



Many firsts... but one First!

By Jan Wendorf

Firsts. When I saw the theme of this issue, many *firsts* came to mind: first two-wheel bicycle; first day of school; first lost tooth; first nylon stockings (complete with seams in the back!); first day of high school, college, teaching; first kiss; first home; first child — the list could go on to fill this entire column.

Yes, there have been many *firsts* in my life and probably in yours too. Many *firsts*, but one First: and that is my loving God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Because of my sinful human nature, I have not always given God first place in my life. His grace and forgiveness abound, and each day He gives me a fresh start — the first day of the rest of my life.

Over the years, I have looked for ways to improve my personal time management. I have pored over books and articles looking for the key and have even likened time management to packing a suitcase: *some people just seemed to be able to get more into the same amount of space!*

Several years ago, I came across a concept in time management that really struck a chord with me: to take care **first** of the things that only I could do. To me that means my time in God's Word; no one else can do that for me. I need that time of daily refreshment from my dear Lord; His words to me are precious and often just what I need for that day. When I make the time early in my day to spend time in the Bible and prayer, the rest of the day seems to fall into place. Jesus' words in Matthew 6:33 are for me: *But seek **first** his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

Perhaps that concept is best reflected in one of the primary targets of the LWML for 2007–2009:

Christ-Centered Living –
Being nourished by the Word and guided by the Spirit, each woman is actively demonstrating Christ's love.

May God bless each of us as we seek **first** His kingdom and His righteousness!

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but one First: and that is my loving God
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