
Coffee Break

If you have a funny story about your child, share it with us.

Sunday Afternoon Lunch Date

By Christine Berry, Warren, Ohio

One Sunday afternoon my husband suggested that we eat out for lunch. We told our 2-year-old that we were going to go on a special lunch date. She loves going on lunch dates because she figures that it includes French fries and "chicky nuggets!" She was very excited. We decided to go to a Chinese restaurant and thought the chop sticks would keep her entertained and hopefully not be too dangerous. While my husband and I were looking at the menu our toddler started shouting "Look Daddy, it's a little tiny Asian. Mommy, it's a little tiny Asian." It then turned into a song that of course was sung at the top of her lungs, "lil' Asian, lil' Asian, look a lil' tiny Asian." My husband and I looked mortified at each other and prayed no one could hear her. I thought that in the future McDonalds will be our only choice because we'd be banned from all Chinese restaurants. I quickly turned to quiet her down, yet still had no idea how she even new the word Asian. When I looked at her she had a huge smile on her face, a little box of raisins in one hand, and the other hand held a raisin high in the air and she said, "See Mommy, a little tiny raisin!"

Quiet Time

Wring Out All the Joy

People often ask me, "Why are you so happy all the time?" Well, I'm happy because when I wake up in the morning, I don't read my name in the obituaries! I'm alive, and I've been given the gift of one more day. Life is precious, and every day is a new opportunity; I want to wring all the joy out of it that I possibly can. Now, admittedly, someone with this demeanor often stands out in the crowd (especially if the crowd is feeling cranky that day). I once overheard a woman ask my daughter Vikki, "Is your mother happy like this all the time?" She meant did I laugh and seem to enjoy life all the time.

If Vikki were one to roll her eyes, she might have rolled them then. "Yes," she replied with a sigh. "She makes me tired. I can't even have a bad day around her. You know, some days I just want to feel sorry for myself, but you can't be around Mama and be sad for long."

Well, I took that as a compliment! I'm glad she can't have a bad day around me. Why would anybody want to have a bad day anyway?

-Thelma Wells
The Buzz



Excerpted from Laughter and Latte : Joyful Inspiration for Women
© 2006 Women of Faith, Inc. All rights reserved.



In this issue ...

- Kids Room
- The Closet
- In the Library
- Mom's Kitchen
- Coffee Break
- Quite Time

News

from the Nest

September 2007

Welcome Back!

It is time to get registered for the new MOPS@Night year! It is going to be a fun and exciting year with our new theme the Home Factor. I am looking forward to serving another year as your Finance Leader. Please see me to fill out a new registration card. We like to update your information each year in case any circumstances (new address, new phone, new baby) have changed for you. I would also like to take a minute to explain the MOPS fees that are charged.

We basically have two fees, the monthly meeting fees and the MOPS International "MOPS to Moms" fee:

The monthly meeting fees are \$5 per meeting that we charge to cover our meeting expenses such as the craft, Moppetts supplies, speaker gifts, etc.. Any new mom that comes gets her first meeting free. You may choose to pay the \$5 per meeting or you can pay \$20 for the semester or you can pay \$35 for the whole MOPS year (annual pay gets you a free meeting). We also offer scholarships for those that cannot afford the meeting fees. This is confidential, between you and me only. Just let me know if you need one or more or all meeting fees waived and it will be done.

The MOPS to Mom fee is \$20. This is collected and sent on directly to MOPS International to pay for your registration with them. You are required to pay this fee and register with MOPS Int. at either the first or second meeting you attend. We do offer scholarships for this as well and remains confidential. Just let me know if you need a scholarship for this fee.

Please always feel free to come to me with any questions you have about the fees, and any scholarship needs.

Kim Riddick
Finance Leader

Kids Room

Here is a list of fun and educational web sites full of activities you can do with your kids. Even they are geared mostly for school age children, you can find things for your pre-school kids too. Have fun!



www.dltk-kids.com - Fun children's crafts, including printable craft templates, for preschool, kindergarten and elementary school kids. Includes links to other web sites as well.

www.readysetlearn.com - Ready Set Learn! From Discovery Kids is full of the skills that promote optimism, persistence and resilience... the skills your preschooler needs to get started on a lifelong love of learning!



www.edhelper.com is dedicated to providing teachers a single shop for educational resources. It has tons of great stuff to print off and anyone can join.

The Closet

Here is some more information on organizing your space.



Amy Knapp's Christian Family Organizer. Organizing our hectic schedules is key to having time for what matters most - God and Family. The Christian Family Organizer provides the foundation you need to manage schedules, coordinate healthy meals, keep up on that ever-growing to do list and even save you time and money at the grocery store. As important, weekly Scripture, prayer and praise journaling, keeps your focus clear. Visit www.familyorganizer.com for an exclusive MOPS offer.

Quick Tips for staying organized:

- Keep only things you love, need and use.
- Put items away after you use them.
- Train your children and grandchildren to clean up after themselves.



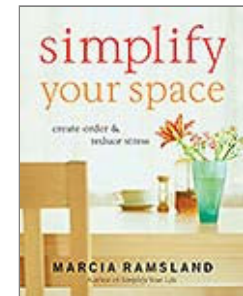
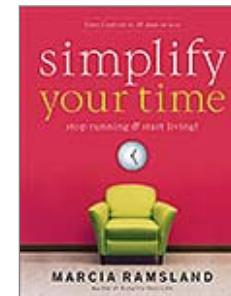
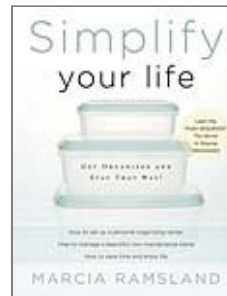
In the Library

The Library will be featuring books based on our topic of the month.

Simplify Your Life encourages and motivates women to be a better manager in three major areas: her time, her home, and her life.

Simplify Your Time is a thirty day approach to finding more time to do the things you want by learning how to trade time wasters for time savers.

Simplify Your Space leads you in a room-by-room approach to simplifying your home and office.



Mom's Kitchen

We will post favorite recipes here. If you have one you would like to share, let Andrea Hale know.

Cheesy Potatoes

- 1 stick of Butter or Margarine
- 1 can Cream of ... Soup (can be mushroom, onion, or chicken)
- Minced Onion to taste
- 16 oz Sour Cream
- 2-3 cups of Shredded Cheddar Cheese
- 6 cups Frozen Shredded Potatoes, thawed



Preheat your oven to 350%. In an 8 x 13 x 2 pan, spread the thawed shredded potatoes and set aside. In a sauce pan, melt the butter. Stir in soup, minced onions and sour cream. Add 2 cups of cheese and stir until melted. Pour over the potatoes and mix well. Top w/more shredded cheese if desired. Bake for 1 hour or until edges are browned.