

Spring Cleaning

SISTERS IN CHRIST MONTHLY
EXHORTATION + ENCOURAGEMENT

Living a Life in the Light.

There really is nothing like the light that comes with spring. Like coming out of our cozy dens of hibernation. My house felt warm and inviting all winter. I love to bring on the cuddly blankets, we do not have a real fireplace but we are sure to put on the YouTube version just to get the feel and hear the crackling fire. I cook all the comfort foods and try to master new simmer pots. But cleaning in the winter always feels different — perhaps easier. Sure we keep up on the laundry and the dishes and every year seems to be THE year I'm going to teach my kids to keep their rooms tidy. That will happen someday right? But the darkness of winter sure does a good job of hiding things.

With the spring comes that wonderful light. My kids come in with squeals of delight at the patches of sun and the little green sprouts popping up through the soil. It feels like the earth is waking up and coming to life once more. But do you know what else comes with this light? Have you noticed?

Something not quite so pleasant. Turns out that light exposes a lot of dust. And windows streaks. Smudges. The thawing of the ice brings mud... tromped through the house. Is it just me or does my house never look so dirty as it does under the revealing light of spring? I'm convinced this is the root cause of spring cleaning. DUST off the ashes of yesterday! It's fairly motivating to see your house as it really is, in the light. It is however a bit overwhelming. You go from feeling just fine about the state of things to feeling like you need to spend the day wiping down every nook and cranny.

Have you had seasons in your life where it seems Christ's light has shined brighter than others? Have you noticed that with this light there comes an overwhelming awareness of where we are lacking? I'd like to encourage you ladies that just as with spring, the same light that shines into our darkness, exposing our sin, our sour attitudes, our resentment, and our need for change is the same light that means new life is just around the corner. We need the light of Christ to reveal what was really there all along. What needs to be put off so He can show us what to put on. Walking in the light means to cast off all that we tend to want to hide but with this comes newness of life.

"This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." — 1 John 1:5-9

If you feel like spring light has illuminated your dusty dirty house remember that this light brings life, because God is light in Him is no darkness at all and He has promised to purify us from all sin. You can shine His light over your life each day by going to God's Word and allowing it to inform and instruct your life. Fellowship with your church family that provides protection and leadership.

Leaning into these gifts from God is what our souls need to actively rely on He who is so faithful. If there is sin that you are tempted to keep hidden and away, I plead with you as a sister in Christ to confess it.

Stick it under the light of God's Word and call it what it is. Seek counseling and accountability. Remember: *"He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."*

Isn't that just the best news? Christ does not leave us at the point of staring at our dirty house. He equips us with the tools to get to work and HE purifies us.

We love you!
Your Women's Ministry Team,
Kelli, Michele, Lori, Jody, Trudi, Cindy, Linda, Joan, Karen, and Daryn

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women's Spring Retreat

If you haven't signed up for retreat go onto our website and do so!
Invite a friend.

