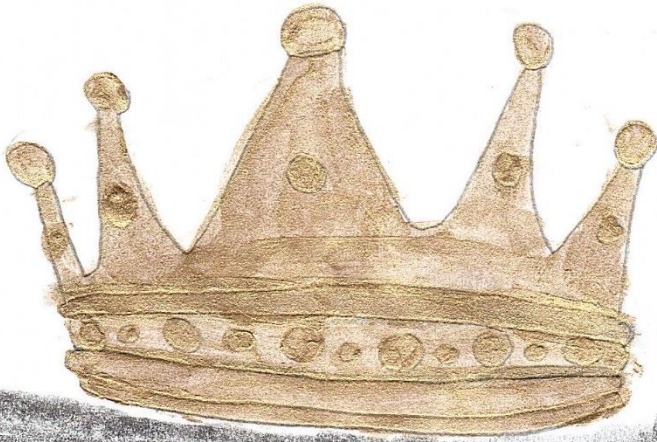


Priceless

January 2019



Beauty From Ashes

James H.  
12-31-2018

**Dear Reader,**

Happy New Year! As we enter 2019, we would like to focus on new beginnings. Starting fresh. Clean slates. While you can start new any day, the beginning of a new year is a wonderful time to start as well! We hope as you read this magazine you will be encouraged and inspired!

2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

With Love,

*Janessa Hochstetler and Julie Hochstetler*

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# Healing Hurts

*“Healing hurts.” I wrote these two words in my journal, then went on. “It makes you wonder if the pain is worth it. My heart feels like it is in a billion pieces. How can God fix something like that?”*

*Lesson 1: Words are powerful.*

Words hurt. They really do. That was part of why my heart needed healing – words. Words people did and didn’t say. It’s hard to realize how hurtful a word can be until it’s escaped your mouth. So, whether you’ve said something hurtful or have had your heart stung, this is for you. We’ve all been on one end or the other at some point in our lives.

Have you ever found yourself asking the same question? Do you feel too broken, too shattered for even God to fix? What is the point of pain? What good can it do?

The question is, “What did you do about it?” Did you regret those words immediately and apologize, or did it feel kind of good to hurt that person? When those words came your way did you fire some hurtful ones back, or did you respond with a soft answer and pray for the one who hurt you?

*Lesson 2: Satan is a Liar*

Satan is a liar. Satan come and tries to destroy us with his lies. Sometimes he succeeds. But only because WE allow him to. Have you heard of the prank where you take the filling out of a donut and put mayo in it instead? Likewise, Satan takes a truth, and fills it with lies. He makes it look good on the outside, but inside it tastes terrible.

Satan's lies come in different shapes in sizes. A few that I believed for a long time were that I am not enough, I am not

beautiful, I'll never measure up, and God abandoned me. Those are LIES. Lies come straight from the mouth of Satan himself. I once heard it said, "Satan is the father of lies." He takes a truth and covers it with lies, making it very believable to us.

So, how can you defeat those lies from Satan? With the TRUTH. Satan is LIES; God is TRUTH. Ask God to deliver you. He will! (Isaiah 40:29; Isaiah 41:10, 13; Jerimiah 1:19; James 4:7)

*Lie:*

*Truth:*

**I am not beautiful.** God thinks you are. Proverbs 31:10, 30; Psalm 139:14; Isaiah 43:7

**I am not precious.** You are precious to God. Psalm 139:17-18; Psalm 147:4; Zephaniah 3:17; Isaiah 49:16

**I am not loved.** God loves you. Romans 8:38-39; Jeremiah 31:3; John 3:16

**I am alone/forgotten.** God will never leave you or forget you. Isaiah 49:14-15; Hebrews 13:5

**I am not saved.** If you have asked God into your heart and believed, then you are redeemed. 1John 1:9, 2:1, 5:1, 4, 11-13; Romans 4:23-25, 10:9-13

### Lesson 3: Healing Hurts.

Healing is painful. Sometimes you may wonder if it's worth it. It is! I've gone on that road and came through more alive and better than before. Your next question may be, "What is the point of this pain and heartache?" I have a three-word answer. To help others. When I asked God to heal my heart, He did. But, when it seemed the pain was worse than ever, I asked God, why? Why did you allow me to suffer all these years? What is the purpose? His answer came to me and literally stopped me in my tracks. *So that you may help others.* I began to believe that day that I was meant to help other young girls who struggle with the same things I did. Ideas filled my head of mission work in another country. A few days later,

through something else that happened, I was even more sure that God had a plan for me and that it involved young girls. But then, doubt crept in. Satan started to feed me lies. *"Are you sure you didn't imagine this? There's no way you could do something like that."* I still don't know what all God has in store for me, but recently I had a realization that I'd barely thought of. This magazine. This article. This is the beginning. I believe God is the reason this magazine was started – not chance or Janessa Hochstetler. God wants me to share my story, so others can be set free. I hope that you are encouraged. I hope that you find healing if healing is needed. Never forget that with God ALL things are possible (Philippians 4:13).

*Reflection:* Watch your words! Think before you speak, “Is it true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of a good report; is there any virtue, is there any praise?” (Philippians 4:8, para.)

Satan is defeated by TRUTH. The Word of God is truth. No matter what Satan’s lie is, you can overcome!

Ask God to heal you and he will (Psalm 30:2, Psalm 147:3, John 14:14, Psalm 22:24)! Healing may be a long, hard journey, but it is worth it in the end! Don’t just stop with being healed, help and encourage others as they go on their journey.

There is a purpose to the pain. There is a rainbow after the rain. There’s a new beginning at the sunrise. Just hold on, my child! Just hold on.

*Janessa Hochstetler*

Janessa lives in Ohio on her family’s farm. A few of her favorite things are her puppy Baxter, hanging out with friends, and reading.



## *New Year Resolutions*

For the new year, you make a resolution, right? Maybe your resolution is to be more cheerful and not complain as much. Maybe your resolution is to read your Bible more often. Maybe your resolution is to stop biting your nails, or to encourage others more often, or to practice playing the piano more, or to not spend so much time on your phone, or to tell somebody about Jesus, or — the list could go on.

I have a confession to make here. Usually when I make a resolution, I don't keep it. I don't do what I said I would do; in fact, I often forget about my resolution, my goal, my "promise."

And you know what? I think a lot of people do that. On New Year's Eve

and Day, we're all, "This year I'm going to do this! This year I'm going to be better than last year!" And at first, we might do that. We might practice piano more, or spend more time exercising, or not complain as much.

But as time goes on, we start slacking off. "Well, I haven't spent much time on my phone lately, so today I'm going to catch up on Facebook and play some games and watch YouTube videos..." "I've exercised every day since January first and I've watched what I eat; this week I'm going to laze around and eat all the junk food I want! I deserve it!"

And time goes on, and we lose our zeal and determination. Finally WE GIVE UP. We stop trying to achieve our resolution

or goal, and we make excuses. "I don't have time to read my Bible, and it's so hard to understand. Besides, I go to church and listen to the sermon; I even read my Sunday school lesson. Isn't that enough?"

No, that's not enough! Nothing is ever enough to make up for giving up on a goal. Your resolution might be small, such as brushing your teeth more often, but it's still important. (Brushing your teeth helps prevent cavities. Preventing cavities helps prevent big dental bills. Preventing big dental bills helps prevent financial trouble. See why it's important?)

Also, if you get into the habit of giving up when something's hard or you get tired of it, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO PROFIT. You're not going to learn or grow or be strong.

You're not going to bless or encourage or inspire someone. And, most importantly, you're not going to bring glory to God.

And I know it's hard. As I already said, I usually don't accomplish my resolutions. But if I did, my life would be better — I would be better.

You can be better too. Just remember that you can't do it by yourself: you need friends/accountability partners and God. Oh, yes, you need God — you can't do anything without Him!

So this year as you make a resolution and try to fulfill it, DON'T DO IT BY YOURSELF. Find someone who will "check up on you" and help you towards your goal. And pray; ask God to give you strength, guidance, patience, whatever you

need. He will gladly help you.

"Goals: write them down; hang them up; pray them through; and with God's help, watch them happen."

### *Julie Hochstetler*

Julie lives on an old farm place in Indiana. She loves reading, writing, spending time with friends, and acting crazy.



# Creative Corner



Janetta Hochstetler, OH



Alanna  
Coblentz, OH



Myah Coffey,  
NC

You Can't Make Everyone Happy



You Are Not

*Pizza*

J.H.

Janessa Hochstetler, OH

*Send us your photos, recipes, poems, or artwork!* Send it to:

[pricelessmagazine18@gmail.com](mailto:pricelessmagazine18@gmail.com)

# Recipe Corner

## *Apple Spice Cupcakes (yields 14-16 cupcakes)*

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, melted
- 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 large eggs, room temperature
- 1/3 cup milk
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 1 and 1/2 cup flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1/4 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg
- 1 large apple, peeled and finely chopped (about 2 cups)

### **Instructions:**

Preheat oven to 350° degrees Fahrenheit.

1. Whisk butter, brown sugar, and sugar together in medium bowl.
2. Whisk in eggs, one at a time, until smooth.
3. Mix in vanilla and milk. Set aside.
4. Whisk flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, and nutmeg together in large bowl.

5. Slowly add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients and stir gently until combined. (Batter will have a few lumps.)
6. Fold in the apples.
7. Fill cupcake liners  $\frac{3}{4}$  full of batter.
8. Bake for about 20 min., rotating pan halfway through baking. (It might take longer to bake, so see if a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.)

## *Caramel Crispix*

- 2 small boxes Crispix cereal
- 2 cups butter
- 2 cups brown sugar
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- ½ tsp. vanilla
- ½ tsp. baking soda

### **Instructions:**

1. Melt butter in sauce pan, add brown sugar, and bring to boil.
2. Add corn syrup, vanilla, and baking soda.
3. Put cereal into large bowl and pour caramel over. Stir and pour into paper sack.
4. Microwave for 2 min. and shake. Microwave another 2 min. and shake.
5. Spread on wax paper to cool.