



The beginning of the summer arrived: 4 months ahead and no summer job in sight. After many weeks of searching I remembered God's faithfulness and began to earnestly pray for summer employment. A job I would love. Well, God has provided this for me through Jewels For Jesus.

Being a summer student for 10 weeks in this wonderful place has taught me much about loving others. The ministry at Jewels comes from sincere hearts; women who work hard and are genuinely dedicated. I was fascinated by the love that each woman has for the children and their delight was evident as the children came in to visit over the summer. But in their love is found something so rich and lasting. Their love for others comes from a deep devotion to Jesus Christ, a devotion they invest their lives in cultivating.

While at Jewels I have learnt that working can be so much more than a "job", it can be the portrayal of Jesus to those who are hurting and the message of love to those without. My various jobs were a small contribution to the ministry here and I was very thankful to be able to provide extra help through shredding, painting, organizing, sorting clothes for the Care Cupboard, updating information, playing with the kids, and many other little details.

I pray that God will continue to bless and change lives through Jewels For Jesus and that those who are broken would find their way to Jewels' doors.

## My summer at Jewels



"My command is this: love each other as I have loved you."  
~Jesus (Found in John 15:12)

Many thanks for such an enriching summer!

In Christ,  
Bethany Krause

## When a wrong decision affects so many lives

When I was scared and running out of options, I found Elizabeth, my worker at Jewels For Jesus. My situation and circumstances may be different from yours but the emotions are the same.

When I discovered I was pregnant with my fourth child, I beat myself up daily for being weak of flesh. I had 2 children from a failed marriage and, while going through a rebellious stage right after my divorce, I had another son out of wedlock. At that point in my life, my mom stepped in to look after the big mess that I left. My three children now reside with her. All I could do was reflect on a lifetime of bad mistakes. I hid my pregnancy from everyone but the birth father. He was not a good influence in my life and was not able to be a consistent support to me. Being a Christian, I didn't believe in abortion or in killing an innocent life to mend my own faults. I was working full time in order to send monthly financial support to my mother for my children. Daily life was stressful. My blood pressure was high and I often felt unwell. To com-

plicate matters, my father was recovering from a heart attack so I felt I needed to wait to tell him about the baby until his health stabilized. It was getting too hard to hide my condition and many people were beginning to notice. I turned to my best friend, told her and discussed going to see a counselor at Jewels For Jesus or perhaps another Christian adoption agency.

My friend helped me prepare to talk to my dad about my situation. As it turned out, he also met with Elizabeth. It was helpful for him to be able to air his feelings. When my friend and I met with Elizabeth, she listened to my situation and gave me some information on parenting and adoption. I worked very hard on the paperwork. For me, analyzing my emotions was hard to put on paper. I had to really take a look and think about what was best for my child. I started to work on adoption. I met with Elizabeth; we talked about different kinds of adoptions. I liked the open concept because I did not wish my child to feel abandoned or unloved. I wanted the baby to have two loving parents.

### Note of Thanks:

"It has always been important to me as I grew up that I was one of Jesus "jewels". The circumstances of my adoption and how I came to be a part of my adoptive family are remarkable and I have known God's hand on my life always. I know that His hand continues to be with me as I take these steps and possibly discover "another side of my family". The Jewels for Jesus organization has been a blessing for my family's life. Thank you for being used by God to find me such wonderful parents."

- an adult adoptee

My best friend and I began meeting once a week to eat and to study God's word. It was the beginning of balance in my chaotic life. I took a long hard look at what and who I had become. I did not think very highly of myself. I have since shown myself I can make better choices with the right support network. I had buried my head in the sand for most of my pregnancy. I hid because of my guilt and shame. I had given up on myself.

When I had completed the paperwork, I was still fighting time, money and indecision. When I asked for input from my family, I received a variety of opinions. My 12 year old daughter asked me to keep the baby. Since she is an avid reader, Elizabeth gave her a children's novel written by Joan Kosmachuk.

The book called Jenny's Secret, is about a young girl whose mother is facing a crisis pregnancy. She and I both read it and discussed it at length.

After several months the birth father began to contact me once more through emails and phone calls. I turned to Elizabeth for hope. It was good to hear her cheerful voice. She helped me sift through my hurts and fears. She listened to me talk through my decision to go for the open adoption and the opposition I was getting from the birth father. At this point, I was about 95% convinced that adoption was the best way to give my baby a better life. But at Elizabeth's advice I met with a lawyer to discuss what adoption meant legally and to clarify legal details of my situation. It was after this appointment that I had to seriously review my choice. I decided my only option was to raise my baby as a single mom. After a meeting with my best friend and Elizabeth I was assured that despite changing my decision, help would never be far away. I started to call my friends in the church, the ones I tried so hard to hide from. I found a loving, honoring family of aunts and uncles from my Bible study group.

My daughter was born in early January. She was a healthy 8.4 pounds and my best friend was at my side. Elizabeth came to visit me at the hospital and brought me what I needed. In the package was a winter bunting bag. Since then Elizabeth has been there to talk to. She gave me a big box of clothes and diapers. There are more clothes in the Jewels For Jesus Care Cupboard if I need them. I share my daughter's progress with Elizabeth from time to time. Most importantly I met someone who was a loving support in my time of confusion. She was a true friend, always ready to listen and help. I often wonder if she really knows the impact she had on my life and my family's.

My daughter is about to embark on her first steps in life but it is never too late to take the first steps to changing your life for the better. God is there to listen. I know he was there for

me. He answered my prayers, however odd they were. I asked for a clear decision for the baby and he showed me one. There are people who you can talk with to help you make the best decision for you and your family and to give the best love to the little life growing inside of you.

Nancy \*

\* name has been changed

## This Month's Care Cupboard Needs:

- large size diapers (sizes 3, 4 & 5)
- fall clothing – girls & boys size 5, 6 & 6x
- new & gently used Christian videos, dvds and books for children

## A Reminder

Circle of Friends forms and donations should be returned by October 31st.



Mission Inc.

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

## A Word From Joan



*"For you make me glad by your deeds, O Lord; I sing for joy at the works of your hands." Psalm 92:4*

Dear Friends:

Thanksgiving Day is just around the corner and it is time to give thanks to our God for his bountiful harvest.

We are not counting hay bales or bushels of apples here at Jewels For Jesus, but we are counting God's innumerable blessings to us over this past year and the fruits of our labors that He has given us. God has indeed given us a bountiful harvest for the seeds we've sown.

Today is a beautiful fall day. How I praise God for His creation, and for the beauty of the trees, the blue sky and the sunshine. A few hours away, two of our staff are welcoming a new little life into the world. How thankful I am for this young mom who chose life for her baby, for God's gift of health to this little one, for the family who embraced this young mom in her hour of need, and for the adoptive family that God raised up to parent this child. I'm thankful for those volunteers who so lovingly knit a sweater and bonnet and blanket, for those who donated a diaper, undershirt and sleeper. What delight your gift has brought to this new mom. It has been amazing to see God's hand at work in that whole situation.

And here in the office, a worker meets with a client needing clothes and diapers for her three children. How thankful I am that this single mom had the courage to come to a strange place and to share her heart with people she's only just met. How thankful I am that she has allowed us to pray with her, and to share God's truth with her in word and in gifts of a video and book to take home. How

could we have helped her without those who so generously filled our care cupboard with clothes and diapers and food? I'm so thankful for God's people who share from their plenty to help those in want.

Our Board shall meet tonight to pray and plan for the ongoing needs of this ministry, and how thankful I am for these men God has raised up as the spiritual oversight for this organization.

And how thankful I am for my staff – this incredible team of dedicated followers of Christ who have answered His call on their lives and who serve with joyful hearts. It is a privilege to work with such women.

And I am thankful for volunteers who help in so many ways to meet the needs we have: office help, care cupboard help, the "fix-it" man God's given us this year, those who are helping to raise funds, and who organize special events or assist with promotion.

I am thankful for all of you who remember us in prayer on a regular basis and those of you who give so faithfully, even sacrificially, to provide us with the funds we need.

I'm thankful for the churches that support us, for the foundations that have granted us funds this year, for the businesses that have given to our silent auction. We have been truly blessed.

Undeserving as we are, God has given us so much and has allowed us the privilege of watching Him work in our midst. So today, I can say with the Psalmist, "You make me glad by your deeds, O Lord; I sing for joy at the works of your hands." Won't you pause today, as well, to give thanks to God on our behalf for all He has done for us.

With a grateful heart,  
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.