

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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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!

May 17, 2007

School grades ... and Lessons – Almost an A

True story. -- After I finished my Doctorate, I still like school and learning. I had decided to take a couple classes that looked interesting. -- Exams over, I stopped by the professor's office to see how I'd done. I had pulled out a 97.7%, an A, and an 89.5%, a B+. The Geometry class was the easier one. The History of Mathematics, was (a) not logical problem solving and (b) often required calculus and stuff I hadn't done since before I went in the Army in 1967! When I stopped at the professor's office to pick up the last assignments I had turned in and see if he had posted the grades, he was in. We talked for a while. He said, "I don't have the grades posted yet, but I can show you. ... A 97.7%, that's an A. ... a 89.5%, that's a B+."

"Gee, doesn't 89.5 round off to 90?" (90% would be an A.)

He said, "I don't round off. You have to have the 90%. You were close. You had 537 points in the tests and assignments out of 600 and that's 89.5%. If I gave grades subjectively, every bright student like you and every cute girl would get an A. So it has to be strictly mathematical."

"Well, mathematically, shouldn't the .5 round up to the 90%? That's just standard math rules for rounding and it is a math class." I said with a smile.

He just laughed and repeated, "I don't round off." -- I wasn't going to get the A. He made the rule. I had to accept it. ... I was only 3! points away, 3! out of 600!, from getting an A. Only 3 points kept me from having a perfect 4.0! But "Close only counts in horseshoes, hand grenades, bocce ball, and nuclear war," is what I always tell my students when I teach math. But a B+ is probably a truer reflection of my worth in that class. Even the A in Geometry isn't really a perfect 4.0. I only got 97.7%, 586 out of the 600 possible.

The spiritual life is like that. No matter how hard we try, we just don't measure up. Even if we're pretty good, it's not good enough. We fall short. We get the B+. Even if we're really good at one thing, 97.7%, we aren't perfect. In *this* world, we may even get that 4.0 grade for being 90%, have great looks, great body shape, have the team record for points scored, be valedictorian, ..., whatever. But we're not perfect.

I know some really good looking kids who are really smart academically (4.0+ GPA), or are athletically gifted. As time passes, they may (some have) make bad moral choices, the 4.0 GPA may fall off, ... all the outward characteristics will lose their perfection. But inner beauty ... Many times I've said, "When they smile, they just change 1000%." "That one's adoptable." "A sweetheart." (Remember "Are you a sweetheart?" 9/99.) Goodness of character and personality and behavior and self-confidence is so much more beautiful and attractive, even sexier than just looks or abilities without character (when you're old enough you'll realize self-confidence is really sexy). Attitude (the right kind) + self-confidence + a smile = sexy; not just tight shorts (guys and girls). -- Would you want a great looking star athlete, model, or cheerleader who treats you like you are invisible, or an average person physically who smiles, is pleasant, bright, you can trust, and who treats you special? Character is important!

It has been said,


"I cannot tell you how wonderful it is to have kids with good hearts. The world has enough smart people. We need more good people"

DR. LAURA SCHLESSINGER

But how do we measure up? When we compare ourselves to God's standard, we can't quite reach 100%. We may even be great in one area, even 100%, but God requires perfection in all areas. If perfection is the standard, and we can't meet it, why even try? The answer is, we make it based on Jesus' righteousness. "For whosoever believes on Him, shall not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). We make the grade based on His purity, holiness, and person. We try to live in holiness and purity out of gratefulness for the future He has provided. It's our "thank you note" to God for all He will and has provided.

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

I am excited by the stuff coming in my mailbox. I have letters from young people **all over!**

5/3/07

I'm so thankful for the Daily Devotions you send, God is blessing me tremendously through them!

God bless you and your family!

-Monika from Stockholm

(Jordana Hart's friend - she's SUCH a blessing, to me our church and Stockholm and beyond!)

Lindsay Viet (a) sent me 2 "reports" on the year she spent in Romania AND now, (b) this Summer is going on a trip to the "Far East" into one of those places where they can't say Jesus, God, Bible, even in email because it is screened by the government ... Aren't our freedoms here just fantastic?!?! And she's hoping to take someone with her, pay the expenses for, someone from Romania to accompany their group.

An update on the venture into mission work in Cameroon, West Africa.

And a note on a couple days with Julie in Mozambique.

And a letter IN THE SNAIL-MAIL from a HS student!!!!

~~~~~

*Though no one can go back  
and make a brand new start, my friend,  
Anyone can start from now  
and make a brand new end.*

Carl Bard

~~~~~

**Teenagers need role models.
They already have enough critics.**

~~~~~

*"Jesus was either INSANE to die for what he  
said he was, a FRAUD to even say what he  
said, OR HE IS WHO HE SAID HE  
IS, the Son of God who can take away your  
sin and reconcile you to God"*

## About Character (and behavior)

© by Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D.

### Are you a sweetheart?

What is a "sweetheart"?

At M-Fuge I got to know a girl named Shari. We were playing Uno with a couple girls at a day care center, I said something like "Ah, mā Sherré, a 'draw two' for you." She said, "Do you know what that means in French?" To which I said, "Not necessarily. What does it mean?" (I'm guessing she'd had French in school.) And she said, "It means 'my sweetheart.'" And I replied, "Then I repeat, ah, mā sherré..., a "draw two" to you."

From a dictionary: **sweet-heart** (swētˈhært) *n.* **1.** One who is loved. **2.** Used as a familiar term of endearment. **3. Informal. a. A person regarded as generous or lovable. b.** Something cherished for its excellent qualities. —**sweet-heart** *adj.* Involving privileged treatment of a favored party; illegally or unethically favorable.

Well, Shari and several other teens I know are indeed sweet-hearts. To be honest, there are lots of guys and gals that are 'sweet-hearts.' They are generous, lovable, have excellent qualities, and if some people give them favored treatment, so be it, they will get it. Why is that?

Another term I've started to use in describing young people is "he (or she) is adoptable." On a talk show after a young person called in to describe a situation and discussed it. They were thoughtful, considerate, respectful, and wanted to do the right thing, morally and ethically. After the call the show host said, "I'd adopt her. She's a great kid and she's got her head on straight." That was a great compliment.

As I meet young people there are a LOT of great ones out there. And there are several that I've met that are aloof, even rude, unfriendly, disrespectful, crude, vulgar, abrasive, or are just not enjoyable to be around (from an adult perspective). Some maybe just haven't been taught how to get along with "adults" or people. I don't know. - But given a choice, I'd rather be almost anywhere but around them. (I'm not perfect and I work on my character and behaviors, too. I've been told I'm too quiet, abrupt, and have been called intimidating, too, until you get to know me.) Some young people are courteous, friendly, polite, respectful, conversive and as I get to know a few of these even more and better, I usually find golden character, sweet dispositions, and friendly, gentle spirits. They are a joy to have around and be around. They brighten the world wherever they are. We all know reality - there are some people that you want to treat special and favored. Sweethearts are welcomed and invited to join in for dinner. If there is the slightest hint of a need, someone offers to pay for them to go to camp, take trips, offer "scholarship" help, etc. They are the "sweethearts." They are the ones that, if given the opportunity, I'd adopt 'em.

Question - are you a sweetheart, someone to whom people want to give special favor and treatment? Are you "adoptable"? Or are you someone that people/adults would rather avoid because you reject people, are abrasive, hurtful, can't be trusted, disrespectful, ... Some of it is (modifiable) behavior, some of it is character (changeable by decisions), and some of it is lack of training (could be learned from a mentor or role model). For the most part, you decide who and what you are. You can change your behavior, personality and character if it needs changing. You can be a sweetheart or a \_\_\_\_\_. You decide.

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~~ **A letter from Lindsey Veit about her work in a ministry in Romania, 05-06.** Lindsey graduated from

Davidson College '05 and is now at UNC-Chapel Hill ~~

## Blessed to Be a Blessing

*"I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing . . . and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you."* Genesis 12:2-3

Across the street from where I lived, at the Bethlehem Christian Center, in Hunedoara, Romania lived a family who blessed me with continuous hospitality. I went there to unwind, to watch television, to play with their children (as I'm doing in this photo), for a meal, and for many other such occasions.

Eight people lived in their small two bedroom apartment, with one bathroom (with no hot water) and a kitchen the size of many American closets. Deni, the oldest sister, and her three younger siblings live in the apartment (from ages 18 to 35), as well as Deni's two sons and another brother's two daughters. The middle two of these adult siblings are believers, active in the local Pentecostal church and volunteers at the Center. The children all attend Bible clubs, although their parents are not believers.

My friendship with this family gave me many opportunities to share with them the hope and abundant life offered through Jesus. Their story includes heart-wrenching pain and suffering, but I hope it will end in eternal peace for each of them and not only the two current believers. When Deni was only a teenager her mother died leaving her and her siblings under the care of their abusive father. She dropped out of school to work in the factory to provide for her siblings. A couple years later their father also died, but not before instilling anger and fear in the hearts of his children.

As I mentioned, there are four children in the household. Two are Deni's (she was never married, but the father stops by occasionally). He was drunk every time I saw him. The other two are beautiful girls, ages seven and thirteen. Their parents are both working in Italy. That is a common story in Romania. Because the economy is so weak, many children are being raised by grandparents, aunts, and other family members while their parents work abroad. In this case, however, I was grateful these parents were abroad. Both parents are very abusive. Because the older daughter is darker skinned, the mother openly admits that she has never loved that daughter. One year she hit her with a broom stick, causing a wound that required stitches, when the girl lost a phone. By the grace of God, while I knew them both of these girls were in a safe, loving home under the care of their aunts and uncles.

Despite the best efforts of the adults in this family, they were deep in debt and risked losing their apartment. One week, the Christian brother, Vasi, came to me in tears with this as a prayer request. They had one week to pay a large sum of money or be kicked out of their home. While he knew he could stay with a friend, he was not sure what would happen to the other seven in their household. A week before this, I saw a deposit in my bank account: \$500 from my old car, which my mom finally succeeded in selling after months on the market. After much prayer, I was convicted to give this family that money as anonymously as possible (only Vasi ever knew). That amount happened to be the minimum necessary to keep their apartment. After receiving this anonymous help, the siblings abroad also helped pay off the remaining debt. When I gave this money to Vasi, it was as a "Kingdom loan". He signed a contract that as he would a) be responsible in tithing to his church, and b) "repay" this money to someone who needs it even more as soon he was able to.

God blessed my small act of giving in a tremendous way when I returned to the States. As many of you know, in answer to my prayers God *gave* me a car through the generosity of several people at FBC Morehead City. I sacrificed the meager amount from my old car, and God rewarded me with a new car – one worth much more! That car has been a blessing in many ways. In addition to the blessing of getting where I need to go, every time someone comments on the fact that I drive a 1990 Cadillac, I get to share with them the power of an omnipotent God who answers prayers! We serve an awesome God. As the heir of Abraham, we too are blessed with the purpose of being a blessing.



**Subject: Julie's News From the Battlefield**

**Date:** 5/13/2007

**From: Julie Malacuski**

**"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty." Psalm 91: 1**

As I feel at the beginning of most letters I write home, I wonder where to begin.

When I met Manuel, the son-in-law of our village Pastor, he was lying on a mat outside, unable to eat and too weak to walk. He had refused to go to the hospital. After praying for him and asking him again to go, he said, "I want to go." I knew in order to live he would he would need IV fluids, as he had had diarrhea and vomiting for days.

We helped him into my car and I took Manuel to the hospital. When we arrived, the nurse asked what the problem was. When we said diarrhea, we were redirected to a separate building. We helped Manuel walk to this other building. I have never seen anything like what I saw here. There were lines of mats with a single large hole for people to pass their excrement. All of the workers had masks and gowns. I watched as an employee dumped a bucket of bleach water over a patient who had been discharged. I walked with Manuel to his bed. However, other people who didn't receive the favor I receive because I am white, were being turned away. They were told it is prohibited to enter. The next day when Pastor Chico arrived to check on Manuel, without receiving any news on his son-in-law's condition, he was just told that he is prohibited from entering and had to leave.

At seven the next morning, I brought Manuel's 4-month old daughter, Joanne, to the hospital because she had fever and diarrhea. When I came back to see Joanne at 5 in the afternoon, she hadn't received treatment and nothing for her high fever. As I watched Joanne's mother sit helplessly while her daughter struggled, I felt so sad that this mother had no options, but to sit and wait. She had no way she could help her child. In moments like these I also feel helpless. I gave Joanne fever medicine, which the nurse quickly told me was prohibited. Although I am medically trained, I have no access to labs to test children like like this whose reason for fever is not evident just on history and physical exam. So, we prayed and waited.

I found out later this day that Manuel's father is a witch doctor and had put a "curse" on the Pastor's family. He told Pastor Chico that if his son Manuel dies, three people in the Pastor's family will die. The day after Manuel entered the hospital, Joanne, the Pastor's granddaughter, was admitted to the hospital and the Pastor got malaria. The Pastor wanted to send the son-in-law to his witch doctor father quickly, before he would die while in the Pastor's home. Manuel was very sick.

But, you know, the Lord is merciful. We prayed. Jesus healed Joanne, Pastor Chico, and Manuel on his death bed. Jesus is more powerful than any curse of darkness! Manuel tested positive for HIV, so we will continue to pray for him and seek treatment.

Manuel had been discharged from what I later found out to be the "cholera ward." He was not any better when discharged. I took him to the hospital again and had to ask a Cuban doctor if he would attend Manuel. This doctor agreed but asked us to pay an extra fee. This doctor already receives a salary and should not have asked me for additional money. However, he was doing me the favor of seeing a patient that under another doctor's care, would almost certainly die unless Jesus intervened. There are so many ethical dilemmas here. Everyone is trying to make a bit more money, however he can. I can't tell you how many times the police stop me and ask me to pay a fine because the tire number on my car registration is different than the tire on my car, and any ridiculous thing they can think of! Oh the stories I could tell!

May you be blessed as you trust in the goodness of Jesus. Thank you for your love and support.

## Julie

Email: I love to receive emails and can be contacted at [mercies@aol.com](mailto:mercies@aol.com)

Phone: My number in Mozambique is 011258825389336. you can call Mozambique from the U.S.A. cheaply using a net2phone phone card, a Sam's Club card, or the computer program SKYPE. Just keep in mind I am seven hours ahead of you! Of course I'd love to hear your voice and hear how you are doing!

Mail/Packages: Mailings to Mozambique are not secure and can take one to four months. My mailing address in Mozambique is: Julie Malacuski, Iris Ministries, P.O. Box 275, Pemba, Cabo Delgado, Mozambique. Mail sent to South Africa is more secure but will take even longer for us to receive in most cases. This address is: Julie Malacuski, Iris Ministries, P.O. Box 20017 West Acres 1211, Nelspruit, South Africa.

Prayer support: Our lifeline is prayer support. If you would like to be a part of our regular prayer support, please email Michele at [motherof5cherubs@fredlaverycompany.com](mailto:motherof5cherubs@fredlaverycompany.com) so that you can specify a certain time to commit to prayer, or just receive our monthly prayer calendar.



## “The plan is progress ... not perfection.”

© Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D., 1999

(Based on notes from listening to Chuck Swindoll and some late-night TV)  
Philippians 3:12-16 Forgetting what lies behind – leave it, don’t look back, focus on looking forward; past achievements and past failures are lessons learned.

I once heard an interview with a student who said that once their GPA had fallen below a 4.0, since they weren’t perfect, they felt like they didn’t have any standard to uphold anymore. So they were drinking, doing pot, having casual sex, ... “Should we sin so God’s grace can abound more? No!”

Well, we can’t be perfect. No one is. I’m sure not. You can’t be. But we can be pretty good. On Sally the other night they brought back “tough teens” from previous shows. One girl said, ‘I’m making progress. You can’t do this in one big step.’ She, age 15, had been sleeping with a 25 year old guy. Her mother said, ‘She now has her 18 year old boyfriend sleeping over and admits to having unprotected sex at home.’ ‘Well, isn’t that progress? At least he’s closer to my age and I stay at home.’ Another girl there on stage said to her, ‘No. You have to make a clean break. What you’re doing is stupid and dangerous and wrong! You won’t ever make it by trying to change gradually.’

If you know what is right, and you’re doing what you know is wrong, you have to want to stop and turn around, that is called repentance. In a courtroom, a judge would not consider repentant a thief who would say, “I’ll improve a little. I’ll start making progress by stealing less expensive stuff.” If you’re repentant, you try to not do it at all. You might fail, but you want to try to have a real change.

Like, if you want to jump across a small chasm, you can’t make it if your plan is to try to do it in two leaps. Even if your leap only gets you to the edge of the other side and you have to gram rocks and branches and begin to pull yourself up... there are probably people on the other side that will reach out and help you, too. -- The alcoholic can’t stop gradually. -- The alcoholic may “fall off the wagon” but he tries again and again because they know what is good for them, even if they occasionally fail. They don’t plan on failing, it might just happen. Our “old nature” still tries to drag us back. It is an ongoing struggle. - - Know what? The longer you struggle, the farther you get away from the “old ways” and the easier the “new way” gets.

Have you made a “leap of faith”?

◊◊ >> ◊◊ >> ◊◊ >>

### Re: Sex ...

#### “I want you to know God made sex and I say, ‘Yeah, God!’

But it has a Godly design to be perfect, best. Don’t accept second or third best. Don’t put yourself in a position to be tempted by lust.”

“Lust takes – love gives. It’s only wonderful when it’s wrapped in love! .... God made it [sex] ... It doesn’t take much to please me. It does take a lot to please her. Use her for her body – it’s lust.”

“Becoming a Godly Man in an Ungodly Culture,” Larry Jackson at PK in Charlotte, ’99

On “7<sup>th</sup> Heaven,” a boy says to his pregnant teenage girlfriend, “I love you.” – She says, “If you loved me you wouldn’t have had sex with me! If you loved me, you would have protected me.”

Seen on the back of a motorhome ...

### I’m a fool for God. Who are you a fool for?

Bumper sticker:

The Big Bang Theory? ...  
God spoke and BANG, it happened!

## Fun with words and numbers

© Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D.

10/99 – Saw a few things that I thought were fun / interesting ...  
Things to tickle your mind.

Multiply this out. The answer is interesting.

111,111,111

x 111,111,111

Interesting history (*and related to taking a stand, even if you think it may not be the ‘most popular;’ see articles by Heather Dofflemoyer and Chuck Colson*) (from my History of Mathematics class) ... In 1610 Galileo write about the Helio Centric Theory (Sun is the center, not the earth). In 1616 the Church tells him to cease. The church’s position is the earth is the center and everything revolves around it (like a three year old thinks everything revolves around them). In 1634 Galileo is called before the Inquisition and, because of his notariety, was only put under house arrest. In this graduate class the professor quotes Galileo as having said in his defense, “The Bible teaches us how to go to Heaven, not how the heavens go.” In 1992 Pope John Paul admitted that the church was wrong in condemning Galileo. – Sometimes the church isn’t perfect, even ours, only Jesus was perfect. Be patient with us.

**English language and words can be fun.** Ran across this ... Richard Lederer’s Verbivore. From his entry page - “Welcome to the web site woven for wordaholics, logolepts, and verbivores. Carnivores eat meat; herbivores eat plants and vegetables; verbivores devour words. If you are heels over head (as well as head over heels) in love with words, tarry here awhile to graze or, perhaps, feast on the English language.” — [If vegetarians eat vegetables, what do humanitarians eat?]

#### Puns, Word Plays and Related Madness.

Does fuzzy logic tickle?

Today is the day for decisive action! ... Or is it?

I used to think I was indecisive ... but now I am not sure.

Proofread carefully to see if you any words out.

Shin: A very sensitive device for finding furniture in the dark.

If a parsley farmer is sued, could they garnish his wages?

What first appears to be a sloppy or meaningless use of words may well be a completely correct use of words to express sloppy or meaningless thinking.

What do you get when you cross the Atlantic Ocean with the Titanic? ... Half way.

What do you get when you cross a pit bull with a collie? A dog that runs for help ... after he bites your leg off.

The world’s full of apathy, but I don’t care.

I’m still not sure if I understand ambiguity.

I am becoming increasingly worried and concerned that there isn’t enough anxiety in my life.

A truck carrying copies of Roget’s Thesaurus overturned on the highway. The local newspaper reported that onlookers were “stunned, overwhelmed, astonished, bewildered, and dumbfounded.”

Writing about music is like dancing about architecture.

I fed some lemon to my cat and now I have a sour puss.

... which brings up a Palindrome I saw about old cats ...

Senile Felines (read it backwards) and others like what Adam said when he was introduced to Eve: “Madam, I’m Adam.”

Well, I filled my space and ran out of things to say. Some may think I ran out of worthwhile stuff about 35 lines ago. *Rich*

Here’s a scary thought:

**What if your sole purpose in life  
is that your life is a warning to others.**

## Character lesson from real life

*Character is what you are and determines what you do, even when no one knows, no one sees, and no one hears.*

An ongoing series discussing character.

Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, B.S., M.A., M.A., Ed.D. 99

Some people say character doesn't really matter - We've all heard people say things like, "But that was business" - "That's his personal life" - "That's politics" - "His character doesn't really matter" - "Results is all that counts." Hillary Rodham Clinton recently said 'he's flawed because of ... in his past.' Someone then said, 'And we want someone who gives in to that, and can be led with that pressure to be in charge and make decisions for the country?' I saw a couple of signs while we were in Tennessee this past Summer —

### Character is developed by two small words – Yes and No

and

### A man's character is like a fence - it cannot be strengthened by whitewash

Let me relate three short stories —

1 -There was a program on PBS. Here's a synopsis, as I remember it: A company was going broke and a buyer was found. He'd buy if everybody took a 30% pay cut, but then he'd share half the profits. They all agreed. The company became more efficient, got turned around, they made a profit. The owner shared the profits.

As the company became even more profitable the profit sharing checks grew. After about 5 years the bookkeeper went to an attorney. She had been told to keep her mouth shut or it would cost her her job and a lot of people a lot of money. She knew that the bulk of the profits were being siphoned off into other bank accounts. The profit sharing checks should have been much larger. He was cheating the employees. Not doing what he said.

After 5 years of legal battle the owner offered to negotiate a settlement. He offered \$20 million - they refused. He offered \$30 million - they turned it down. A couple more offers were rejected. He offered \$95 million dollars - they settled out of court. How much was there really that he'd stolen from the employees? It didn't say.

Question - If you were the employees that trusted the owner - and I asked you, "Does it matter if you can trust someone's word?" how would you answer? **Does character, like honesty and trustworthiness, matter?**

2 I was recently told of a man in the Carolinas. Over twenty years ago he gave his friend a job in his company, taught him the business, raised him up in the company, and put him in a position of authority and trust. The owner had a heart attack. While recovering in the hospital and at home, the 'friend' used all his contacts and even the company check book to purchase inventories and set himself up in a new company in direct competition with the man who gave him the job and position and authority over the last twenty years. – **Does character - loyalty and honor and trustworthiness - matter?**

3 I saw an advertisement on TV this past week. It was an anti-something ad. The close (paraphrased) said, '**Sometimes it's what you DON'T do that defines who you are.**' Your actions, of both 'yes' and 'no' define and demonstrate who and what you are.

? Does character matter? Can you be trusted? *What you DO (and*

*DON'T DO) defines and demonstrates who and what you ARE.* Are you loyal, honest, truthful, trustworthy, have high moral standards, courteous, kind, generous, gentle, ethical, pure of mind and body, make and honor commitments, value marriage vows and purity, chaste, drink, only drink a little, smoke, smoke pot (but don't inhale), attend church sort of regularly?

What values do you demonstrate in front of your peers, children, neighbors, employees, employer, classmates, brothers and sisters?

**Parents (and "big brothers" and "big sisters," too** - Do you talk about those values in front of and with your children? Do you teach your children these character traits in little, every day events (like returning a mistake in giving you too much change at a store) so they will have learned and absorbed them when the hard decisions come? When the child turns 17 you can't suddenly say, "Church is good for you. You should go to church regularly now that you're almost an adult. Oh, and drugs, alcohol, and sex are poor choices." It is usually way too late then.

Is worshipping God and church involvement important? Is it a high priority and of value in life? In your life? Do you DO IT. Do you do it daily? weekly? or weakly? Do you tithe or give regularly? Do your children know you do? Have you taught them to give? Your children learn what is important by seeing you DO IT, and they *do see* what you *do*. (And kids are great at seeing through masks 'cause they see you 24-7. Did they *see* you spout values, and then when the really hard decision came, you rolled over, backed off, chose convenience, and threw away all those 'values'?)

**"Character and values determine what you do when no one sees, no one hears, and no one knows."** Character does count. Are you building your character? Are you building character in your children? You are being watched and learned from (even if they are not *your* children). Character is built ... like a wall around an ancient city. Not hurriedly, when the enemy is approaching. It is built over time, with many well placed stones, so when the enemy attacks, the wall is large and strong, and doesn't collapse.

*"I will lose my dignity and integrity  
in order to have my fantasy"*

**is NOT on anybody's inspirational calendar.**



**“True Christians’ lifestyle  
is not to be different from  
what they say they believe.**

**... If you want to be a  
Christian, you must be a  
real Christian. Otherwise,  
there's no point in it.”**

From: ALEKSANDR ERMANOV in an email from their church in Russia.

*Mostly just for fun...*

Some actual church signs. I was sent the photos, but I decided photos inflate the file size. Here's what they said:

**STAYING IN BED SHOUTING OH GOD!  
DOES NOT CONSTITUTE GOING TO  
CHURCH**

**GOD DOES NOT BELIEVE IN ATHEISTS  
THEREFORE ATHEISTS DO NOT EXIST**

**FORGIVE YOUR ENEMIES - IT MESSSES WITH  
THEIR HEAD**

**FREE COFFEE  
EVERLASTING LIFE  
YES, MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEDGES**  
(This one's theology isn't quite right. Well, the free coffee with membership is okay.)

**DON'T BE SO OPEN-MINDED THAT YOUR  
BRAINS FALL OUT**

**READ THE BIBLE - IT WILL SCARE THE  
HELL OUT OF YOU**

**THERE ARE SOME QUESTIONS THAT CAN'T  
BE ANSWERED BY GOOGLE.**

Jewish Olympic Swimmer



**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.

**\*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. \_\_\_\_\_

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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**

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

May 17, 2007  
\* School Grades \* Are You A Sweetheart? \*  
Lindsey's report from Romania \* Julie's  
News From The Battlefield \* The plab is  
progress \* Fun with words and numbers \*  
Character lessons from real life \*

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.

**SIN**  
**Self Interest**  
**Now**  
Lonnie Baxley

The people you surround yourself with are a reflection of yourself, who and what you are.