

Crimson & White Connection

Dr. Rich Dymmel, Editor
4401 Wild Oak Lane
Greensboro, NC 27406-8306

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

U.S.Postage
A 39c stamp is required to forward this to a new address

***PLEASE, if the student has moved, would you put a 39c stamp on this, change the address, and mail it to them?
If they have a NEW campus address, would you send that to me?***

Someone PRAYED for YOU and mentioned YOUR NAME before God's throne as this was prepared for mailing. God bless and watch over you today.

Jan 10, 2007
Choices
Do they have character or are they one Merry Christmas from Mozambique

A publication so dangerous it now comes with it's own warning label.

WARNING
Do not read the Crimson & White Connection unless you want your HEART ENCOURAGED and your MIND CHALLENGED and your SPIRIT PRODDED

Yes! This is a subversive, challenging, counter-culture publication. That's what Christianity is - a counter-culture. This should have a warning label.

If you have been tempted into evil, fly from it. It is not falling into the water, but lying in it, that drowns. -- [You can choose to stay or get up or out.]
Author Unknown

“... choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, ... But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

Joshua 24:15
How about you? ... Choose.

email delivery “You’ve got mail.”

- I like that movie... - A couple people have suggested that some college students do EVERYTHING by email and can't remember their campus box number. Our experience has been that a physical piece of mail was preferred by almost everyone. But we make it an option. If you would PREFER to get the C&WC by email just let us know. We will deliver by either method.

Mostly just for fun...

“My father says, ‘Marry a girl who has the same belief as the family.’ I said, ‘Dad, why would I marry a girl who thinks I’m a schmuck?’” —Adam Sandler

Skinny people irritate me! Especially when they say things like, “You know, sometimes I just forget to eat.” Now I’ve forgotten my address, my mother’s maiden name, and my keys. But I’ve never forgotten to eat. You have to be a special kind of stupid to forget to eat.

IN THE NEWS.... Anxious to ‘include’ as many minorities, religions and disabilities as possible, the human resources department of the University of Alberta has put up a Braille poster outside its main office. The poster has been placed inside a display case with a glass front. [This is brought to you by the same geniuses who put Braille instructions on the drive up window at the bank.]

*———— **Guaranteed to Roll Your Eyes** ———*

Finishing up our work at a trade show in San Diego, my coworker Maureen and I decided to go sightseeing across the border in Tijuana, Mexico. While there, we went shopping and bought a few pieces of clay kitchenware. As we crossed back into the United States, a customs official asked if we had anything of value to report. “Not really,” Maureen replied, digging in her bag for the bean crock she had purchased. Everyone around us froze as she continued, “I only bought a little pot.”

Chocolate

Chocolate, the 5th food group:

Chocolate is a vegetable: Chocolate is derived from cocoa beans. Beans = vegetable.

Sugar is derived from either sugar CANE or sugar BEETS. Both are plants, which places them in the vegetable category. Thus, sugar is a vegetable.

To go one step further, chocolate candy bars also contain milk, which is dairy. So candy bars are a health food.

Chocolate covered raisins, cherries, orange slices and strawberries all count as fruit, so eat as many as you want.

If you’ve got melted chocolate all over your hands, you’re eating it too slowly.

The problem: how to get 2 pounds of chocolate home from the store in a hot car. The solution: eat it in the parking lot.

Diet tip: eat a chocolate bar before each meal. It’ll take the edge off your appetite, and you’ll eat less.

If I eat equal amounts of dark chocolate and white chocolate, is that a balanced diet? Don’t they actually counteract each other?

Put “eat chocolate” at the top of your list of things to do today. That way, at least you’ll get one thing done.

A nice box of chocolates can provide your total daily intake of calories in one place. Now, isn’t that handy?

If not for chocolate, there would be no need for control top pantyhose. An entire garment industry would be devastated. You can’t let that happen, can you?

Share with someone

Giving a friend a copy of this letter and asking them if they would like to get it too, is an easy way of witnessing and starting a conversation about God.

If you’d like to be on our mail/prayer list, and have the Crimson & White Connection mailed free to you, fill this out and mail it to:

4401 Wild Oak Lane, Greensboro, NC 27406-8306

*** or email to Rdymmel@AOL.com ***

Under 18 requires a parental approval SIGNATURE* please.

- No thank you, remove my name
 - Please send ONE SAMPLE ISSUE to evaluate
- To subscribe, check ‘Yes’ below and fill in completely.**
- Yes, Please send me the C&WC (signature) _____
 - Check here to get the C&WC by email attachment and not by snail-mail.
 - I’d like a two week trial of the daily emailed devotionals

***Under 18? Parental permission* :** _____

I’ve read the _____ issue, send the next one, please.

Please tell us how you found out about the C&WC. _____

Name _____

Home address _____

City, St. ZIP _____

Phone _(_____) _____

Home e-mail address _____

Birthdate _____

School: _____

___ in the Fall or ___ now, I am in (what grade/year) ...

8 9 10 11 12 HSgrad. F S J S Col.grad. GrdSch PGr

‘at-school’ address, if different _____

City, St. ZIP _____

Phone _(_____) _____

School e-mail address _____

Becoming a Christian: A-B-C’s

A – Admit that you’re a sinner. You just can’t meet God’s standard. The Bible says, “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23 (also see 1 John 1:8).

B – Believe that Jesus was the Son of God and died in your place, took the punishment for you. The Bible says, “For God so loved the world (that includes you) that he gave His only begotten son (that’s Jesus) that whosoever (that’s you again) believes in Him should not perish (that’s saved from eternal death, Hell) but have eternal life (given eternal life with God, that’s “salvation” or to “be saved”).” John 3:16

C – Confess your sin to God. – The Bible says, “If we confess (own up to) our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleans us...” 1John 1:9.

S – Submit yourself to His commands and control, and **Serve** Him.

Want Jesus in your life? Pray this prayer: *“Lord Jesus, I confess to You my sin and need to be saved. I turn away from my old sin and place my trust and faith in You as the only way to be saved and go to Heaven.”* Now contact your pastor, or contact us at 1-336-674-7564, or call 1-888-NEED-HIM, and say, *“I just asked Jesus to be my Lord.”*

Subject: True Love: Ignite Your Faith Newsletter
Date: 11/13/2006 6:46:48 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
From: campuslife-html@lists.christianitytoday.com
To: Rdymmel@aol.com

Between You & Me

God's Loving Promise

by Krystal Meyers

I love romantic movies. I think every girl loves to see a fairy tale and just dream about love. Every romantic movie seems to touch my heart in a different way. I really can't help but get sucked in by them. You know, everyday life can become so monotonous and difficult. It's so refreshing to escape, just for two hours, into a movie with an amazing and incredible story about love.

There might be more to why I love these movies too. The Nov/Dec *Ignite Your Faith* story "[True Love](#)" reminded me how much romantic movies always have this unique way of showing God's love for each and everyone of us.

My favorite romantic movie is *The Notebook*. There are so many amazing elements to it. My favorite scene is when Noah (Ryan Gosling) and Allie (Rachel McAdams) are in a canoe. It starts to storm. There, the two of them finally kiss. He tells her their love is still not over. This amazing scene always reminds me that love is a fight and you have to constantly be in pursuit of it. In fact, that's the whole theme of the movie.

Throughout the entire movie, Noah is constantly in pursuit of the woman he loves. Who doesn't want that? It's a great picture of what love really means. The film teaches you to be selfless in love. It also shows that when you are truly in love with someone, you will do anything for that person. This so describes God's love for us. He's constantly in pursuit of us just like in *The Notebook*. He loves us and wants to bless us.

Through all the situations of life, God will always keep his promises. No matter the heartache and trials we face, he is always there. An example of this kind of love can again be found in *The Notebook*. Noah made a promise to Allie that he would build her white dream house with blue shutters and a wrap-around porch. Even when they were no longer together and she had moved away, he made it his mission to build that for her. He kept his promise. What a great reminder of how even if we go astray, God will always keep his promises to us. He loves us that much!

Krystal's new album, *Dying for a Heart (Essential)* is in stores now. Check it out at krystalmeyers.com. Read a previous IYF interview with Krystal at (<http://www.christianitytoday.com/cl/2006/003/3.22.html> - in IYF June/July 2006, v64,n.9,p.22

Copyright © 2006 by the author or Christianity Today International/Ignite Your Faith magazine.

"This article first appeared in *Ignite Your Faith Newsletter 11/13/06*. Used by permission of Christianity Today International, Carol Stream, IL 60188."

Campus Life, November/December 2006

Good Advice

FAITH Q&A Who Needs Church?

Answer by Marshall Shelley

Q. Do you really need to belong to a church to be a Christian? Faith is a personal thing, so why can't you just have an individual relationship with God?

A. Lots of people wonder about that, usually after a bad experience with Christians. The best answer I know is in the story of a fourth-century Egyptian soldier named Pachomius.

Determined to grow in his faith, Pachomius did what many serious believers did in those days. He became a hermit: living by himself in the desert, fasting, praying and having visions.

But after a while, Pachomius began to question this approach:

How can you learn to love if no one else is around?

Can you learn humility living alone?

Is it possible to learn patience, kindness or gentleness in isolation?

He realized that developing spiritual fruit requires being around people. Pachomius quit the hermit life and formed one of the first monasteries. "To save souls," he said, "you must bring them together."

Let me take it a step further. Building spiritual strength requires other people, but not just people you *choose* to hang with. God's kind of love is best learned when we have to be around people we haven't specifically chosen as friends. Living around people we like is fairly easy. Doing life with just anybody is more challenging and forces us to grow. We have no choice about who our parents or brothers or sisters will be; yet we are expected to love them. Neither can we choose who will or will not be in our spiritual family. Anyone who professes "Jesus is Lord" is to be welcomed in the church, where we encourage and challenge each other to grow in the faith. Living in this challenging but rewarding environment helps us grow and learn about love, humility and the very fruits the Lord calls us to produce (Galatians 5:22-23).

The Bible says Christians are each a different member of a body (Romans 12:4-8). Can you be an eye without a neck, or a foot without a knee? I suppose it's possible to be a disconnected member without a body, but that's hardly what God had in mind for you (Hebrews 10:24-25). You won't function right. Being a Christian means contributing to the body, letting it contribute to your life, and submitting to the teaching and correction of others.

Can you be a Christian without the church? I suppose so. But what kind of Christian would you be?

Marshall, a former pastor, is editor of *Leadership*, a magazine for pastors. Copyright © 2006 by the author or Christianity Today International/Ignite Your Faith magazine. "This article first appeared in *Ignite Your Faith* November/December 2006, Vol. 65, No. 4, Page 8. Used by permission of Christianity Today International, Carol Stream, IL 60188."

Relationships and Character - - -

Dating, Mating, and Character

("Suggested Possible Lists")

8/18/98 edited 9/00, 4/02, 3/05

Every date is a potential mate. You might marry them if you start dating them!

You'll never marry someone you never date (we don't do arranged marriages here).

Are you picking your dates and friends carefully?

Do you look for and select your friends and dates by picking people with character — or are you running around with "characters"?

Desirable Character Traits

Respect for people, respects you
Values you (won't put you in danger)
Considerate, polite, courteous
Honesty
Honors and obeys parents
Happy person, Joyful, Smiles,
Sense of humor
Gentle, Kind, Patient
Helpful, Generous
Positive attitude
Open to new things, ideas
Makes good decisions
Makes good financial decisions
Has goals and direction
Is he family leadership material (or is a wimp)
Faithfulness to obligations, duties (fidelity)
Has values, ethics, and morals
Similar life philosophies
Attends church; Compatible religious values and behaviors
Similar spiritual values
Similar religious beliefs
A "saved," "born again" Christian
Purity of mind
Purity of body (alcohol, drugs, tobacco)
Virgin or "secondary" virgin
Trustworthy
Loyalty; Honors commitments
Doesn't have weird posters in their room
Romantic
Touches, holds hands, appropriate PDA
Gives compliments
Gives little thoughtful appropriate gifts
Mature behavior and attitudes
Educated (can think and communicate)
Talks with my parents and other adults
Is fun to be around
Would never hit me
Feel secure to be around – isn't 'crazy'
Honors, respects, protects you (I know, sounds very anti-feminist)
Cherishes, values you (this grows as the relationship grows)

Settling
on what's
available is in
no way
making a
noble
choice.

"So-called sexual freedom is really just proclaiming oneself to be available for free, and therefore without value. To "choose" such freedom is tantamount to saying that one is worth nothing."

"Subversive Virginity"
by Sarah E. Hinlicky,
age 22, published in
FirstThings.

Things to watch and to watch out for:

Lies (if they lie to others, what makes you think they won't lie to you?)
Cheats, Deceit, Lies to parents (disrespect for others)
Doesn't get along with their parents (disrespect for authority)
Your parents don't like them (they are experienced, find out why)
No true religious or spiritual values
Doesn't/won't attend church with you
Immature, clingy, "into themselves"
He or she is a "wimp"
Drinks or does drugs, even just "once in a while"
Unfaithfulness to obligations, duties (fidelity)
Gives excuses why they didn't follow through (reliability)
Has a temper (might direct it at you if you cross them)
Low morals, sleeps around
Wants/willing to have sex on 2nd date, 1st date, or after 6 or 12 months of dating. Pressures you for sex, get too physical

"Watch how his father treats his mother because that is how he will treat you." (Marie's mother told her to do this.) We are taught by our role models. Observe the parents, they were the teachers by example of roles and relationship expectations; loving, committed, generous, permanence, attentive, PDA, divorce, discipline. The son usually turns into the father, the daughter usually turns into the mother. In general, we turn out like our parents unless we make conscious choices and changes. You can make choices and pick new role models, from rock stars, neighbors, friends, etc., but these are hard patterns to change.

If they 'hide' you from or lie about you or where they go or what they do to their parents, (a) they lie and (b) they disrespect their parents. How can you expect him/her to be truthful, loyal, respect you, and stand up for you in the future when needed?

Is he or she loyal and committed to being celibate till marriage? If not, then what makes you think they will be loyal and committed to you later? If they played around before, ... if sex was just a toy and not valued as a treasure to be a shared intimacy between two people with a lifelong covenant, what makes you think they will treasure your relationship and commitment and be monogamous? (Loyalty, fidelity, faithfulness) Someone can learn and change and make a commitment to purity "from this point forward" in their life, and recover from a mistake or bad choice/decision. But if they haven't, why should you take the chance. Read chapter 10 in Harris' book *Boy Meets Girl* about having made a change but then when you have to tell the most important person in your life about your past ... it's better if you decide early that you don't want to have a "past" at all. Someone once said, 'I did the best I knew. Now that I know better, I'll do better.'

Have you considered making a pledge of chastity? Regardless if you've had sex or not in your past, you can make a pledge of, **"Before God and witnesses, I have promised and made a commitment to myself, my family, those I date, and my future mate that from this day forward, I will keep myself sexually pure until I have sex with and only with my life partner and within marriage."**

C&WC has pledge cards available, free for the asking, and can

~~Save~~ **Safe Sex** *for my mate*

When someone wants me to compromise my values and my purity and have sex, tell them, **"That's not good enough for me. I'm more valuable than that. I'm worth waiting for!"**

Relationships, Love, and ... HAS character, or IS a character?

© 1998, 2002, 2005, 2007 Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, B.S., M.A., M.A., Ed.D.

This article is edited from when it originally appeared Aug. 18, 1998.

STUPID - The ultimate stupidity is withholding from yourself the respect you deserve. ... **To refuse to learn anything that could prove beneficial to yourself is a working definition of STUPID.** (From *Ten Stupid Things Women Do To Mess Up Their Lives*) **Smart people** always look and listen for advice from good friends and authorities. Notice the emphasis on "good."

But the Bible doesn't give any advice on dating, does it? I mean dating wasn't practiced back then. There were arranged marriages.

Really! You may not have even met or seen your wife or husband before the wedding!! You probably didn't get much input into the selection process. I mean they did arranged marriages and the veil thing in that culture. And kissing and all that on a date at the local camel races? Never happen! And sex!?!?! Well, that was a capital offense even if she didn't get pregnant. And her father and brothers would execute BOTH of you without even a trial!!! - It still happens that way *today* in some of those countries. - In Song of Solomon, a pretty sexy book in the Bible, he pursues the Solomite woman. (Another good read is *A Marriage After God's Own Heart*, David Clark, ISBN: 1-57673-755-1, and as a marriage counselor he thinks it is a book about love and marriage and sex and not an allegory about Israel and God. The people who say that are afraid to talk about sex according to Clark.) What intrigued Solomon? In Hammond's book *The Secrets of an Irresistible Woman* she writes about would attract the most powerful and wealthy man in the world. (For President Clinton it only required that they would have sex, by one of many definitions.) Why did he pursue and desire her? It was *not* that she was a willing sex partner. Her brothers ask, "Are you a gate or a wall?" (Do you let men in or keep them out - they're talking about having sex.) "If she is a door then we will enclose her with boards of cedar." (Song of Solomon 8:8-9) Translated - if you're having sex, we will build a coffin - of cedar boards - around you and bury you. - These guys were serious about sex. She had to have *had* other qualities to attract Solomon. That's the basis for Hammond's book.

Well the Bible doesn't say much about dating, but it has a lot to say about relationships and marriage and character. Let's see if we can sort some of this out.

Character - That's one thing that the Bible does talk about. What about the people you are dating, will date, or have a 'serious relationship with', or are even just friends with? Friends influence you. Are you picking your friends and dates by looking for people "with character" or are you running around with "characters"?

Everybody has character traits. Some good. Some bad. And nobody's perfect. There was only one perfect man - and he made enough people so angry that they crucified and killed him! Good people can really irritate your conscience if you're not doing what's right.

Have you taken the time to look at the character, and the time to learn about the character of the people or person you're dating? This person could be the person you marry! Will you be stuck with for life - or get divorced from and fight over custody with - someone who thinks nothing of lying, is deceitful by hiding life information from their parents, is suspicious of how you spend your time when away from them (not trusting nor trustworthy)? Do they have a casual attitude toward marriage vows and fidelity and purity? If they don't think purity is important now, they may not think it's important later either.

I had lunch with someone recently who told me they have tried to tell their friend that the guy she's dating is a rat. He slept with his old gf recently (he's not loyal); he's tried to hit on and sleep with her other friends (sleeps around); probably means she's sleeping with him since

he's demonstrated that what he seeks out, and is exposing herself to all kinds of possible consequences (STDs, pregnancy, emotional ... - love is supposed to value and protect the object of the love) and she won't accept that she could do sooo much better. He's her first real bf. She hasn't learned what is out there to choose from, - that she can do better, is worth more, and there are better guys out there. He's the first guy who's paid much attention to her and she's been "suckered" to accept the trade off of getting attention for sex, that's what she's worth, sex, being put at risk, ..., etc.

On a teen bulletin board a couple years ago I found a posting by a girl who had thought about what she'd like in a boyfriend. She had 114 characteristics listed of the ideal boyfriend. (Printed in 2/12/05 C&WC, p.4) They ranged from "#1 Must always respect me" to "#105 Doesn't have weird posters in his room." Others included "Has morals, Cares about his family, Talks to my parents, Has to be trustworthy, Is well-educated, Is romantic, Doesn't worship Satan," - and 100 more - you get the idea?

There is a great book by Neil Clark Warren on finding what YOU want (2 titles for two printings - *How to Know If Someone Is Worth Pursuing in Two Dates or Less* and *Date or Soul Mate?*). His book goes into a lot more detail, but I wrote this first in 1998. - - On a piece of paper put this heading: "**Dating, Mating, and Character.**" Then draw a line down the middle. At the top of the left column write: "**Desirable Character Traits:**" and at the top of the right column write: "**Things to watch and to watch out for:**" Now think - "In picking someone I would want to spend the next 2, 25, or 50 years, the rest of my life with, what should I look for and what should I avoid?" If you pick wisely and carefully, you may very well be one of those people who stay married till, as the vows spoken before God in a church wedding say, stay married "till death do us part." Or you can easily be one of those couples that divorce after five years because of a number of character flaws that you will no longer put up with. Don't think of people (or the person). Think of character and behavior traits, like: gets along with their parents, never loses his temper even in bad traffic, is a solid Christian, polite and considerate of others, he opens doors for me, isn't too shy, has high moral standards, would never do anything to hurt me in any way. (Would sexual purity keep you from being hurt? Can "making love" "because we're in love" hurt your reputation, put you in danger of having a baby or supporting a child for the next 18 years, and having "a past" when you meet someone you care enough about that you want to marry them? Ask someone who has had an STD, incurable Herpes, AIDS, pregnant and aborted, pregnant and gave it up for adoption ... ask them if they were hurt. In an episode of *7th Heaven* they are counseling 3 pregnant teenagers. One says to her bf, "If you really loved me, you wouldn't have had sex with me and I wouldn't be in this mess now.")

AFTER you've made your lists, take a look at the suggestions in the lists I made.

In His love, *Rich*

How to Know If Someone Is Worth Pursuing in Two Dates or Less, 1999, *Date or Soul Mate?*, 2002, ISBN: 0-7852-6539-2 Neil Clark Warren [The chapter that first caught my eye was "Making the deal." What do you have to offer in the deal?]

Date or Soul Mate?, 2002, Neil Clark Warren, ISBN: 0-7852-6539-2 *If Men Are Like Busses Then How Do I Catch One* Hammond [Yea, it's written to gals, but the same principles apply and guys can read it too.] ISBN 0-7394-1324-4

The Secrets of an Irresistible Woman, Michelle McKinney Hammond, ISBN 1-56507-843-8 [This one is primarily a 'chick book.']

Boy Meets Girl, Joshua Harris

When God Writes Your Love Story, Eric & Leslie Ludy, 1999, ISBN 1-929125-00-3

What To Do Until Love Finds You, Michelle McKinney Hammond, , 1997, ISBN 1-56507-531-5

Wait For Me, Rediscovering the joy of purity in romance, Rebecca St. James, 2002, ISBN 0-7852-7129-9 Chap 6 is "Second Chance"

Subject: Merry Christmas from Julie!

Date: 12/22/2006 12:46:19 A.M. Eastern Standard Time

From: ksardiga@comcast.net

I love to receive emails at ourfathershouse1@msn.com

Reply To: mercies@aol.com

Julie Malacuski, Mozambique

Merry Christmas from Julie!

Dear Friends,

I want to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Greetings from Africa! Here's a story and some news I hope you will have a moment to read as you prepare to celebrate the birth of the King of Kings! (Don't forget to look at the pictures!) . . .

"Mama Julie, come show me which bed is mine," little 10 year-old Antonio insists while tugging on my hand. I look at Antonio, and can't help but smile at him in his persistence. And I can't blame him. Antonio, along with 50 other children is pleading to come live in "Our Father's House." As education here is a luxury. Antonio does not study, nor does he spend much time playing. Antonio's childhood days are spent searching for food, often going to bed hungry. Antonio is an orphan who lives with his aunt. His aunt has no husband or way to provide for her children, but generously houses her own five children as well as five orphaned relatives in her small mud house.

Now that our orphanage, "Our Father's House," is ready to begin caring for children, many children here are convinced that we are their refuge from suffering. We are sure to point the children to Jesus, the only one able to give hope to the multitudes who suffer.

Some 10 year-olds are bold enough to walk bare foot in hot sand 1 1/2 hours to "Our Father's House" just to be sure we haven't forgotten they want to live with us. In all my travels I have never experienced anything like this. I never imagined I would have 50 children desperate to live with me in an orphanage. With high hopes, the children run when they see my car, push through a crowd of children for a space at my car window, and plead with me to write their names down!

We are basing our work with the children on Psalm 68:6, "God sets the lonely in families." As the Lord provides, we are building homes. Each home houses 12 children, Mozambican houseparents, and a missionary. We have also begun a day program to provide education, lunch and discipleship to additional children who are orphaned or have a single parent who is sick or unable to provide for them.

We want to thank you and celebrate with you what the Lord has done this year! We have seen the Lord provide and answer our prayers time and again! We know He is our God who truly provides a crown of beauty for ashes (Isaiah 61:3).

Look at what the Lord has done!

1. We have six delightful children now living with us and four children in our day program! Please pray for: *12 year-old Carlos as he has chronic malnutrition. *Our adorable 8 year-old twins, Enshowlee and Isaace who are a bit nervous for me to leave to visit America! *Jao as he transitions into the home. *Manuel, our 16 year-old orphan who has recently lost 2 aunts and 2 cousins to illnesses. *1 1/2 year-old

Elena, who I wrote about in my last newsletter. Elena has continued to lose weight and is severely malnourished. She and her grandmother will be living with us for 2 months, in hopes that her health will improve. *Our four children in our day program!

2. Deepening relationship and discipleship with 30 spiritually hungry men every morning!

3. The Lord's hand on our health and safety, even when 30 armed military came to the abandoned military tower where we disciple, in an attempt to persuade us not to disciple anymore!

4. The Lord's hand and provision with construction of our first home for 12 children.

5. Our wonderful team of missionaries and helps the Lord has raised up. Please keep Ania in your prayers as she cares for the disciples and children while Michael and I visit the states!

6. My sister Dawn is recovering well from her near-fatal car accident in May!

Lastly, we are so grateful for our wonderful stateside team! Thank you for all of your love and support! I hope to see you on my visit to Detroit in January/February!

May the Lord bless you, keep you, and wrap his arms around you this Christmas!

Love, Julie


(and Our Dream Project Team Michael, Ania, and Travis)

Check out our pictures below!

Receiving our first children!



Julie's full letter with all ten pictures is loaded at the www.CrimsonWhite.org web site under [Articles of Interest].

 **From the mailbox** (Letters may be slightly edited. We also remove some personal content and identifying stuff. We won't blab your name or email address.) Your letters and notes encourage us, too.
Rich

From: Jordana (in Sweden) 1/2/07

... happy new year and thank you for everything you're doing for the Kingdom! God bless you and your family!!

/jordana

"If you debate even for one second when God has spoken, it is all over for you. Never start to say, 'Well, I wonder if He really did speak to me?' Be reckless immediately—totally unrestrained and willing to risk everything—by casting your all upon Him. You do not know when His voice will come to you, but whenever the realization of God comes, even in the faintest way imaginable, be determined to recklessly abandon yourself, surrendering everything to Him. It is only through abandonment of yourself and your circumstances that you will recognize Him. You will only recognize his voice more clearly through recklessness—being willing to risk your all." ~ Oswald Chambers, My Utmost for His Highest, June 18

1/7/07

....
"When we don't look for God as our true life, our desire for him spills over into our other desires, giving them an ultimacy and urgency they were never intended to bear. We become desperate, grasping and arranging and worrying over all kinds of things, and once we get them, they end up ruling us. It's the difference between wants and needs. All we truly need is God."
~ John Eldredge in Journey of Desire

1/8/07

i'll leave you with a few words from songwriter john mark mcmillian from charlotte, nc, who was recently at a conference at our church. check him out at: www.myspace.com/johnmarkmcmillianworship

"he is jealous for me. loves like a hurricane. i am tree bending beneath the weight of his wind and mercy. when all of a sudden, i am aware of these afflictions eclipsed by glory. and i realize just how beautiful you are and how great your affections are for me. oh, how he loves us so. oh how he loves us. how he loves us so."

This past week in the daily email devotions we had a couple days of sharing prayer and praise with emails from Jordana. Answered prayers, several, all in one day. --

You can get the daily e-devotionals on a trial basis by just emailing rdymmel@aol.com and say "Like to try the daily email for a couple weeks."

PLEASE! It is so costly and time consuming when we get mail returned or a correction from the PO and do the follow up to get your new address. PLEASE tell us when you move. Or if you want to stop the C&W Connection and save us the postage and printing, just tell us. *****

(continued from p.1 **Choices after Christmas**)

zero, maybe your standard is slightly less than that, that's your choice.) Refer back to the paragraph above. That marriage decision affects multiple families. And if the marriage ends and there are kids, remarriage and step-parents multiply the people affected by the choices.

What about church? Attending church ... I was going to say something definite, but as I write, I'm thinking, "No. No guarantees." Going to church, doing a Bible study, attending InterVarsity, belonging to a Sunday School class, singing in the choir... all that stuff doesn't make you a Christian. It doesn't make you a "better" Christian. What it might do is encourage you to "stay the course." What it might do is draw you closer to God. It might help you learn just what He expects as you hear, read, listen, and study His Word. What it might do is get you excited about being in the presence of God as you praise Him. - I was next to someone last week that doesn't express a lot of excitement for singing choruses in church. But they were singing. Know what that did? It encouraged me to sing even more. We were singing together. Unity. There is an encouragement in worshipping together. I like to sit near the front, then I have all those voices behind me and the sound coming toward me and we are a "multitude" praising God together. - Choice... sleep in on Sunday or get to church. Hebrews 10:25 in the New Century reads, "You should not stay away from the church meetings, as some are doing, but you should meet together and (or to) encourage each other" (my emphasis added). The encouragement goes both ways, get and give, sometimes by your just being there.

Choices... There are so MANY areas in which we make choices. Some will have little lasting effect (unless you choose too much mint-chocolate-chip instead of salad and vegetables and protein), and some decisions will last a lifetime, like sex and marriage partners (even if you separate it will affect you because it forms parts of who you are), and there are some decisions that affect you for eternity. -- Make sure you are at least trying to make the best choices possible, with a look to the consequences of the choices you make. Think about the consequences.

In Christ, Rich

Do you have a relationship with God where you know He has accepted you just as you are? If not, and you want that, call me at 336-674-7564. Or call 1-888-NEED-HIM. - With God, even if you have gone the opposite direction, you have never gone too far to turn around.

Kartoon Knuggets

By Troy Knechtel



Get seven of them, Honey, one for each day
And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts - Col 3:15

Crimson & White Connection

A ministry of prayer and encouragement to "High School, College, & Singles" (& others, too) on Values + Character + Relationships + the Christian Life
Resources and some back issues available at www.CrimsonWhite.org

The C&WC is produced and funded through **Crimson & White Ministries, Inc.**, a nonprofit corporation, supported only by tax deductible contributions.

For a free subscription, update your address, feedback, comments or to submit an article, contact us at:

4401 Wild Oak Lane, Greensboro, NC 27406-8306
Ph.: 336-674-7564; e-mail: RDymmel@AOL.com
Editor: Dr. Rich Dymmel

Crisis, emergency, or to "just talk about something",
call: Your Mom; Your Dad; Your Pastor, or
Rich or Marie Dymmel
(336/674-7564 or 336/908-3652)

Crimson & White? What's this?

... This letter is part of a ministry primarily to students and singles. It started with college students. Now about 60% of the mailing list are college students, 20% middle and high school, and 10% are age 22 to 30, and we'll just leave ages unsaid for the last 10% since, well, they're old.. Articles are on character, values, spiritual life, relationships and more ... and some fun.

The theology position is "conservative," i.e. Jesus is God's Son, eternal, part of the single triune God, born of a virgin, sinless, crucified and risen, and is the *only* way to eternal life. We are free to choose Him. He has told us to be holy and that includes behaviors such as: sex outside of marriage is wrong.

This letter and post cards are sent about twice a month. We're trying to say that you are important enough for us to put this in your mailbox. We care about you and want to encourage your character growth and your spiritual walk.

A second part of the ministry is prayer. We pray for each person on our mailing list as the mail is prepared. When you get mail from us, you know someone prayed for you.

A college student reader chose the name **Crimson and White Connection** based on Isaiah 1:18 in the Bible "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." The cleansing of our nature and our sins is a universal need. If you base your trust for entrance into Heaven in Jesus, God's Son, and His death and resurrection on your behalf, then your crimson stains are made white as wool. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. There is no other way. If you admit that you can not reach God's standard, are repentant and sorry for your short fall (sin) and have asked Him to forgive you, then He has forgiven you. If you are truly repentant, then there will be evidence of that in your actions, your life. -- If the "religion police" were to arrest you, would you be turned loose for "lack of evidence"? Or would the evidence of your actions convict you of being a Christian?

If you have chosen to accept Jesus as Lord of your life, either the first time or again, we would like to know so that we can pray for you and encourage you. Write or call us.

You WILL BE and ARE a slave! But you can CHOOSE your master! CHOOSE God today.

John 3:16 is true. Accept no substitute!

Jan 10, 2007 Choices

By Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D., (c) 2007

I started thing of this article on January 4th. Know what I was doing? I was mowing the lawn!! January and I'm mowing the lawn! Well, it is part of the consequences of a choice we made almost 21 years ago. Now granted, for 19 Winters so far, we do the last mow shortly after the first of December and don't start again until about the first of March. ... But honestly, it has been wet and warn, and when I looked out the kitchen window today, the back yard could almost stand to be mowed again!! ... just to keep it all neat and uniform.

In all of life we make choices. In 1985 we chose - my "mid-life-crisis time I suppose - to change just about everything except the wife, kids, and dog... and we moved from Michigan to North Carolina. Now there have been lots of consequences to that move. I'm not going to say "good" or "bad," just that we make choices and then there will be results and consequences.



We choose to go to college or not. We choose to learn a skill or trade. That then is usually marketable, either as that specific skill, or the fact that we try and learn and follow through and in the educational process learn some communication and thinking and problem solving skills... Those are marketable qualities... And we are (hopefully) able to get and keep a job that pays better and we have a better standard of living... all other things being equal.

Or maybe, like Gabe and his little PowerWheel vehicles... he knows where the boundaries are... but I learned last week, after my having bragged to many how he knows the boundaries and keeps within them... I heard that he has on occasion crossed the boundary and his jeep and truck have been confined to the garage for a couple days.

With Gabe, he gets his Wheels back in a day or so and he's back driving all over the yard again. His consequences were short lived. And a lot of choices don't have much consequence ... should I choose mint-chocolate-chip or carmel swirl? Or should we go to Burger King or Wendy's? Or Subway or Quizno's? As I write I'm ready to go for a lunch at the Country Club... the blue shirt or the red one? Not a big deal whichever choice I made. (Mint-chocolate-chip, Quizno's prime rib & cheese, and red is what I choose.)

But some choices have bigger results... like do you choose to drink or not. If you don't drink (I'm not referring to Pepsi or coffee) you'll never be driving and not be quite as quick to respond to something, be charged with DUI, or ever be the cause of an accident that kills because you didn't judge right because you were driving UI, or become an alcoholic, or have alcohol be the cause of family violence or any of the other things that happen around alcohol. In a high percentage of college campus rapes alcohol is involved, sometimes by just one of the persons. If you're not around it, there is a smaller chance of the things that happen around it happening to you.

Sex... Choice... casual sex, for fun and pleasure (yes it is fun and pleasurable) <-- or --> sex is sacred, special, reserved for a husband and wife. Consequences... The research says those that waited, who hold it sacred have more satisfying sex in their marriage, have longer lasting stable marriages. Made the choice to wait? Keep with it, it pays off. If not, it's never too late to start over. Like planting a tree... the best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago; the next best time is now.

Some choices you make can affect a lot of people. You choose to marry a "loser," or at least someone of less than great character. Maybe they are even a "good person" ... except maybe they drink. (I know, I hold a "super-high" standard of (Turn the page)