

Crimson & White Connection

A ministry of prayer and encouragement to "High School, College, & Singles" (& others, too) on Values + Character + Relationships + the Christian Life
Now 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?

It started with 37 college students. in 1998. Now, in the 25th year of issues, less than 10% of the mailing list are "students" ages 14 to 24. About 40% are ... we'll just say "over 30" in the database, including several 80+ers. About 1/3 of our over ~900 print copies go into prisons in 24 states (9/1/21 count), a direction we never expected this to go. But "the spiritual life," and values are not age or marital status or gender or life situational specific, they are universal. -- Topics are character, values, spiritual life - "walk the walk, not just talk the talk" - relationships and more ... and some fun.

The theology position is "conservative," i.e. Jesus is God's only Son, eternal, born of a virgin, sinless, crucified, died, 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. Jesus said it comes down to 'love God and love your neighbor' (Matthew 22:37-40).

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 (John 14:6). If you admit that you can not reach God's standard, are repentant and sorry for your short fall (sin) and rebellion against Him 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?

You WILL BE and ARE a slave! But you can CHOOSE your master! CHOOSE God today. John 3:16 is true. Accept no substitute!

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.

To subscribe, FREE, and get several issues of the **Crimson & White Connection** all year long, contact us at RDymmel@aol.com or at 4401 Wild Oak Ln, Greensboro NC 27406 U.S.A. (The C&WC goes by email across 18 time zones from Australia to Sweden. And 1/3 of printed copies go to prisons)

July 18, 2022 - v25n05

By Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D., (c) 2/27/99, 7/18/2022

2/27/99 7:54:59 AM EST -- I got this from someone 23 years ago. Was searching for something else ... anyway ...

FIRST THINGS FIRST

We're all familiar with this valuable but difficult to apply life lesson: Put first things first.

A while back I was reading about an expert on the subject of time management. One day this expert was speaking to a group of business students and, to drive home a point, used an illustration those students will never forget.

As this man stood in front of the group of high-powered overachievers he said, "Okay, time for a quiz." Then he pulled out a one-gallon, wide-mouthed Mason jar and set it on a table in front of him. Then he produced about a dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them, one at a time, into the jar. When the jar was filled to the top and no more rocks would fit inside, he asked, "Is this jar full?"

Everyone in the class said, "Yes."

Then he said, "Really?" He reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of gravel. Then he dumped some gravel in and shook the jar causing pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the spaces between the big rocks. Then he asked the group once more, "Is the jar full?"

By this time the class was onto him. "Probably not," one of them answered.

"Good", he replied. He reached under the table and brought out a bucket of sand. He started dumping the sand in and it went into all the spaces left between the rocks and the gravel. Once more he asked the question, "Is this jar full?"

"No", the class shouted.

Once again he said, "Good". Then he grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim. Then he looked up at the class and asked, "What is the point of this illustration?"

One eager beaver raised his hand and said, "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard, you can always fit some more things into it".

"No", the speaker replied, "that's not the point. The truth this illustration teaches us is: If you don't put the big rocks in first, you'll never get them in at all."

What are the 'big rocks' in your life:

A project that you want to accomplish? Time with your loved ones?

Your faith? Your education? Your finances? Your cause? Teaching or mentoring others?

Remember to put these BIG ROCKS in first or you'll never get them in at all. So, tonight or in the morning when you are reflecting on this illustration, ask yourself this question: What are (or should be) the 'big rocks' in my life? Then, put those in your jar first.

Something to think about.....

Rev. Larry D. Nail, First Baptist Church

[I know someone... during NASCAR season, he skips church because the 'before the race' TV coverage starts at like 10a, long before the race that doesn't start until about 2p.]

In Christ, Rich

Do you have a relationship with God where you know He has accepted you just as you are? A relationship like with a loving father? If not, call me at 336-674-7564. Or call 1-888-NEED-HIM. -- With God, you have never gone too far to return. --

[Slice of Infinity #031] The Lion and the Stream (June 3, 2002)

The Lion and the Stream

Ravi Zacharias

C.S. Lewis, in one little episode from his book *The Silver chair* illustrates God's invitation and our resistance. Aslan, the lion is representative of Christ and Jill one of us.

This is the first time they meet. Listen:

When Jill stopped, she found she was dreadfully thirsty... She listened carefully and felt almost sure she heard the sound of running water. Jill...looked around her very carefully. There was no sign of the Lion; so she plucked up her courage to... look for that running water.

...[S]he came to an open glade and saw the stream, bright as glass... [A]lthough the sight of the water made her feel ten times thirstier than before, she didn't rush forward and drink. She stood still as if she had been turned into a stone, with her mouth wide open. And she had a very good reason: just this side of the stream lay the Lion...

"Are you not thirsty?" said the Lion.

"I'm dying of thirst," said Jill.

"Then drink," said the Lion.

"May I—could I—would you mind going away while I do?" said Jill.

The Lion answered this only by a look and a very low growl. And as Jill gazed at its motionless bulk, she realized that she might as well have asked the whole mountain to move aside for her convenience. The delicious rippling noise of the stream was driving her nearly frantic.

"Will you promise not to—do anything to me, if I do come?" said Jill.

"I make no promise," said the Lion.

Jill was so thirsty now that, without noticing it, she had come a step nearer.

"Do you eat girls?" she said.

"I have swallowed up girls and boys, women and men, kings and emperors, cities and realms," said the Lion.

"I daren't come and drink," said Jill.

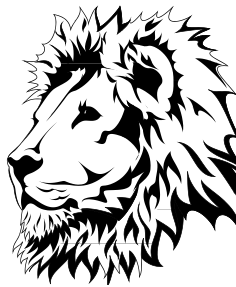
"Then you will die of thirst," said the Lion.

"Oh dear!" said Jill, coming another step nearer. "I suppose I must go and look for another stream then."

"There is no other stream," said the Lion.

What a powerful illustration this is. We thirst for God. Christ invites us to come and be filled by Him. Yet, fearful of the risk we turn away from Him, still thirsty.

GK Chesterton said it well: Faith and love are apt to be spasmodic in the best of minds. Men and women live on the brink of mysteries and harmonies into which they never enter and with their hand on the doorlatch they die outside.



**Whatever your lot in life...
build something on it.**

KARTOON KNUGGETS

By Troy Knechtel

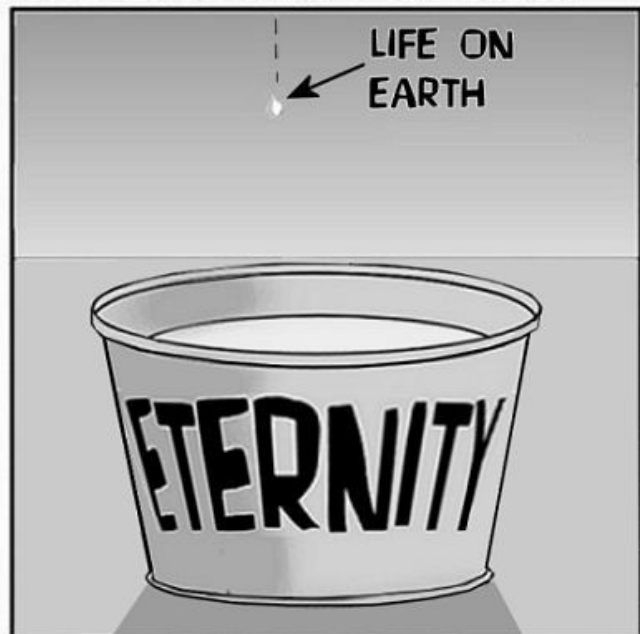


Well... now you know why it's best to stay on the path

Now that you know these things you will be blessed if you do them John 13:17

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THE BACK PEW - Jeff LARSON



Our time on earth is a DROP IN THE BUCKET OF ETERNITY.. so live with eternity in mind.



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What's this, Lord? Walk? Can't I just wait here?

Eph 2:10

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Troy Knechtel

knechtoons@sidestream.com

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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.

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

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Becoming a Christian: A-B-C

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.

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 Rdymmel@AOL.com, and say, "I just asked Jesus to be my Lord."

CrossTies Devotional Article for February 28, 1999

How Serious Are You?

By Bill Denton

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (Matt 6:33, NAU)

"It is the highest stage of manhood to have no wish, no thought, no desire, but Christ — to feel that to die were bliss, if it were for Christ — that to live in penury, and woe, and scorn, and contempt, and misery, were sweet for Christ — to feel that it matters nothing what becomes of one's self, so that our Master is but exalted — to feel that though, like a sere leaf, we are blown in the blast, we are quite careless whither we are going, so long as we feel that the Master's hand is guiding us according to His will; or, rather, to feel that though, like the diamond, we must be exercised with sharp tools, yet we care not how sharply we may be cut, so that we may be made fit brilliants to adorn His crown." — SPURGEON.

How serious are you about following Jesus Christ?

There are several passages in the Bible that seem to boil down to the purest of elements, the singularly important ideals of discipleship. In the words of Jesus noted above, it was a matter of priority that we seek God's kingdom and righteousness before we seek anything else. To the questioning lawyer at another time, the sage advice from the Old Testament was reaffirmed that we should love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. Loving our neighbor as we love ourselves is a close second, but the first one is first. No other command is greater, and in reality, all other commands are extensions of these two. Such words point powerfully to the idea of desire and purpose.

How serious are you about following Jesus Christ? Are you serious enough to get yourself out of the way? Are you serious enough to disallow your selfishness and self-centeredness from becoming a barrier to the will of the Lord? Can you see that your life here is but temporary, and that what you do and how you handle it prepares you for eternity? The idea that life is but a testing ground is not all that far off. God is looking for people of faith. How shall he find them unless those people have opportunity to practice that faith? How else does faith reveal itself if not in the pursuit of God and godly things?

How serious are you about following Jesus Christ? Are you serious enough to disallow the charms and excitement of friends, or riches, or fame, or importance from enticing you with treasures that glitter but for a moment? Can you manage to lean upon God whether the times are good or bad? Can you yearn for the life of Jesus to be duplicated within yourself regardless what the rest of the world may do? Is God the most important of all?

How serious are you about following Jesus Christ? Today, for example. Is your life and its activities more about you or about the Lord? Where is the evidence? Tonight, when you rest your head on your pillow, will you be closer to God's kingdom and righteousness, at the same point where you started this morning, or maybe further away? That result can be foretold by answering the main question repeated here four times. OK, five. **How serious are you about following Jesus Christ?**

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**A publication so dangerous it now comes with a 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.