

## Meet Jana Alayra



Jana Alayra is an artist with whom many can identify. She is a wife, mother, and friend, busy with the daily routine of tending to the lives of her three young daughters and producer husband, Ron. In the midst of this ordinary life, Jana answers the call to a unique ministry of leading worship, both to adults and children. Whether leading a small group with her guitar, or singing for a thousand children and their families, Jana's enthusiasm and love for Christ are evident, sincere and inspiring. When people leave one of Jana's concerts or testimonials, they often say that not only were they entertained and encouraged, but they felt they made a new friend.

Jana is, as one emcee recently said during an introduction "as real as they get," sharing openly about the pain and sorrows in her life as well as Christ's victory through it all. Her humor and hope are truly encouraging. Hers is a unique ministry of sorrow, celebration, and faith. To know her story and to watch her lead people in praise is a true testimony of God's power and faithfulness.

Jana began leading worship shortly after becoming a Christian in high school through a youth ministry called Young Life. After college, she relocated to San Diego, CA, where she was asked to lead worship for a mega-college/career group. Working later as the children's director at a Christian conference center, Jana met a popular children's artist named Mary Rice Hopkins, and served as her musical partner for 10 years. Simultaneously, she began recording collections of her original adult praise music through the late 80's and early 90's.

Jana is a mother of four young children (one of whom died in a car accident in May of 1996). An instant connection is made with the young moms as she shares her sense of humor and her heart. MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) groups nationwide have invited Jana to come and share her music and testimony. She was the worship leader for the MOPS, Int'l regional conferences, and their National Convention. She is a frequent guest speaker/singer at women's conferences, retreats, and banquets. Few walk away from her presentation without being deeply touched.

Jana has an inspiring, natural connection with children, and compelling story that resonates with the heart of women. We are grateful that Jana's music can be heard on various Christian radio stations across the country and is now available in Christian bookstores as well. All facets of their ministry continue to grow and expand and we are privileged to host them here in El Dorado Hills this coming September. We hope you will join us for this powerful and special time.