

It's a Busy Place!

We've all heard how important it is to exercise more times than we can count. For some of you that may just come naturally. I am not one of those people. When I think of exercise my mind goes back to those gym classes in elementary school. I always dreaded the days when we were divided into teams and two kids were given the responsibility of choosing the teams. Every time I was the last one picked. I remember the volleyball units during high school. The words "Hit it to Karen. She'll never be able to hit it back." still ring in my ears. It's probably no surprise that I cringe a little bit when the topic of exercise comes up. That being said, I do realize that it is important for me to stay healthy. Walking is my exercise of choice. My goal is to start my morning with a 2 mile walk four to five days a week. We live about 10 minutes from the Mall of America which is a perfect place to walk when it is cold and slippery outside or when it is hot and humid. They open the doors at 6 AM for the purpose of allowing people to come in and walk. You would be surprised at how much activity is happening at that time of the morning. Maintenance workers are busy doing the things that they really can't do when there are shoppers. The early morning restaurant crews are busy getting food ready for the day ahead. Deliveries are being made to the stores. It's a busy place!

Just the other day as I was walking past Sears something caught my eye. Running underneath the racks of clothes was a little mouse. I must admit I was glad to be on the outside of the store not in the store where it was. It made me wonder how many other mice are more than likely running around. As I continued on my walk, I kept thinking about that mouse. What were the chances in the middle of this huge four level shopping mall that I would happen to even see it? I wondered if any of the other walkers noticed it. It certainly was going to remain secret from most people.



Then it happened. God used that mouse to remind me of something. That little mouse is exactly like the "little" sins that may creep into our lives. They probably go unnoticed by most people. Whether it is an attitude that is not Christ-like, a bad habit or a secret addiction, they may be something we can keep secret from others but we know they are there and He knows. No sin is "little" enough that it didn't require the death of Jesus. How thankful I am that God sent His Son to pay the price for my sins. That is something to celebrate all year long not just on Easter!

This month as we pray for our husbands let's focus on the power that the Risen Savior gives him to resist those temptations that will come his way. Here are some verses to get us started.

"I pray that no temptation has overtaken my husband except such as is common to man; but You, God, are faithful, and will not allow him to be tempted beyond what he is able, but with the temptation You will also make the way of escape, that he may be able to bear it."

1 Corinthians 10:13

"I pray that my husband will be strong in You, Lord, and in the power of Your might, I pray that he will put on Your whole armor, God, that he may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, and that above all, he takes the shield of faith with which he will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one."

Ephesians 6:10-11, 16

"I pray that You, God are able to keep my husband from stumbling and to present him faultless before the presence of Your glory with exceeding joy."

I thought I'd share a recipe with you that could be used for an Easter Breakfast/Brunch or maybe with the leftover ham after Easter. I know we all have egg bake recipes, but I especially like this one because it doesn't have all the bread in it that they often have.

Easter Brunch Bake

2 cups grated Cheddar Cheese 2 cups diced ham
12 eggs, slightly beaten 2 cups grated Colby Jack Cheese
2/3 cup milk

Spray a 9 X 13 pan with cooking spray. Put ingredients in pan in this order – Cheddar Cheese, eggs mixed with milk, ham and then Colby Jack Cheese. Bake at 350 for 45-55 minutes.
(I like to add mushrooms and peppers with the ham layer.)

Here's another recipe just for fun. It makes a nice side dish to the egg bake.

Granola Fruit Salad

1st layer:

Fresh fruit (use whatever kinds you like)

The amount will vary according to the dish you are using. I would suggest enough to make a nice layer.

2nd layer:

Mix together -

8 oz. cream cheese 2 tablespoons lemon juice
½ cup brown sugar

3rd layer:

Mix together –

½ cup melted butter 2 cups oatmeal
½ cup brown sugar

Put the ingredients in a glass bowl (I use a trifle bowl so the layers are right on top of each other) starting with the fresh fruit layer. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

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