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Introducing a newsletter by Christian women for other women.

Evelyn Waite and Kathy Webber are collaborating on this project in an effort to encourage our Christian sisters and possibly *to inspire other women to participate in this effort.*

We Are...

by Kathy Webber

We are the church

--the divine bride of Christ

-- purchased with His Precious blood.

Christ is our head

--true life is found only in His blood

--it is His righteousness that makes us glorious.

In this we realize our dependency of Christ

--our dependency of each other

--and the dependency of the world to be able to see Him in us.

And by belonging to Christ

--we are united in mission

--to be about our Father's business.

Individually we must evaluate ourselves

--not to tear ourselves down

--but to build the church stronger and to be more like Christ.

For God does not need man

--God desires a relationship with man

--simply put...man needs God.

Keep your focus on Christ

--follow His example of life

--desire to please God with the same pure heart.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God

--seek her with love and singleness of heart

--work to see her grow spiritually and glorify both Father and Son.

The reward is great

--greater than words can describe

--as we, the children of God, behold Him face to face.



For we are his **workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10)

Dream Team

Our local radio station carries Sports Zone, a local sports show every afternoon. Discussion topics range from high school football, basketball and other sports results to national sports stories. When it comes to Major League baseball, the vast majority of people in our area are fans of the St. Louis Cardinals. The Cardinals almost always make the playoffs at the end of the season and occasionally go on to play in the World Series.

Every afternoon during the season, there is discussion on Sports Zone about the Cardinals. When they are winning, there are lots of positive observations; when they are on a losing streak, there are several negative comments sprinkled in with the positive ones. However, there is one listener who calls in every day complaining. The manager is a loser, the closer is a loser and should be shipped to the minors or out of town on a rail, the leading hitter is probably going to get hurt or go into a slump--on and on go his complaints.

My reaction to his calls varies from feeling sorry for someone who is always disgruntled and angry to having to resist the urge to call in and voice my utter disgust and frustration with his attitude. More than once, I have thought that it wouldn't matter if the Cardinals fielded a dream team made up of every hall of fame player in baseball history. This man would still find something to be unhappy about.

As Christians, we are numbered with a Dream Team. At the top of the team are God the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Shining stars on the team are the apostles and early evangelists such as

Timothy and Titus. Other shining stars are those martyrs who have given their lives in service to the top of the team. Stephen comes to mind, of course, but there are also a host of others. Christians who, rather than renounce Christ, were burned at the stake, fed to the lions, burned in oil, staked out on the beach at low tide and drowned when the tide came in and countless other heinous ways of death.

Do we gladly and optimistically take our place on the team in our time? Or do we, like the man who calls the Sports Zone, constantly find something to complain about. Do we criticize the elders and/or the preacher? Are we unhappy with the air conditioning or the heating during services? Do we criticize the young mothers whose children occasionally disturb the service and disdainfully wonder why she even bothers to bring those kids? (Anyone who has ever been a young mother knows the answer to that question!) Do we dislike the content of our Bible classes or the Bible class teachers?

If the man who calls Sports Zone gets on my nerves with his constant complaining, do you suppose God might get a bit peevisish with us when we tend to find the negative in every situation? He got fed up with the children of Israel on numerous occasions when they complained and wished they were back in Egypt.

May we, who are so blessed to be a part of the Lord's church, keep our eyes focused on our ultimate goal. If we keep our eyes on eternity in heaven, we will find less to be negative about and lots for which to be eternally grateful!

*Evelyn Waite
June 7, 2006
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"God has called us to serve Him with no complaining from us and no explaining from Him.

From Chambers via John W. Smith
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Life Groups

Are you participating in a Life Group? There are several choices available for you. It is a great opportunity to gather with a small group, spend devotional time together and enjoy the fellowship of brothers and sisters. Check it out next Sunday afternoon/evening.

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The Month of Love

What is Love?

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:4-13)

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**Anyone who does not love
does not know God,
because God is love.**

1 John 4:8

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Did you know?

February starts on the same day of the week as March and November in common years, and on the same day of the week as August in leap years. February ends on the same day of the week as October every year and on the same day of the week as January in common years only. In leap years, it is the only month that ends on the same weekday it begins. (via Wikipedia)

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**"Children are great imitators.
So give them something great to imitate."
(Anonymous)**

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