

May 13, 2007

Dear Sisters and Friend of Ladies' Circle,

I like to start these letters as though you and I have just been talking and I am about to change the subject. In the past few months I believe that God has given us some very important messages regarding how He would like to see the Circle progress and what He would like to see in the future.

One of the things I believe that God has been telling us is that He wants us to cleave to one another. Cleave is a wonderful verb that requires action. Its meaning is to stick, to adhere firmly and closely or loyally and unwaveringly. What a wonderful way to think of how God wants us to fellowship with each other, sticking together loyally and unwaveringly!

Speaking of that action of sticking together loyally, I had the marvelous opportunity this weekend of celebrating the life of one of our Senior Sisters with others sisters from the Penn Mid-Atlantic Area Ladies' Uplift Circle. This very special fellowship took place with a dozen sisters who joined together for a very special Visiting Sisters meeting. In our group were sisters who had from 13 to 73 years of service in The Church of Jesus Christ. It was a glorious time of sharing testimonies, fellowship and cleaving one to another.

Now on to the topic of this letter where I will begin as though we had just finished talking about another subject, flowing from one thing to another as women do, from laughter to tears without missing a beat.

During that special meeting, one of the younger sisters in our group mentioned that she had been in Circle much longer than she had been in the Church because she began her Circle career as a preteen in the Junior Circle. Sis. Louann (Carson) stated that as a girl she was a member of the Junior Circle in Monongahela and in that Junior Circle she learned about visiting the sick, the shut-ins, making crafts that could be used as gifts for those same people, performed the missionary work that they could and learned to love studying the scripture from some real pillars of the Church. Sisters who gave their time to instill in these girls all the values that could be developed and begin them on the path to being pillars themselves. I encourage you to establish a Junior Circle in your branch if you have young girls who could benefit from it. Let's get these young women on the road to service and plant within their hearts the seed for loving the Ladies' Circle. The scripture comes to my mind, (Proverbs 22:6) Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Give them the opportunity to cleave to one another and to the Ladies' Uplift Circle and its principles.

God Bless you,

