

The Joy Connection

SMART TO SMARTER

Probably, most of my friends have heard or watch the movie Dumb and Dumber. Yes, we may not even want to admit we spent time watching the ridiculous crazy comedy. What it was good for was some belly laughs. Whatever reason one may choose to indulge in spending time watching it, one thing for sure, is one will not become smarter or gain knowledge or wisdom from its contents.

The challenge for 2018 is to choose to mature in our understanding of God. We can know Him and His power in a greater way than we presently know Him. As long as we breathe there will always be opportunities to gain more wisdom about God, know more about how He loves and accepts us and how to listen to His instructions to us. The Bible has endless instruction on how we can make this happen. A wise woman once told me, the storms of life do not make you they expose who you are. If we want to mature spiritually, we must continually confess our sins and weakness to others and to God. We need to confess our need for God's wisdom as we seek spiritual renewal. If we do not know how to tap into God's wisdom, as we admit this to ourselves and others, we actually open up ourselves to receive His wisdom.

We may need some guidelines to help us identify God's wisdom in our thoughts and

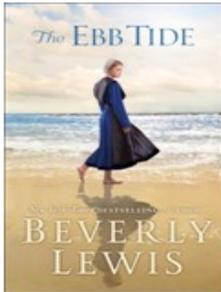


choices of action. The Bible identifies two aspects of wisdom: the spiritual and the practical. The spiritual wisdom gives insight into God's character and into the true nature of things. It helps us to live as God desires. We recognize such wisdom by its qualities: "the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure. It is peace loving gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full mercy and good deeds. It shows no partiality and is always sincere"(James 3:17)

On the practical level, wisdom can be judged by whether or not our actions conform to God's instructions. The instructions God gives us naturally lead to healthy living and our spiritual transformation. As we confess our need for God's wisdom and ask Him for it, "He will gladly tell us. He will not resent our asking. (James 1:5).

So friend, step up and choose to be consistent to ask God to give you wisdom and recruit your trusted, Christian friends to pray and keep you accountable.

Look What Is Happening in OSF's WM Ministry



Book Club Brunch

We are now reading "The Ebb Tide" by Beverly Lewis. Our brunch is scheduled for April 15th right after church.

Ladies Tea Gathering & Sister Blessing Sister Reveal

September 22nd at 11:00 AM, we will be meeting at the church for a special tea party and luncheon. Secret Sister will be revealed at this time.



Mother's Day Banquet

May 12th at 6:00 PM

Christmas Gift Cards

We bless the Survivor House in Gettysburg which is a non-profit organization that provides services for ladies that have been involved in domestic violence and sexual abuse. We supply gift cards from Walmart, K-Mart, and Giant.

Survivor House Christmas Luncheon

We transport the ladies and their children to our church. They are blessed by picking clothing from our Clothing Room. They are served a heartwarming lunch and given gifts to bless them and their families. Jesus said that it is better to give than to receive.

2019 Ladies Retreat

Need a weekend away and refreshed in the Lord? Join us on March 1-3, 2019 at Roxbury Holiness Camp for a weekend to be pampered and encouraged in the Lord. Please call Annette Noel at 717-243-4926.

WM Team Members:

Annette Noel	Donna Bergolios
Janet DeRosa	Nancy Graver
Barb Keene	Georgian Valencia
Wilma Weigle	

Yearly Fundraisers

Silent Auctions

Valentine Dinner & Ladies Retreat

Homemade Pie Sale

Homemade Apple & Pumpkin Pies are made fresh
On Saturday, November 17th.



Christmas Cookie Sale & Craft Show

December 1st @ 8:00 AM

Gospel Concert with Concession Stand

August 4th.....4:00 PM Concession Stand

6:00 PM Concert Begins

From the Kitchen:

Creamy Cheesy Potato Soup



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| 5 lb Potatoes | 1 Large Sweet Onion | 3 Celery Stalks | 1/2 Clove of Garlic |
| 1/2 Gal. Half & Half | 2 Lb. Box Velveeta Cheese (Diced) | 1 Packet Cream Cheese | 1 Stick Butter |
| 1 Box Chicken Broth | Salt & Pepper To Taste | Small Packet Instant Mashed Potatoes | |

Chop very fine celery, garlic, and onion in a large pot. Melt butter and sauté the celery, garlic, and onion until tender. Add chicken broth and half & half, cream cheese, and diced Velveeta cheese; cook on low heat. Whisk together until creamy. Dice potatoes and cook until tender. (Do Not Overcook). Strain potatoes but save the potato water. Add potatoes to the creamy cheese mixture. Continue to stir but be careful not to burn the mixture. For thicker consistency, add instant potatoes; for thinner consistency, add potato water. Eat and Enjoy!!

Chocolate Chip Scones

- 1 box scone mix (Walmart)
- 5 Tbsp Butter
- 2 Tbsp Milk
- Opt. cranraisins, sliced almonds, orange extract etc.



Preheat 400degrees F
Mix in bowl contents of box and softened butter. Mix with fork until small crumbles form.
Add milk and stir until blended.
Shape on cookie sheet lined with parchment paper, shape dough into 6" diameter flat round.
Using knife, slice into 8 wedges and separate 1" apart.
Bake 14 minutes or until lightly golden brown.
Makes 8 scones



A Day in New York City

By Janet DeRosa

Telling my 3-year-old granddaughter, Emma, I would take her to the American Girl Place on 5th Avenue in New York City when she turns 6 should have been taken more seriously, by me. For 3 years Emma reminded me, and the rest of the family, she was going to New York City. She took my invitation so seriously that at one point her father had challenged her to name the continents and Emma proudly proceeded to do so. She said, "North America, South America, Africa and New York City!"

Emma was astatic with joy for a full three years as she contemplated our visit together to the "Big Apple." As I reflect on Emma's faith in my promise I am reminded of my faith in our Heavenly Father's promises. Emma had faith I would keep my word because I am her Nonna. Likewise, I have faith the Lord will keep his promises to me because He's my God.

I Corinthians 1:20

"For all the promises of God are "Yes" in Christ. And so through Him, our "Amen" is spoken to the glory of God." I Corinthians 1:20

Lindell Cooley sings "All Your Promises" in his *Awake America* album. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nzQMvoA8Kpg> When one absolutely knows someone is going to keep a promise their expectations are joyous!

Almost breathless with anticipation as her 6th birthday approached, Emma was ready for a NYC adventure! My planning began and I decided the easiest way to travel would be by coach bus. Our daughter, Rebecca, Emma's mom, in a nonchalant way, reminded me that I had never taken her to the American Doll Place when she was a child. So, needless to say, I was more than happy to include Rebecca in on our adventure... and our daughter, Maria, too. So, now the four of us were anticipating our NYC excursion.

That July summer day in 2017 came and we boarded a nice coach bus. Rebecca had Emma's stroller and lots of other items in a tote bag. Rebecca had me laughing because, instead of wearing something dressy, I had encouraged Rebecca to dress very casual...with sneakers. For I knew she would need to be the one pushing Emma's stroller through the busy streets of NYC. I knew I would not have the energy to do so. Also, Maria would not be able to push that stroller either as she was four months pregnant. Rebecca's outfit that morning surprised me just a little bit because she took my advice seriously enough that she looked more like she was going to work-out at Planet Fitness then visit the beautiful Rockefeller Center. I was okay with her outfit, tank-top and all, because Rebecca was in for a real work-out on that beautiful NYC day. It ended up to be a 17 hours day of fun and laughs.

When we boarded the bus that morning, Rebecca's large Rutter's coffee went flying out of her hand. The bus was on a slight incline, so the coffee went streaming down the middle isle of the bus. I saw the coffee heading for what looked like a lovely Vera Bradley purse situated on the floor belonging to the woman sitting across from me. So, without saying a word to the woman, I quickly snatched her purse up in the air to spare it from being so soaked. The woman was startled because she didn't know the coffee had spilt. She looked at me and said, "That's my purse!" I did some explaining and then she saw, and smelled the coffee. But, instinctively, she thought I was stealing her purse.

Often times in life, God steps in with some of His own fast action to spare all of us from some difficulty. More often than not, we react just like the woman did with my fast action. Perhaps we might say to the Lord, "What's going on?" Yet, we can be assured, it is just God, in His great love, sparing us from the inevitable spills of life.

Jeremiah 31:3

"I have loved you with an everlasting love"

