & cards



Can you help?

We are looking to build a resource library for adoptive and birth families. We are hoping that you would consider donating the book(s) that you found most helpful on your adoption journey. Used copies are more than welcome. Just send them to the attention of Joan Kosmachuk. Thank you for helping others. (If you are unable to contribute the actual book, please consider at least sending us the title for our bibliography). Books, magazines, tapes or videos on infertility, adoption (for adults, children and adolescents), birth parent options and/or grief etc. would all be welcomed.

'Ministering' cont'd

how much she loves her son. She continued, "He is the joy of my life. I'd sacrifice anything and everything for my baby so he can have what he needs." She continued to confide that often that means she only has bread and water for herself. However, Susan was never a complainer. She continued, "I thank God because there are some people who don't even have bread."

Susan continues to be very busy as she goes to work each day to be able to provide for her son. She confesses, "At work, I am constantly thinking about him and what he is doing. As soon as work is over, I hurry home where I am always chasing after him until he falls asleep at night!" Susan explains that she has "learned a lot" during this journey and continues, "When he gets older, I'm going to tell him what I went through to have him in my life. I love to

be his mother, even though he can't call me mommy yet!"

I am grateful to God for the opportunities He gives us to minister in His name to women and their families across this province. What a privilege to be invited into someone's journey - to walk alongside them and be a cup of cold water to them, whether it be assisting them with material needs, empathizing with them as they are faced with difficult decisions, and having the privilege to bring them, their little ones and their many needs and concerns before the Lord. As a front line worker, I am reminded and grateful that we couldn't do what we do without your help. Never underestimate the role you play in this life-giving, life-changing mission. Thank you for partnering with us.

Holly Heise, Mission Worker

A great big THANK YOU to "The Rock and River Congregation"!!

On September 26th, the Rock and River Congregation of Mississauga held a fundraising Bowlathon for Jewels For Jesus Mission and Adoption Agency. It was an amazing outreach event for the community and \$6,350.00 was raised for our ministry.

This small congregation of less than 60 members believe that God has blessed them so that they in turn can be a blessing to others. We are so grateful to be just one of the many Missions that has received their blessing. Thank you Rock and River !!



Current Needs for our Care Cupboard:

- winter clothing, especially sizes 4-6
- diapers, sizes 4 and 5



Mission Inc.

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(905) 821-7494

email: helpline@JewelsForJesus.net

Website: <http://www.JewelsForJesus.net>

A Word From Joan



Dear Friends:

"Yes, Lord, walking in the way of Your laws, we wait for You; Your name and renown are the desire of our hearts." Isaiah 26:8

Waiting. In a society that is centered around instant gratification waiting does not come easily to us and yet, it is a central piece in our relationship with the Lord. When we don't wait, when we try to make things happen in our time, in our way, we do nothing for the glory of God. We show ourselves to be independent of Him. Yes, we might make things happen, but they often interfere with the greater thing that God could have accomplished had we been faithful and obedient to wait. To wait on the Lord is to show Him, and others, that the desire of our hearts is for God to be glorified.

But, Isaiah shows us, waiting is not inactive. We wait, "walking in the way of Your laws." Waiting goes hand in hand with obedient living. Following the Word of God and His com-

mands, doing the things He has called us to do, being obedient to the voice of the Spirit and then waiting for God to lead, direct, reveal, manifest His glory in our lives. We wait while going about the business of doing the things God has shown us to do, in fact commanded us to do, in this moment.

At Jewels For Jesus, we spend much time waiting with others and waiting on God. We wait for a baby to be born, for a decision to be made, for a phone call to come, for a heart to be softened, for God to move in a life, for funds to come in, for light in a dark situation, for clarity in the midst of confusion.... and, when we are most obedient, we wait not on the situation but we wait on God to act in the situation. Why? Because His name and renown are the desire of our hearts.

I know that many of you have been waiting a long time. Waiting for God to answer your prayer of years. Please know that there is a purpose in the waiting. When the answer comes (as we have seen time and again) it comes in a way that most glorifies God. So walk in His ways, wait on Him, and above all, make His name and renown the real desire of your heart.

Waiting on Him,

Joan Kosmachuk
Executive Director

Dear Joan,

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.

11/04