

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

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

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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!

Feb. 14, 2007

Mostly "Love Stories" for February

By Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D., (c) 2006

This week has been a bit disturbing. No. Very disturbing. Even Marie asked me Monday, "What's bothering you?" I had this issue mostly , finally, put together, and intended to get it to you before Valentines' d Day. (Notice the "Valentine's Day card on the back?") Then Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, three days in a row, I heard of "church kids" that are pregnant. And that means three guys, too, that are involved in those situations. ... And a few people have said to me that maybe we talk a bit too much about purity and abstinence in the C&WC. I don't think so. Sex is a GREAT temptation. Satan is alive and well and at work to tear down people every chance he gets. RESIST! ... Passions and hormones ... Christians have them too. We're not immune or dulled. We're just forgiven and given help in resisting temptation. Being tempted isn't wrong. It's the giving IN to the temptations. One way to not be "caught" in the snare is to be aware of the trap and avoid it. "Flee" is what we are told to do. -- Well, that is part of my excuse for being so long between issues. And then add some fun and some exciting positive emails and some serious prayer requests that came in email and snail-mail form ... Thank you for sharing your lives with us. When we get your prayer requests, we DO pray for your situations.

Rich

Hallmark

Have no fear, I'm not going to scold you for forgetting to send me a Valentine card this year. No, we're headed deeper than silly, poetic messages printed on high-priced pieces of cardboard. We're going back to learn what a hallmark means.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia: A hallmark is an official marking made by a trusted party, 'guardians of the craft' or nowadays by an assay office, on items made of precious metals (platinum, gold and silver) that guarantees a certain purity of the metal. This should not be confused with a marking, often just a number such as 925, which is done voluntarily by the manufacturer, and unfortunately does not always reflect the true purity of the metal. A hallmark is only applied after the item has been assayed to determine its purity. Often the hallmark is made up of several elements including: the type of metal, the maker and the year of the marking.

Merriam-Webster also defines the metaphorical use of hallmark as: "a distinguishing characteristic, trait, or feature <the dramatic flourishes which are the hallmark of the trial lawyer

Marking, certifying objects made of precious metals may have started as early as the 6th century with Byzantine silver. In 1300, King Edward I of England decreed something like this: "Hear ye! Hear ye! All gold and silver must be tested and approved by our master craftsmen before being offered for sale." He mandated that all artisans had to bring their finished metal goods to Goldsmith's Hall in London to be checked. If the goods got a thumbs up, the wares were ready for the marketplace. They received a special seal of approval from the master craftsmen in the hall. The seal was called the hallmark.

In your relationship with others, you present an impression of your relationship with God. If you are growing in your knowledge of and love for Him, the way you treat people will be your hallmark. Paul's list of Christian hallmarks included "compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience" (Colossians 3:12).

Just as the hallmark adorned quality metal goods long ago, our God-made hallmark should be clear to others since we "have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator" (v.10). Our lives should bear the unmistakable mark of a person who has been transformed by Jesus Christ Himself. Christianity is not a "religio." A "religion" is something you "do." Christianity is a relationship, a relationship with God that changes lives.

Is the hallmark image clear in your life? Do others see the clear sign of God's carefully crafted work in you?

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.

 **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 encouragement to the silly (I don't think they were serious), update news about you, to serious prayer requests - we love to hear from you. - (We always block out your email address and use only a first name or initials.)

Date: 1/12/2007

I do enjoy your daily e-mails because [they] are a big help to me. Sometimes I can't check my e-mails everyday but when I do I enjoy them. Thank you
Sharon

Subject: Just Hello **Date:** 1/23/2007

From: ss @ mail.com

Hey Dr. Dymmel,

So great to hear from you! I am sorry for taking such a long time to respond. Over Christmas break i didn't check my email very often and once classes began, there has been no rest for the weary. You were right. I am going to school [in PA]for ____ at ____

My parents address is still the same and I go home twice a month to work at the clinic I worked at this past summer. One of the reason's I look forward to going home is to read the Crimson and White Connection. I even have my Mom reading it now too!

.... and now a new high school will be graced with your presence :-) I hope it's off to a good start and I hope you and Marie are doing well. Thanks again for the email! Take care, S____

Subject: re-add to mailing list

Date: 1/26/2007 **From:** d @ .net

Yes, please add me [back] to the C&WC mailing list. The address is the same and this is my new email address. I have to get ready for class at 11 am. Thank you, D

Date: 2/13/2007 **From:** Liz

I couldn't resist.....

Subject: We Have to Do our Part for the Less Fortunate.....

Hi!

This coming week is National Mental Health Care week. You can do your part by remembering to contact at least one unstable person to show you care.



Well, my job is done!

Date: 2/5/2007 **From:** @hotmail.com

Dear Rich, Life has been crazy the passed several months, and I have just now been able to catch up on reading my daily devotionals. Please keep sending them. They are a true blessing!! I promise to keep up with them!! Have a blessed day!!, Amanda

Date: 2/14/2007 **From:** @

if you think of it, please pray for my mom. she's waiting on results from drs...possibly has cancer ...

Subject: C&WC **Date:** 12/10/2006

From: luckycharmtwin@.com

To: RDymmel@AOL.com

Hi Rich,

This is Krista Horn (Krista Clark) from Davison [, Michigan] (now in Minnesota) [graduated from Bethel College]. I'm emailing to ask you to please take my name off the C&WC list. My husband and I are going to Africa to do medical missions for the next six months and won't be around to receive it. All that to say, our mailing address is rather uncertain for the next nine months or so.

Thanks, Krista

Date: 12/10/2006 **From:** RDymmel@AOL.com

To: luckycharmtwin@.com

Krista! How absolutely exciting and wonderful!!! I am excited for / with you!! ...

Gee, I wish there was some way to keep in touch and maybe have you send an occasional letter about what you're doing. I think those kind of letters encourage other young people And the "older" readers love to read about the things young people are doing for the Lord

Keep my email handy - (a) just in case you are able to communicate, and (b) for at least when you get back. I would love to hear from you and what you and Eli are doing!

Rich

.***

Subject: Re: C&WC **Date:** 12/13/2006

From: luckycharmtwin@.com

To: RDymmel@AOL.com

Thanks, Rich! If it's possible to email updates, I will add you to the email list. It would be great to encourage other people with the work we are doing.

Blessings, Krista

Subject: We're off to Cameroon!

Date: 2/2/2007 **From:** clakri@. . . .

Hello family and friends,

This is a quick note to say that Eli and I are flying to Cameroon TONIGHT!!! We are thrilled and ready to embark on this adventure before us!

... So tonight we'll be flying out of Detroit, with a layover in Paris before we head to Douala, Cameroon. The first month we'll be working with a couple named Thom and Ellen. Eli will be helping Thom with a water treatment project while Krista will help Ellen at the school she runs. The name of the town is Mbingo, and we'll be there until March, which is when we'll begin our medical missions through June.

Please pray for safe travels, for good health throughout our stay, for the transition to a different time zone, and for God to use us in mighty ways and to teach us immensely while we serve Him.

Our address, beginning in March (and it usually takes 4-6 weeks for letters to arrive, so you can send something now):

Eli and Krista Horn

C.B.C. Health Centre

B.P. 50

Banyo, Adamawa Province

Cameroon, West Africa

(Be sure to include "West Africa". Apparently the missionaries have had some mail sent to the Caribbean because postal people didn't know where Cameroon was!)

Thank you for your prayers. We'll be emailing updates along the way.

With Love, Eli and Krista

Subject: First week in Cameroon**Date:** 2/8/2007 **From:** clakri@ @

Hello family and friends,

We arrived safely into the country of Cameroon, and also to Mbingo. This week has been rather educational for us, and we are loving it.

Not much has taken place in terms of work to do because it's a slow week (at least for Thom and Ellen). The hospital is plenty busy everyday. Eli was able to follow one of the surgeons around on Tuesday and saw some incredible things such as hysterectomy, the removal of a prostate, and a leg amputation. Because we are staying at the rest house, we get to eat meals with all the other visiting Americans and Eli has been soaking up all the medical talk about the day's surgeries and whatnot. I don't speak that language so I just smiles and nod :)

The people here are incredibly peaceful and kind. Everyone—literally everyone—who passes you says “Good morning” or “Good afternoon”. They often ask how you are, how did you sleep, etc. You cannot escape greeting anyone you pass so it's rather difficult to be left alone. For instance, I've found myself avoiding reading outside because I can't just sit and read without interruption. But again, everyone is ridiculously nice here. It's lovely.

We're getting a great picture into what the life of missionaries is like, and I'm talking about medical missions. It's awesome because we came here to learn the big picture of missions and we're really seeing it here in Mbingo. It's been a great blessing that we get to spend a month here before going on to Banyo where we'll only be working in the clinic. Thom and Ellen Schotanus have been missionaries here for five years. Thom is the supervisor of all construction and electrical work on the hospital compound, and Ellen oversees the primary school and deaf school. (By the way, Mbingo Hospital feels just like its own town. It has its own market, chapel, craft and embroidery shop, machine shop, carpentry shop, primary school and deaf school, and obviously the hospital. There are lots of people here.) We've learned much about how the system works here, and that it takes forever for anything to happen. Both Thom and Ellen have a ton of projects they want to do, but it takes so long to get the money they need and then to get the supplies they order with the money, that they actually don't do a lot of hands-on work. Life is just slower here. That has actually been difficult to adapt to, particularly for Eli. He was antsy at first for a lot of things to do and there was nothing to do. But despite that, we are learning much more than we thought in terms of missions as a whole, which is fantastic. Thom and Ellen are both big conversationists so they've been telling us everything they've learned here.

Next week Eli should get to do some projects with Thom (water treatment stuff), and I should be observing the classes in the primary school so I can later help teach some composition for the kids. They speak English well here, but their writing is atrocious. They can hardly form sentences on paper, there is a disconnect between the English they can speak and the English they can write.

SOME PRAYER REQUESTS:

- For my right knee. I've had runner's knee for the past four months (an irritated meniscus) and it still hasn't healed. Yesterday we went for a hike to see a waterfall and when I slipped on some elephant grass my leg went too far for my knee's liking and it was aching most of the evening. It's really important to me to be able to hike around while we're here.

- Patience since we cannot show public displays of affection. As most of you know, this is extremely important to us, and therefore extremely difficult. We cannot hold hands while we're walking anywhere, or kiss each other on the cheek let alone the lips. In this culture, it's just not done, and it's been stressful for us because of how important it is for us to express affection that way.

- For our allergies. There is a ton of dust here. A TON. It's the dry season now, which means the hamaton (sp?) is taking place. Dust from the Sahara desert travels south for a few months before the rainy season

comes, which starts mid-March. I've been sneezing just as much as I always do, but even Eli's allergies are acting up, which is rare.

- To continue soaking up knowledge. Like I said, we are learning so much here and know we only have more to learn. It's been wonderful.

Thank you for your prayers. They are greatly appreciated!

Blessings to you, Eli and Krista

A few facts I found about the Republic of Cameroon on the net:**Look at and compare the ages and life expectancy.**

www.infoplease.com [map from Wikipedia.com]

Land area: 181,251 sq mi, nearly twice the size of Oregon

Population (2006 est.): 17,340,702 (growth rate: 2.0%)

Capital: Yaoundé, 1,154,400 (city proper), **Largest city:** Douala, 1,274,300 (city proper)

Languages: French, English (both official); 24 major African language groups

Religions: indigenous beliefs 40%, Christian 40%, Islam 20%

Literacy rate: 79% (2003 est.)

Population: 17,340,702

note: estimates for this country explicitly take into account the effects of excess mortality due to AIDS; this can result in lower life expectancy, higher infant mortality and death rates, lower population and growth rates, and changes in the distribution of population by age and sex than would otherwise be expected (July 2006 est.)

Age structure:

0-14 years: 41.2% (male 3,614,430/female 3,531,047)

15-64 years: 55.5% (male 4,835,453/female 4,796,276)

65 years and over: 3.2% (male 260,342/female 303,154) (2006 est.)

Median age:

total: 18.9 years

male: 18.7 years

female: 19 years (2006 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population: 51.16 years

male: 50.98 years

female: 51.34 years (2006 est.)

Total fertility rate:

4.39 children born/woman (2006 est.)

HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:

6.9% (2003 est.)

HIV/AIDS - deaths:

49,000 (2003 est.)

Major infectious diseases:

degree of risk: very high

In the U.S. (from the CIA Factbook):

Population: 298,444,215 (July 2006 est.) 79.6 people/mi²

Age structure:

0-14 years: 20.4% (male 31,095,847/female 29,715,872)

15-64 years: 67.2% (male 100,022,845/female 100,413,484)

65 years and over: 12.5% (male 15,542,288/female 21,653,879) (2006 est.)

Median age:

total: 36.5 years

male: 35.1 years

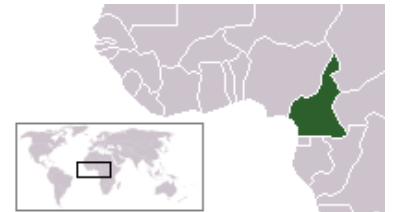
female: 37.8 years (2006 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population: 77.85 years

male: 75.02 years

female: 80.82 years (2006 est.)



Relationships, Love, and ... Thirsty Camels and Prince Charming The Right Kind of Romance

Part 7 of a series © 2002

Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, B.S., M.A., M.A., Ed.D.

This piece first appeared in the September 5, 1998 Crimson & White Connection, then again June 3, 2002. (Known as Rich to his friends, Dad to a few, Uncle Rich to a select few, Dr. D. to a very few, and Dr. Dymmel to the rest. Which group do you fit in?)

Continuing on about dating ... “But the Bible doesn’t give any advise on dating, does it? I mean dating was not the practice then. There were arranged marriages.” Let me tell you about my “arranged marriage.” Really.

Let me try to tie this idea of Character (look back the article on “HAS Character or IS a Character in some back issues at www.CrimsonWhite.org) and the Bible and dating and arranged marriages together and bring it from 2000 BC into the 1960’s and 1990’s. You see Marie and I strongly feel that our marriage was arranged — by God. Yup. God arranged it.

Now, I do have to admit that I wasn’t involving God in my dating as I should have been at the beginning. Marie and her mom and my mom had all been praying for some time for God’s choice of spouses to be prepared for us. I should have been praying, too, but I was looking for a virtuous woman in mostly the right places - my church, recommended by good friends, and introduced by good adults – and I was ‘saving myself’ for my ‘life mate.’ The introductions got me away from dating within ‘my faith,’ but God even used that in His plan to get me to the right place at the right time.

I was away at college and very seriously dating a girl – actually I can’t even remember her name right now – and even thinking and struggling with the question, “What would it take to make a Baptist/Catholic marriage work?” And Marie was dating four guys at the time, a guy and a backup guy for both Friday and Saturday dates. But she was praying for the guy to come along. My mother was praying for the girl. And it kind of parallels the story of Isaac and Rebekah in Genesis 24 and 26. (The girls might like this romance story more than the guys, but guys, you need to be looking for the right girl, too.)

Are you a “romantic”? Are you interested in having a great “romantic life”? Have I found the book for you. It fits right in with this part of my story. It’s written by a GUY and his wife. It is really good. – *When God Writes Your Love Story* (Eric & Leslie Ludy, Loyol Publishing, 1999, ISBN 1-929125-00-3, \$13.99).

A paraphrase of Genesis chapter 24 – Rebekah was chosen by God for Isaac. His father was determined not to let his only son marry a non-believer and sent a servant to find Isaac a wife. The servant went to a far country and prayed that the right girl would come to the well and that she’d offer water for the servant’s camels as a sign. Rebekah did just that and that was how he chose her. Met the family, asked for her, her family approved and she was off to be Isaac’s wife.

Maybe that doesn’t sound very romantic, but she was the one God chose for Isaac. The Bible defines Love as an act of the will, a choice. Love based on emotions changes if the person does something we don’t like. Love based on God’s will and then on our willingness to love that person – no matter what – is the kind that lasts. And that relationship is even more romantic in the long run.

And after being married for 40 years, we read in Genesis 26:8 (NIV) that ... – “When Isaac had been there a long time, Abimelech king of the Philistines looked down from a window and saw Isaac caressing his wife Rebekah.” — Different Bible translations use different words - Isaac was “sporting” (KJV, I don’t know what sporting meant in 1611 when that translation was written and the KJV was a translation into “modern” English), “caressing” (NIV, that I understand), or more

‘current’ translations (Living and New Living, 1998) say he was “petting” and “fondling” Rebekah. (I think we all know what that means!) — Now there’s the romantic part. After 40 years, they still loved and had the “hots” for each other and he couldn’t keep his hands off of her. How’s that for a hot romantic love story of a marriage arranged by God! That was the result of having God pick the right woman for Isaac.

Well, you say, how does a story from Genesis, possibly 2000 BC, have anything to do with 2002? The Bible principles still work today - I don’t mean wait for somebody to water your camel at a well, most of you don’t even own a camel and Avis won’t rent you one for wife hunting. But, you see, that story is us, Marie and me. This same story happened to me, with minor adjustments for time and culture. – An “Old Testament” kind of love story and romance.

My mother [not father, but close enough for this story] prayed constantly that I would stop dating non-Baptist girls [they were good, church going, Catholic girls, but not Baptist – they were of a different faith and belief]. My landlord for the room I rented at school was the house-mother at the dorm for the nursing school at St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing and introduced me to a couple nursing students. Mom was praying that the Lord would bring His choice for me, the only son, (my brother had two brothers and a sister, but I’m an only child/son; he’s adopted), into my life. Through a series of events and girlfriends, the Lord had me driving through a small town ten miles in a direction I would not have traveled if I hadn’t been dating a nursing student that lived even 50 miles further, while I was away from home at college [in a far country].

It was about one thirty on Sunday morning after a Saturday night date where my latest girl friend had just dumped me for religious incompatibility. She knew what she wanted and that included religious compatibility. (I’ve talked about that previously.) She wasn’t just dating, she was shopping. She wanted a Catholic guy for marriage material. The Michigan State Police stopped me in this little town, far from home. Why he stopped me isn’t important to the story, so we’ll just skip that part. – When I stopped, right in front of my car was a sign [Get it? A sign] telling me where to go for Sunday School and church just a few hours from then.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
<--- 1 BLOCK

A couple of months earlier, oddly enough, at my home church, I had met the pastor’s daughter. She came to hear an evangelist preacher who had been at this, her church earlier. I said, “I’ve got no girlfriend right now. She was cute. I’ll go to Sunday School there and meet her again.” (Often a guy can recover quickly from being dumped, we’re often emotionally shallow. That’s just the way most guys are built. Don’t blame me. God builds us that way.)

When I arrived and was directed to the ‘College & High School’ Sunday School class. They were combined just for the Summer and set up by God for us that morning otherwise I’d have been in a different room. There was only one empty seat [it was set up, chosen] in the room, and I sat down next to a really cute girl [the right girl]. She was a rising Senior, 17 years old, good looking, and friendly. The girl I came to meet wasn’t even there that day. I soon forgot all about her. This ‘vision’ asked me to come to the ‘youth social’ that evening. I went, met her brothers [met the family], beat them at horseshoes, they liked me [the brothers approved], and I asked her out for a date for the next Friday night. To go out I had to go home and meet her parents. [Met her mom, too.] Actually didn’t win her mom over till later in the week. At first she had said ‘yes’ and when I had left she said “You can go out with him this once, but never again!” The school I attended had a reputation around town. [Parents approved, eventually.] (I had a ‘reputation’ because the college I

attended had a reputation. Do *you* have a reputation? Is it accurate? Is it because of who you hang with or where you go? Go back to the "HAS Character or IS a Character" article and think about your reputation and character.)

Two months later, after my mom met Marie I said to my mother, "Do you like her?" "She seems nice." "Good. Because she's the one. I'm going to marry her." Twenty six months later Marie finally said "Yes" when I proposed for the fifth time. – She had the sense to wait. – We had a big family announcement dinner party. Her mom thought we had run off and were announcing we had eloped and was happy she was wrong and happy it was an engagement party. Her dad said, "Well, it's about time!" – Everybody approved. – Sixteen months later we were married and finally made love on our wedding night. (I knew you were waiting to see if I'd mention sex. – Research shows that virgins who marry have a 50% lower divorce rate. Research data also says married people have more sex and more satisfying sex lives. And "inexperienced" people have actually more marital satisfaction after one year and after four years than those who "got to know each other and 'shared a bed' before they married." It's true. It gets *better* and *better*.)

Now, after ___ years, we met in July '65, you do the math, and being married ___ years, since March '69, you do the math, we're still deeply, intensely, and passionately, in love like Isaac and Rebekah. [See Gen. 26:8, except we're more discreet than Isaac and Rebekah in public so nobody sees us ... – never mind. Go read Gen. 26:8 in a couple translations and you'll get the picture. Hey, the Bible doesn't hide stuff; it's got real people, real life, real love, and real messes, too. X's and O's, a smile :-)] But I do restrain myself to appropriate PDA. That's Public Displays of Affection just in case you didn't understand "PDA." She reminds me to behave myself before we go out in public.

The lesson – The first step toward getting in on the kind of romance *God* has in store for you is to include *God* in deciding whom you should or shouldn't date. That means looking for persons with the right kind of character, being a person of good character, behaving in appropriate ways, and maintaining your relationship with Him. Dr. Laura says (in *Ten Stupid Things Women Do To Mess Up Their Lives* but applies to guys, too) that you should be very selective in determining who you spend your valuable time with and not settle for being selected by someone else. And, you should pray for God to prepare you for the one that He is preparing for you and that He will bring them to you at just the right time (and soon you hope, I suppose). – Rebecca St. James has a song about "Waiting for me 'cause I'm waiting for you." And remember that if you are God's, he wants you to have the best, a person of Character (see Isaiah 48:17 & Jeremiah 29:11).

Lots of good books out there: *Lady In Waiting*, *What To Do Until Love Finds You*, *If Men Are Like Busses Then How Do I Catch One*, *The Secrets of an Irresistible Woman*, *Love Sex & God*, *How to Know If Someone Is Worth Pursuing in Two Dates or Less*, and *Boy Meets Girl*. And a great one I found is *When God Writes Your Love Story*.

More next time. In His love,

Rich

How I feel about myself determines what kind of people I attract

(Hammond, *If Men Are Like Busses, Then How Do I Catch One?*)

**I'm not trapped by rules,
I'm free of consequences!**

When God Writes Your Love Story

(1999. Loyal Publishing, Sisters, OR. ISBN 1-929125-00-3, \$13.99)

A Book Reviewed by Rich ©

... "THOU SHALT NOT" the pastor would boom from the pulpit as I sat in the rear-numbing pew daydreaming about sexy Suzie McFrugal from Hank's Burger Barn. For most of my life I thought it was God who posed the greatest hurdle to experiencing all the thrills of love and romance. And I would have taken great offense to someone trying to convince me that God should have a greater role in my love story. All the stern "thou shalt not's" He had so thoughtfully bestowed on me were quite enough, thank you." (p.28)

... "So, Eric? Tell us about your love life"

"Uhhhh," I mumbled ... "Uhh, I uhh, actually, uh, I am waiting on God." "I know this may sound strange, you guys, but I've decided that I won't give my heart to another girl until God shows me it's my wife." (p. 19)

Some of the chapter titles tell you the thrust, scope, and direction of this book: The babes and big egos; In search of a sweeter song; Who's captain of your love boat?; Rubbing shoulders with the Author of Romance; Get a love life!; A forever kind of love – Romance that's more than a feeling; Developing inward excellence; The art of faithfulness – A skill to learn *before* the wedding vows [!]; Holding out for a higher standard – Do noble knights and fair maidens really exist? [!]; Too late? – A glimmer of hope in a world of lost virginity [!]

"Christianity, ... defined in very simplistic terms ... the way God made it clear to me... *Eric, are you ready to trust me at the helm now? If I am going to be Captain, we are going to have to make some changes. And, Eric, the changes are going to have to be made to more than just the Captain's quarters.*" (p. 43)

Eric and Leslie alternate writing their story. As an "old romantic," it's a beautiful love story, made me 'smile and warm inside.' When Eric writes of when he was in college, I can remember then, you'd identify with him. As someone who's looking for a true love, it's a guide book, a workbook. As a "married" I always see ways to improve my/our love life. This has that, too. But - - this isn't easy, this letting the "Author of Romance" author your romance and love life. The book ... is a fun, serious, romantic, spiritual book. – Highly recommended.

Regardless of your past, you can make a pledge "from today forward..." Have you considered making a pledge of purity? For yourself, to yourself, and to God?

"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."

Saving Safe Sex for my mate

When someone wants me to compromise my values and have sex, I tell them, "That's not good enough for me. I'm more valuable than that. I'm worth waiting for! I want the best - sex within a marriage."



Cut this out and put it in your wallet or on your mirror. Or C&WC has pledge cards available, free for the asking, and can direct you to sources to purchase a ring if you'd like one.

Mostly just for fun...

Politically Correct Statements for the New Century

- *Your bedroom isn't cluttered, it's just "passage restrictive."
 - *Kids don't get grounded anymore. They merely hit "social speed bumps."
 - *You're not late, you just have a "rescheduled arrival time."
 - *You're not having a bad hair day, you're suffering from "rebellious follicle syndrome."
 - *No one's tall anymore. They're "vertically enhanced."
 - *You're not shy. You're "conversationally selective."
 - *You don't talk a lot. You're just "abundantly verbal."
 - *It's not called gossip anymore. It's "the speedy transmission of near-factual information."
- AND FOR STUDENTS...
- *The food at the school cafeteria isn't awful. It's "digestively challenged."
 - *No one fails a class any more, he's merely "passing impaired."
 - *You don't have detention, you're just one of the "exit delayed."
 - *These days, a student isn't lazy. He's "energetically declined."
 - *Your locker isn't overflowing with junk, it's just "closure prohibitive."
 - *Your homework isn't missing, it's just having an "out-of-notebook experience."
 - *You're not sleeping in class, you're "rationing consciousness."
 - *You don't have smelly gym socks, you have "odor-retentive athletic footwear."
 - *You weren't passing notes in class. You were "participating in the discreet exchange of penned meditations."
 - *You're not being sent to the principal's office. You're "going on a mandatory field trip to the administrative building."
 - *Thanks to Pastor Tim for this joke! www.cybersalt.org/cleanlaugh

You Make Me Laugh a daily dose of clean jokes
<http://entertainment.crosswalk.com> April 11, 2002

Charity Better Than Expected

Members of the Methodist women's church circle in one Wisconsin town some years ago were disturbed because a widowed church member and her three small daughters were staying away from services. Finding the reason to be a lack of suitable clothes, the ladies' group corrected the situation in a generous manner.

When the little girls still failed to appear at Sunday School, some of the ladies called to inquire about their absence. The mother thanked them sweetly for the clothing and explained: "The girls looked so nice, I sent them to the Presbyterian church!"

*Thanks to Pastor Tim for this joke! www.cybersalt.org/cleanlaugh
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The News and the Bet...

[Feel free to substitute NC State student or redneck or whatever for "blond."]

A blonde and a redhead are watching the 6 o'clock news one evening. The redhead bets the blonde \$50 that the man in the lead story, who is threatening to jump from a 40 story building, will jump.

"I'll take that bet," the blonde replied.

A few minutes later, the newscaster breaks in to report that the man had, indeed, jumped from the building. The redhead, feeling sudden guilt for having bet on such an incident, turns to the blonde and tells her that she does not need to pay the \$50.

"No, a bet's a bet," the blonde replies, "I owe you \$50 dollars."

The redhead, feeling even more guilty, replies "No, you don't understand, Honey, I saw the 5:30 edition, so I knew how it was going to turn out."

"That's okay," the blonde replies, "I saw it earlier too, but I sure didn't think he'd do it again."

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 to try the email dialy devotionals* for two weeks
- *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.

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." 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."

Crimson & White Connection

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

U.S.Postage

A 41c stamp is required to forward this to a new address

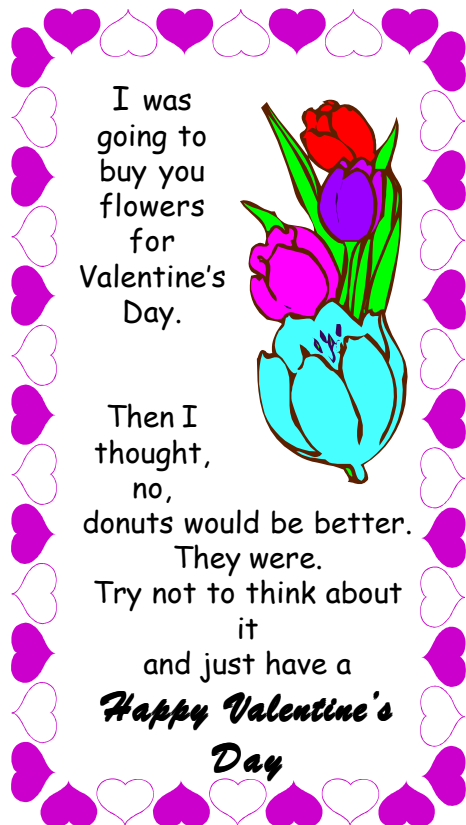
PLEASE, if the student has moved, would you put a 39c stamp on this, change the address, and mail it to them?

If they have a NEW address, would you send that to me?

Someone PRAYED for YOU and mentioned YOUR NAME before God's throne

Feb 14, 2007

Hallmark, Off to Cameroon,
Thirsty Camels and Prince Charming
In A Place You Don't Belong
Compatibility



Hear the beautiful words of an elementary school teacher:

*He came to my desk with a quivering lip,
the lesson was done.
"Have you a new sheet for me, dear teacher?
I've spoiled this one."
I took his sheet, all soiled and blotted
and gave him a new one all unspotted.
And into his tired heart I cried,
"Do better now, my child."*

*I went to the throne with a trembling heart;
the day was done.
"Have you a new day for me, dear Master?
I've spoiled this one."
He took my day, all soiled and blotted
and gave me a new one all unspotted.
And into my tired heart he cried,
"Do better now, my child."*

Are you in need of forgiveness?
The Cross is for you.
God offers you a new sheet today.
Will you receive it?

Quoted from **The Forgiveness Factor**
01/1/02 Ravi Zacharias

**SPOILED ?
SOILED ?**

**A
NEW
START**