

May is for Mothers!!!

The year just seems to be rushing by! It's already May and many of you are looking forward, (or not!) to the children being out of school and summer activities. Colorado weather has been lovely, and with the exception of the expected late April/early May snows, we have enjoyed sunshine and mild temperatures. Gardens are starting to come in, bulbs are sprouting and many of us are itching to get our hands in the dirt.



Our May event was a wonderful tribute to Mothers that we celebrated with our first, but definitely not our last, Mother/Daughter Tea. We made this a formal High Tea, so dresses and hats were required attire. It was a beautiful event that began with an icebreaker involving bingo to help everyone get to know each other. You couldn't fill out that card without getting out of your seats, so the women and the young princesses were all over the fellowship hall trying to find out who loves sushi! (Am I the ONLY one!?)



Then, to help the young girls, as well as many of the older ones, learn the proper way to curtsy, I, along with the help of the Princess, Isabella Welch, gave a demonstration. Don't laugh, it's not as easy as it looks and there is a right way and a wrong way to curtsy. All the ladies at Calvary Fellowship Fountain Valley are now properly prepared to meet the Royals, should they come to the springs and wish to spend time with us!



Following this, Cappia shared some songs and her story with everyone. The event ended with a beautiful High Tea with English sausage rolls, deviled eggs, cucumber/cream cheese appetizers, cranberry/pecan chicken salad and several sweets to round out the meal. It was superb and all the ladies raved! There was a beautiful time of fellowship and we had a photo booth with hats, boas and other props so the ladies could have some memories of the event. It is even rumored that there is photographic evidence of me in a formal dress!



The September Retreat is only 17 weeks away! We still have early bird pricing, so those wise women wishing to save a little money are encouraged to get their slots reserved quickly. Early bird pricing ends on July 7. After that you will have to pay full price. Slots are limited and will fill up fast. We already have 18 ladies signed up! July 28th is the close of all registration and all money must be in by then, so please sign up before or after church in the foyer with Mandy or one of her team. No reservations can be taken after then, so please don't wait until the last minute ladies!

June will be here before we know it and we have two events that month! Our T2W Event for June will be a bit more relaxed. We are all tired from the busyness of the last few months so, we will begin with a teaching from Embracing Our Christian Womanhood. Then we will gather for fun, fellowship and what else? FOOD! We are having a brunch and you may bring whatever

you like. Signup sheet is in the foyer so we can get a good number for tables and chairs needed.

May focuses on Mothers, so I have been thinking and missing my own Mum. She has been with the Lord for 14 years now, but I still think about her and miss her every day. Mothers are such a critical part of our lives. They help form our ideals, they train us up, they model for us, good or bad. But the fact remains, we are all, in large part, a product of our Mothers.

For those of you with children, what are you teaching them by your behavior? Are you teaching your girls the proper place of a woman in the home by loving and honoring their father? Do you respect him and build him up in their presence? Are you teaching your sons to honor and respect women by not allowing them to treat you disrespectfully? I remember from a very early age, my sons would never come into my presence without a shirt on or wear their hats at the table. Everything we do as mothers gets picked up by our children. Many things that we may not even realize at the time.

As we go through the month of May, let's be aware and intentional about the messages and examples we are teaching our children. Let's model the Proverbs 31 woman. I know, I know, she's not human! Although it seems that way, she evidently was, because Solomon was getting those examples from somewhere! So this month, the challenge is to read that proverb several times! How do you measure up? Here's a thought. Ask your husband how you measure up! OUCH! Ask him if there's anything he thinks you should be doing with reference to your children. Then take that counsel and follow it. This doesn't just apply to those women with little ones at home.

How about you women with grown children? How are you ministering to them? What are you modeling for them in your marriage and your home life? They still learn, ladies, trust me! And they still watch us. And when they come to us for advice or counsel, (and they WILL!), make it godly counsel.

Lastly, if you still have your Mom, don't take her for granted. I think motherhood is the most difficult thing I have ever done. I would give all I have to spend one more day with my mother. Let her know how much you love her. Tell her that you appreciate her. If she's close, take her out, just the two of you. If your relationship is strained, do everything in your power to be the peacemaker and work toward reconciliation. Trust me, it's worth it and God will bless it.

My prayer for all of you this month is that you will walk as honorable, godly women. That your children will rise up and call you blessed. That your husband will rest in your love and respect and that the men around him will appreciate the wife he has. Take time for yourselves, ladies. We can't possibly pour into others when we're empty. Renew and rejuvenate, stay close to God and take every opportunity to show the world what a magnificent God we serve! I love

you all and I'm praying for you. If any of you have special prayer requests, please don't hesitate to contact me.

This month, I have a request. We are in need of a childcare worker, the second Saturday of every month, except September, for our events. Our current childcare worker has some health issues that preclude her from being available all the time. It is a paid position and is only 2 hours from 9-11. Please pray and if you could meet this tremendous need, let me know. My email and phone number are in the bulletin every week, or find me on Sunday morning. Thank you in advance, I know that God has the perfect woman to take on this critical ministry.

May our Lord and Savior bless and keep you. May He make His face to shine upon you. And be gracious unto you. May He lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. I love you all. This month, **STAND FIRM** against the lies of the enemy, **Mighty Women of God!**

IHS and yours,
Karen