

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 50% of the mailing list is students, middle and high school and college, and 25% are age 22 to 30, and we'll just leave ages unsaid for the last 25% 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.

Our goal is mail in your mail box about 15 times a year. 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. We also distribute a daily email devotional.

Another part of the ministry is prayer. We pray for those 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 9, 2008

Okay, no excuses. I've just not gotten to writing at my keyboard.

By the time this gets printed, delivered to the mailing service, Handled by the PO Bulk Mail Center, it will be after Valentine's Day. Oh, well.

But "loving people" isn't just for Valentine's Day.

I've been looking at some of the history of Valentine's Day. You do know it is a "church holiday," don't you? Or at least was at one time, the Catholic church deleted Valentine as a feast day in 1969 because of the unclear historical accuracy of St. Valentine.

... And Paul addresses the letter to the Roman Christians (Romans 1:7 NKJV): "To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints:" And again in the letter to the believers at Corinth in 1 Corinthians 1:2, and in other letters, too, he calls all the believers "saints." But don't bother referring to me as "Saint Richard."

History... From the 4th century, for 800 years there was a Roman ritual of matching young men and girls by drawing names from a jar on February 15th... and we won't elaborate on that... The church wanted an alternative, so they commemorated Valentine in 496 with a feast of love on February 14th to compete with the pagan festival. There's more, but that's the essence.

Three Valentines were all killed allegedly martyred on February 14... maybe. The best candidate for commemoration seems to be a priest that was myrtered in 270. One history page I found says he was beheaded on February 24, 270.

Roman emperor Claudius II tried to get that Valentine to stop marrying young men... he felt young bachelors made better soldiers... Legend has it that Valentine tried to convert Claudius to Christianity, witnessed to him. Claudius had him, some say stoned and some say beaten to death with clubs, and then beheaded when Valentine wouldn't stop performing marriages for the young men. -- See, it's a matter of conviction. How willing are you to stand for what you believe? In some parts of the world witnessing for Christ can still get you beaten and/or beheaded. That probably won't happen to anyone who is reading this and witnesses for Christ. (You can download and print a neat little Valentine / scripture card at the CrimsonWhite.org website. It works *after* Valentine's Day, too.) And if you are martyred for Christ, let's face it, I doubt most of the world will know or care. ... But you'll know. And God will know.

One more little more Valentine history bit...

It was not until the 14th century that this Christian feast day became definitively associated with love. According to UCLA medieval scholar Henry Ansgar Kelly, author of *Chaucer and the Cult of Saint Valentine*, it was Chaucer who first linked St. Valentine's Day with romance.

In 1381, Chaucer composed a poem in honor of the engagement between England's Richard II and Anne of Bohemia. As was the poetic tradition, Chaucer associated the occasion with a feast day and chose Valentine's Day. -- Quite a connection... feast... on chocolate which chemically releases endorphins in the brain to feel good, romantic love, ... and then in the late 1700's commercial Valentine cards became available.

I'm not an advocate of giving up the "love" part of Valentine's Day or discouraging Valentine cards... and I'm certainly not in opposition to chocolate. But let's not forget the greatest love of all. God's love for you. It's like Him asking you to be His Valentine. -- And He didn't just send you a card... He sent you a whole book about His love for you.

Jesus said in John 13:34, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." The only way people will know that you are my disciples, declared Jesus, is to demonstrate it by your relationships. Thus I believe there can be no real Christian apologetic without first a community of love and relationships. After we have given all the arguments, the defenses and the evidences, loving one another is the *final apologetic*.

Tell someone that you love them, and be sure to include that God loves them even more, He was willing to die for them.

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. -- 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

We have received a couple of very encouraging email from people the last few weeks. They encourage me just as the C&WC and the daily email devotions are encouraging to you. So please drop us a note. If you've written a poem or an article, we'd probably publish it if you send it to me.

I did receive one article by email that I can't publish. It was good. Personally I liked it and I will share it with several people. It's just that it concerned opinions on political candidates and because of the non-profit-religious legal status of Crimson & White Ministries,

we are not allowed to publish and use this platform to endorse political candidates without losing our non-profit, tax-exempt status with the IRS.

We love hearing from you.

Keep sharing the C&WC with your friends. Encourage them to send in the subscription information, we'd love to add them to the list and put the C&WC in their mailbox. There is not much of a commitment... the C&WC is free. - Although we'd really like to have people feel enough of an obligation to let us know their new address when they move or to tell us to stop when they aren't interested rather than we print and pay postage to send it when they are going to just toss it.

God bless you.

Rich

Subject: SF 12.31.07 - How to Have a Glorious New Year

Date: 12/31/2007 From Dare2Share.org (good resources)

How to Have a Glorious New Year

If you're like most people, you just can't help it. Something about the newness of the New Year makes you want to get a new start and start all over again.

And this is how New Year's resolutions came about. I'll lose weight, get in shape, stop smoking, start exercising, save money, save the whales, and maybe even save the planet in an Al Gore sort of way!

You know what the problem is? Our resolutions are focused on things too small. Oh I know you might be thinking the opposite - like the things we promise end up being too difficult, and so we give up - right? But think about it, are they really that hard? Let's see - I want to lose weight...I got it! I'll eat less and work out more! Brilliant! Or how about exercise? Well, you could walk around the block, ... or heck - just buy a ferret and let him loose in the house.

See what I mean? Easy stuff here folks. So easy that deep down we're not really challenged, so we give up and stay in our happy little ruts.

So I have a New Year's resolution for you that is challenging, life changing, and one that will not only transform you, but it will impact the world around you as well. In fact, I don't dare you to take this one, I triple dog dare you! [Remember that from "The Christmas Story"?]

It comes from the Apostle Paul, and it forms the cornerstone of the entire Christian life:

"Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Corinthians 10:31)

In other words (to paraphrase The Police), every breath you take, every move you make, make God look good in

your corner of the world.

That's what doing everything to God's 'glory' means. The word 'glory' here refers to the shining presence of Christ - so it means that your choices either let the light of Jesus out, or it hides it in a cloud of sin.

It means that everyone who knows you're a Christian is watching you and forming an opinion about God based on the way you act, because your everyday choices are painting a picture of God that is on display for all the world to see.

So what sort of picture of God is on the wall of your life? If your primary motive each day is to think and act in a way that pleases God, that picture will be attractive and beautiful to look at. But...if your life is no different than people who don't know Christ, that picture will be fake and even laughable.

Bottom line: live each moment with the thought that Jesus is right beside you...because, in fact, He is. And that's really the key to making 2008 the year that will make God's name great!

Head: What you need to know about this truth

As followers of Christ, we need to make a daily resolution to glorify God in everything we do.

Heart: What you need to feel about this truth

Isn't it amazing that we get to carry around the glory of God and show it to others? I feel like that is the greatest privilege anyone could ever have.

Hands: What you need to do about this truth

Make a poster or sign that says "Whatever I eat, or drink, or whatever I do, I will do all to the glory of God" and put it above your door so you can be reminded each day of this key area of the Christian life.

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If you've enjoyed this Soul Fuel, **forward it to a friend**

Relationships, Love, and ...

An ongoing series discussing any/everything.

The column this month is **NOT** written by
Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, B.S., M.A., M.A., Ed.D.

The Gold Locket

A parable about the gift that's worth waiting for.
by Robert Wolgemuth

Three dates, a string of hurried cafeteria lunches together, countless rushed conversations in the halls between classes, and Matt knew he was in love.

That's why he was wandering around downtown for three hours the Saturday before Christmas. He had searched everywhere for the perfect gift, but nothing seemed quite right for Carrie.

He finally sauntered into a jewelry store. After a few awkward minutes of looking, he explained to the clerk he wanted a really nice present for his girlfriend.

She told him she had just the thing and led Matt to a nearby display case. She pulled out a brown velvet box, set it in front of Matt and waited for his reaction.

The moment he opened the box and saw that gold locket, Matt knew it was perfect. The gold glistened in the light—just like Carrie's eyes. The quality of the locket was obvious, even without the "24K" tag. The 14-karat gold chain added a touch of elegance. It was expensive, but Matt knew it was well worth the money. And he knew Carrie would love it. So he paid for it, took it home and very carefully wrapped it himself.

That locket did make the perfect gift. Carrie thought so, too. And Matt knew that as long as he lived, he'd never forget the night he gave Carrie that gold locket.

Winter hadn't reached February before something happened to Matt's love. The warmth seemed to fade. Matt knew Carrie sensed it; he could see the questions in her eyes. Breaking up brought the greatest sense of sadness and loss Matt had ever known.

A few months later Matt met Amanda. She was just the opposite of Carrie, with dark, flashing eyes and a fiery personality. Love struck again. And Matt decided he wanted to show his love for Amanda with a special gift.

He searched the stores, trying to decide what to buy. But he found himself back in the jewelry store looking at the gold lockets. He racked his brain for other ideas, but no other gift seemed so perfect.

He ended up giving Amanda a gold locket. She thought it

was beautiful, and Matt was pleased with his selection.

Matt and Amanda broke up a few months later. After Amanda, he dated Bethany, and after Bethany came Cindy and Lauren and then Nicole. There was nothing strange about the fact that Matt went through a string of girlfriends. He really cared about each one.

But it did seem odd, even to Matt, that whenever a birthday or some other occasion called for a special gift, he would return to the familiar jewelry store to buy another gold locket. A couple of times he felt a little guilty about not putting more thought or effort into choosing a gift. But even when he tried, he couldn't think of a nicer present than that locket.

Finally Matt met Stephanie. Right away he felt different when he was with her; he acted calmer, more sure of himself. He knew no one had ever understood or loved him the way Stephanie did. All his previous relationships paled in the light of his love for Stephanie. No one was surprised when Matt asked her to marry him.

A few weeks before the wedding, Stephanie suggested they exchange wedding gifts. Matt thought that was a great idea. He wanted this gift to be just as special as the wedding rings they'd picked out together—and just as symbolic of his love.

He tried to think of something else, but he finally settled on that beautiful gold locket. He went to pick it up at the same jewelry store, and the moment he saw it, he remembered just what a perfect gift it was. Nothing else seemed to express his love quite the way that locket did.

Their wedding was as exciting and beautiful as both Matt and Stephanie had dreamed. And when the exhausting day of ceremony and festivity came to a close, and the two of them were finally alone, Matt presented his gift to Stephanie.

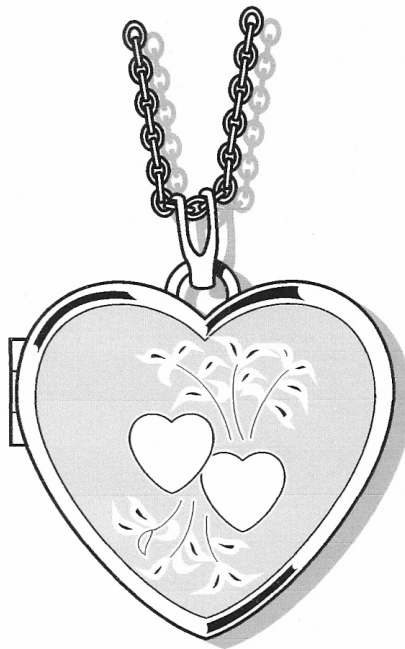
She told him the locket was beautiful. She also said she loved him and that he'd given her the happiest day and most

wonderful gift she'd ever had.

But when Stephanie put on the locket, Matt couldn't help remembering all the other gold lockets he'd given. He wondered if Stephanie knew. He wished he could have given her something truly unique, something he'd never given anyone else.

Always before, that 24-karat gold locket had seemed such a perfect gift. But now, on the happiest day of his life, the locket didn't seem special or beautiful anymore. It didn't even look as bright and shiny as Matt remembered.

He loved Stephanie so very much, and he believed his love for her would last. But he wished he'd saved that special gift for her, and for her alone.



Are Men Brain Damaged?

© Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, EdD, 11/1/98

10/2/98, Greensboro News & Record, **Dear Ann**

Landers: I'm tired of hearing references to the "female mind." The mind is not a sex organ. It has no gender. One might as well talk about the female liver. Get it? – Ada in Arizona.

Dear Ada: I got it. No female activist ever said it better. Thanks.

Sorry Ann. I disagree. There is quite a bit of difference between men and women, male and female. For one thing, us men are brain damaged and the weaker sex. Let me explain –

About 25% more male babies (125/100) are conceived than female, but only 5% more boys are born (105/100), the others are miscarried. (Considered by some to be a natural rejection of some kind of defect in the baby.) By age 18, the ratio of boys to girls is even (100/100). By age 65, there are 68 males for every 100 females. We die off younger. Average life expectancy for a female is 78.3, for a male it is 71.3. Only 20% of males survive to age 85 while 39% of females live that long (from *The Great Divide, How Males and Females Really Differ*, VanWeiss, 1991.) Why?

One explanation is the male XY chromosome instead of being an XX as in the female. The mismatch and "missing" material makes for a higher vulnerability to defect, disease, and stupidity. Before birth, we are miscarried more often. In the first year we die more often. And we just don't live as long. Even though we are physically larger and stronger, we are the 'weaker sex.'

We are slower to mature. That is why girls often are drawn to slightly older, 2 to 4 years older, boys and young men. Guys their own age are "immature." Guys will often find women their own age "more mature" and may be intimidated. To stroke their ego, guys want to be 'looked up to' so we find a woman who is about 2 to 4 years younger than us.

The dirty trick here is that if a 20 year old girl marries a 23 year old guy, she can probably expect to be a widow for about 10 years on average (7 year life expectancy + 3 year age difference). By late 20's us guys have caught up, maturity wise (although some say we never mature) and marriages between couples where both are in the mid to late 20's have MUCH HIGHER stability statistics, AND she can expect to have fewer years as a widow.

We are slower in school, tend to learn to read later, and our brains function quite differently from girls' brains. There is actually a physiological explanation. It relates back to the XY chromosome.

In utero, the baby is genetically male or female, but physically unidentified by physical sex differences for a while. At about the 4th month, that Y chromosome triggers a hormone surge through the baby that sets up the creation of the genitalia and other physical features. That Y triggered hormone surge in a baby boy causes about a 15% kill of brain cells and forms the "male brain." Girls tend to be right brain thinkers and boys are left brain thinkers. (Boys are not thinking in their 'right mind.')

The female liver metabolizes alcohol different and slower than the male liver. (This has been used, knowingly or not, by 66% of college men to get a woman drunk in order to have sex according to research published in *The Journal of College Student Development*, 1/93, v.34, p.53, 55.)

Yes, there is such a thing as the male and female brain and liver.

So (1) we are very different. And (2) the more we all understand the differences the more we can appreciate each other and treat each other better. And (3) women need to have a little compassion and make allowances for the dumb things that guys do sometimes and exercise some tolerance and forgiveness and help us see things. Sometimes we just didn't figure it out or think of it - we are born brain damaged and have to go through our whole life that way.

Here's an example of a guy who had a dumb idea, she alerted him to his stupidity, he corrected it, and she forgave him. (a letter to the "Dr. Laura" radio talk show from Jackque and transcribed as it was read on the air 8/3/98) –

"Listened to your program today. Glad to hear your comments on couples who live together before marrying. [host had read the poor stats on stability and longevity] I've been singing this tune to my girlfriends since high school and my husband, then boyfriend, asked me to move in with him. I told him that the only reasons I could think of why he would want to live together instead of getting married were (a) he really didn't love me and was only planning on short term relationship and wanted to be able to leave at the drop of a hat without complication, or (b) was afraid to commit to a long term relationship, or (c) wanted to take a test drive before buying, all three of which were unacceptable to me.

I told him if any of these were indicative of how he was feeling then not only would I not shack up with him I would never marry him either and he better hit the road. I also told him that his mother would be furious with him if she knew he had suggested such a thing and that my father and brothers would probably make him eat the bumper of his car. Needless to say he had some thinking to do. [host: I think every young lady should have a father and brothers

(like that).]

He decided that **the only real reason he could think of for living together was that everyone else seemed to be doing it** and he hadn't given it any thought at all. He begged for my forgiveness and for my hand in marriage. I accepted. We have been happily married for eleven years, have three wonderful munchkins. My husband is constantly thanking me for putting my foot down and setting him straight and, of course, I am so thankful for **his willingness to stand up and be a man, a real man**, a husband, and eventually a father.

... I'm not a prude. I don't consider myself to be old fashioned. **I just had and still have too much respect for myself to risk my self worth** for the chance he might marry me some day.

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Some Suggested Reading on Relationships:

This is a great one I found. It is written in alternate sections by *him* and *her*. *When God Writes Your Love Story*. I just gave away another copy of it this week to a teenager.

What to do Until Love Finds You by Michelle McKinney Hammond; ISBN 1-56507-531-5; \$9.99 [for women]

(These are catchy titles. They are written "to gals," buy if you do a gender flip, "him" to "her" etc. the content is universal. Great reads.) *If Men Are Like Busses Then How Do I Catch One*, and *The Secrets of an Irresistible Woman*, both by Michelle McKinney Hammond

Lady in Waiting, by Debbie Jones & Jackie Kendall *Sex, Lies, and the Truth*, Focus on the Family, Call 1-800-A-FAMILY; ~\$5.00(?) [A good book for all teens. Has no scripture references, just medical, physical, and emotional truths.]; ~\$20 for the video.

Ten Stupid Things Men Do to Mess Up Their Lives, Laura Schlessinger, \$13, Mature reading for ages 16 to 66.

How could you do that?! The abdication of character, courage, and conscience, Laura Schlessinger, \$13, Mature reading for ages 16 & up

I Kissed Dating Goodbye, by Harris. He's got a couple followup books, too.

Love Sex & God, How to Know If Someone Is Worth Pursuing in Two Dates or Less, and Joshua Harris's newest book on dating with a purpose and courtship: *Boy Meets Girl*.

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When God Writes Your Love Story

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

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 nots” 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.

God said “No”

We need to listen to God when he says NO and we need to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit to rest in knowing the yesses are there but may not always come when we want.

In Gods Amazing Grace, Tamera Moore (of Georgia)

“THE BLESSING IN “NO” “

I asked God to take away my pride.

God said “No”.

It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.

God said “No”.

Her spirit was whole, her body was only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience.

God said “No”.

Patience is a by-product of tribulations;
it isn't granted, it is earned.

I asked God to give me happiness.

God said “No”.

I give you blessings, happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain.

God said “No”.

Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and
brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow.

God said “No”.

You must grow on your own,
but I will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life.

God said “No”.

I will give you life so that you may enjoy all things.

I ask God to help me LOVE others, as much as he loves me.

God said... Ahhhh, finally you have the idea!

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What if ...

sent in by Tamara Moore of Georgia and
Kristin Garrison, a Junior at Gardner-Webb

What if, ... GOD couldn't take the time to bless us today because we
couldn't take the time to thank HIM yesterday?

What if, ... GOD decided to stop leading us tomorrow because we didn't
follow HIM today?

What if, ... we never saw another flower bloom because we grumbled
when GOD sent the rain?

What if, ... GOD didn't walk with us today because we failed to
recognize it as His day?

What if, ... GOD took away His message because we failed to listen to
the messenger?

What if, ... GOD didn't send His only begotten Son because He wanted
us to be prepared to pay the price for sin?

What if, ... the door of the church was closed because we did not open
the door of our heart?

What if, ... GOD stopped loving and caring for us because we failed to
love and care for others?

What if, ... GOD would not hear us today because we would not listen
to Him yesterday?

What if, ... GOD answered our prayers the way we answer His call to
service?

What if, ... GOD met our needs the way we give Him our lives???

What if, ...

we failed to send this message on?

You DO love

RRD – In the words of a current country song ...

Love isn't something that we find,

love is something that we do.

Love isn't something that we have,

love is something that we do.

Love isn't something that we're in,

love is something that we do.

Love isn't someplace that we are,

love is something that we do.

Whether we're thinking of Love as in Valentine's Day, or Love as in loving God, or love as in loving our parents, or love as in 'love your neighbor,' love is demonstrated in what we DO. We can DO love to lots of people. We can DO love to our parents. We can DO love to a special someone. Be careful that what you DO that you call "love" really is love, really is for them, really enhances them, really is good for them. Then it is love. Love is a verb. Love builds people up, never puts them in danger or risk. Love helps, not has the potential to injure. Give you mom, dad, and grandparents special cards for Valentine's Day, each one individually. Give your mom a flower. Give your dad a flower. Go and read stories to kids in a hospital and then write a note to your parents saying that you did it because they were generous with their attention to you, you appreciate them, and you wanted to give to someone who needed attention. Read 1 Corinthians 13 for a description of love. Read John 3:16 for a description of love toward you.

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“What to do Until Love Finds You”

Reviewed by Heather Dofflemoyer,
Freshman at UNCG (Feb 1999. It's still a great book.)

Girls, are you ready for a book that will give you an entirely different perspective on relationships? Are you tired of repeated broken relationships that leave your soul in shambles? If so, then I highly recommend that you read “*What to do Until Love Finds You*” by Michelle McKinney Hammond. Your outlook on love will completely be changed from when you begin to read the book to when you finish it. If you take what the author says seriously, God will begin to conform your heart into what He would have it to be like. God used perfect timing in allowing me to read this book. It made me realize that I have begun to lose my focus on the real reason we as Christians are placed on this earth — serving Him. Instead of allowing God to take complete control of my decisions, I took over the pilot's seat and began to steer my own course in seeking a lasting relationship. As God's children, we must yield to the process of change, allowing the idols associated with finding love to be removed from our hearts. Those of us who are single must treasure this gift. We must learn all we can about love now by displaying selflessness towards the people God has currently placed in our lives. Every moment spent waiting is a valuable time of preparation. Satan is very clever in making us desire love before God would have us to. Don't allow his lies to throw you into a state of desperation or hopelessness. And remember, God's purpose prevails. Jeremiah 29:11 says, “*For I know the plans I have for you,*” declares the Lord, “*plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*” This book changed my outlook on a lot of things and if you find the time to read it, I assure you, it'll do the same for you.

What to do Until Love Finds You by Michelle McKinney Hammond;
Harvest House; ISBN 1-56507-531-5; \$9.99

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**It's what you learn after you know it all
that counts.**

Mostly just for fun...

This was sent in by R.M. The version she sent me said "blond." (We won't get into involving hair color in this joke.) -

She was using a weed wacker on the lawn and the cat was hiding in the tall grass. The weed whacker cut off the cat's tail!

She grabbed the cat and the tail and ran for the car. Jumping in the car she hurried to the nearest Wal-Mart....

Why Wal-Mart?????

Because she heard that Wal-Mart was the world's largest retailer.

You Make Me Laugh ... a daily dose of clean jokes

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

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 blond 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 ***

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Yes, Please send me the C&WC (signature) _____

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Under 18? Parental permission : _____

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

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

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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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Greensboro, NC 27406-8306

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Feb 9, 2008

- * A little Valentine history *
- * The Gold Locket *
- * Are Men Brain Damaged *
- * *When God Writes Your Love Story* *
- * You DO Love *
- * *What to do until love finds you* *

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.

It's what you learn after you know it all that counts.

“Oh, God of Second Chances and New Beginnings, here I am again...”

Do you need a new start? God forgives and wipes your slate clean, to start over.