

A Season of Change

In the summer of 2001, our family entered a season of major change. My husband, Joe, came home one day and said he wanted to talk about moving north to Findlay, Ohio, to join a new startup company. He was excited; I was not.

God and I did a bit of wrestling, but in time I sensed Him telling me it was time to get up and go. So, we put our house on the market and began the process of preparing for the move.

As the months passed and we waited for the house to sell (which ended up taking a whole year) I had many candid conversations with the Lord about what our family needed during this next season. Here is what I was asking the Lord for.

- A group of praying women
- A Bible study
- A youth group for our son
- A new church home

We moved into our rental house on a hot Friday in August. One day later on Sunday morning, we went to St. Mark's UMC. As I looked through the bulletin, I noticed an insert about Bible Study Fellowship, and it resonated with my spirit.

I took the information home, called to learn more, and felt it would be a good fit for me. I enrolled and was excited to begin in September. As we settled in, I continued to remind the Lord of exactly what we needed, confident that He would provide.

When the first day of BSF arrived, I found myself sitting in a large sanctuary filled with women, every one of them a stranger. I ended up next to a very kind woman named Jodi Faine. Because all the new people had been asked to stand, she knew this was my first day and she made me feel very welcome.

After the opening session, I went to the introduction class and did not see her again..... until later that day at football practice at Cory Rawson.

Here is where the story gets good. I was standing by the fence watching Kevin practice when someone tapped me on the shoulder. It was Jodi. She asked, "Did I just meet you this morning? You aren't Kevin's mom, are you?" I was so excited and responded with, "Yes and yes!"

We had a wonderful conversation, and she invited me to her mom's prayer group. She shared that she had met Kevin and that her boys were excited to have him at Cory Rawson. Through the relationships Kevin formed there, he became involved in many

meaningful youth activities. I was amazed by all the ways God provided for our family. Through prayer, obedience, and the kindness of a stranger, God answered every request I had been bringing before Him, all in one day. He provided and confirmed that He was near and knew exactly what we needed.

It took us some time to find a church home and because of the kind people at BSF, Moms in Touch, and this amazing community, we eventually found our place at Good Shepherd. I am forever thankful. Thank you, Good Shepherd, for all the ways you have loved on our family and continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus!