**Lost Keys**
After literally circling Walmart 14 times, my daughter and her three college roommates were in panic mode! The keys were lost...and that was the only set of keys they had with them (lesson learned)! That meant they had no ride home and no entry back into their apartment. People were starting to take notice and one woman even offered to take them home. That's when they started retracing their steps one last time. One shake of a reindeer in the Christmas section and out fell the keys. Instant relief fell over them!

Jesus didn't lose anything while he was here, but he did leave some things that he knew we would need no matter what adversity or affliction we endured here in our lifetime. And what Jesus left with us he very much wanted us to have.

* The Holy Spirit inhabits each believer to guide, counsel, intercede, convict and be an advocate. Romans 5:5 says, "This hope will not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us."
* Prayer to cry out to the one who can hear see and know our situations, to be grateful, to confess, to repent, to be forgiven. Romans 12:12 says, "Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; be persistent in prayer."
* His Word, the Bible, is with us in written form as a living reference. Romans 15:4 says, "For whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that we may have hope through endurance and through the encouragement from the Scriptures."
* The church was instituted because He knew we would need each other and He wants us to not just receive but to share what we have received and for the church to be the church. Acts 2:41-42 says, "So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about 3,000 people were added to them. And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to the prayers."

Now is the time to retrace our steps to find our figurative "spiritual key ring" and call out to the one who will hear and respond, to recall the scripture we've memorized, to rely on and be the church, to be the church and to know that the Holy Spirit will intercede for us when we have no words.

If we have not met, I want you to know that I walked into this church 26 years ago with a 5 year old daughter and a 2 month old son in tow. This church embraced me but bigger than that the gospel and what God did in my life changed this ordinary girl forever! And I know He will do the same for you! He will! Enjoy church, the SPF ministry and this SPF newsletter. Allow yourself to get excited about what God has in store for you and your children.

Keep going,
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