

Taking a Stand

By Janice M. Wendorf

The 2011 convention theme, “Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge,” certainly relates to my daily life throughout this term as your president. Beginning in 2007, I spent hours “being with Jesus” in His Word, in prayer and meditation, believing with all my heart that He set a vision before me to share with the women of the LWML. I was “living on the edge” because I didn’t know how you would respond. Almost four years later, I have found this place to be on the “winning edge.”

The vision made me take a stand for something I truly believed would take each of us into a more meaningful relationship with our Lord and with one another. At the 2009 LWML Portland convention, I expanded upon the three vision points:

- IN THE WORD — Honoring a daily appointment with the Father and His Word
- OF THE WORD — Made over by the Holy Spirit, forgiven and restored
- WALKING WITH THE LORD — Confident of Christ’s presence in daily life and witness

In one of my very first *Quarterly* articles, I wrote: “As I think back to the months before I was elected your president, I was fearful of the risk of being elected. How could I be the one to serve this organization? With God’s help and His making peace in my soul, I accepted this position and am learning to be a risk taker.”

Later in the article, I asked the following questions: “What are you willing to risk within your local society, zone, or district? What needs to happen to move those entities ahead in God’s mission ministry?”

And then I offered this advice: “Before you do anything, begin

with prayer and time in His Word. Ask for His plan to become evident as you look to move ahead for the building up of His Kingdom.”

So here’s my question for you today:

“How much were you willing to risk to make a difference in the LWML? Did you see His plan for you or your society? Did you come to discover the importance of daily being in His Word?”



Over the course of my term, many women have understood and sent me messages and notes: “Thanks, again, for giving me joy in LWML and for the gift of daily, **intentional** Bible reading.” “Because of your encouragement I have been reading my LWML Bible since last fall. Thank you for your vision.”

Commenting on a blog entry of mine (“In the Word”), an LWML friend wrote, “I needed this encouragement/reminder, so thank you!”

As we look forward to celebrating our 34th biennial convention in Peoria under the theme “Being with Jesus — Living on the Edge,” I ask you to consider one more question: “How can ‘Being with Jesus’ and taking the risk to be ‘Living on the Edge’ make a difference in my life, in the lives of those around me, and in the LWML?”

As you contemplate these questions, begin with prayer and time with your Lord. I recently read these words in Dr. Paul Devatier’s devotional book, *By the Way*:

Today is ours. Yesterday’s book is closed. Tomorrow’s page has not been opened.

Over yesterday God has placed a garment of His forgiving mercy in Christ Jesus. Over tomorrow He has written the words of a gracious promise. Yesterday’s mercy and tomorrow’s promise should inspire our trust and confidence today.

Each day with God is a blessed and successful day. With His help, we will not waste it.

May you be blessed today and every day by “Being with Jesus” and “Living on the Edge” with Him!

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KNOWING CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

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