

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 old back issues available at www.CrimsonWhite.org

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 into prisons)

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Crimson & White? What's this?

It started with 37 college students in 1998. Now, in the 27th 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 ~980 print copies go into prisons in 24 states (1/1/24 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.

v27n06 Aug 18, 2024

Growing

By Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D., (c) 2005

Delving into old files on my computer recently, I ran across this story from 2005, 19 years ago +/- -- This past week we helped - just a little - in Gabe moving into his new room for his Junior year at Liberty University. --

Lauren and Gabriel spent Friday evening, Saturday, and most of Sunday with Gramma and Grampa (that's Marie and me). We did such simple things like Lauren helped mix the cookie dough and she and Grampa made chocolate chip cookies.

And Saturday evening we went to a performance by RocFish (www.rocfishkids.com, no longer a valid site in 2024; the musical/video is at <https://archive.org/details/rocfishtheprodigaltale/Rocfish+-+The+Prodigal+Tale.mkv>) where they did an updated, musical interpretation of the Prodigal Son starting at Luke 15:11. [I found a pic of Gabe standing on my lap, focused on the stage.]

This version had a daughter on an Australian farm that takes her inheritance and goes to the city to become a movie star. She arrives at a 50's style diner and buys all her new friends sodas and sundaes and burgers... that is until her debit card fails when all her money is gone. At this point all her "friends" leave her, too. She works at cleaning up the diner and can eat any left over burgers before she throws them in the garbage. She doubts she can go home. The diner owner tells her she would always be welcome at home and she should go. She does. Daddy is delighted that he has returned. - They gave a salvation message of always be welcome to come home to God, regardless of what we've done.

Well, it was a fantastic show with a great message for kids. Gabe, 17 months old, stood on my lap and was mesmerized for 45 minutes of song, dance, and story. Lauren, wanted to move to a center aisle seat to see better and was glued to the action. After she asked, "Why did her friends all leave her?" and Marie explained that they weren't really good friends. They just wanted to stay around her as long as she had money to buy things for them. Real friends do things and stay with you because they love you and care about you.

We got on the scale and measured how tall they were. Lauren just recently turned 5 years old and is 45" tall, at the 90%tile for 5 year olds, and 41 pounds which is the 75%tile for 5 year old girls. Gabe is 18 months and is 32" and 30 pounds, which is right at the 50%tile for height and at the 90%tile for weight. He's a "rock" of a toddler, just the "right" weight for a 3 year old.

In Sunday School that Sunday we touched on some data that says as many as 75% of "church-goers" don't believe what the Bible says about being saved - Admit - Believe - Confess - the simple steps I include in every issue of the C&WC. - - They say things like "If I live a good enough life..." But, "What is good enough?" How can you know it was good enough? The Bible says you can KNOW that you have eternal life. So that must be "wrong thinking." "If the good outweighs the bad things..." well the balance you'll be measured in, according to the Bible is God's standard. How do you compare to Jesus? Opps. Not good enough. You lose. It's not "Do you know about God; do you know Him?"

One thing we said in the discussion was that "It's simple... just not easy." Why isn't it easy? Because it means that to confess Jesus as Lord, it means you have {ends on p.2}



to give up control and let Him be in charge. Easy to say - hard to do. - The Christian life is not a one step deal. It is a process. You take one step, then another step, and the more steps you take ... well, for some people it may be easier, for me it is always a struggle to let Him take over another part of life. But you know what? With each step most Christians find that even if it wasn't easy, it was worth it. And maybe I'm just a slow learner. I still have that part of me that wants to be in control. But I'm still learning and still growing and still learning there is even more and more to being a Christian. And not once, when I take another step, do I turn around and say, "Gee, this isn't working well, I think I want to go back."

Let me tie this together, I hope. Lauren and Gabe are growing in mind and stature. Gabe, even though he didn't speak more than a dozen words that I understood, was soaking up all the story and songs that Saturday evening. Lauren listened, asked questions, and was learning more daily. And they were certainly growing physically.

How about you? Are you growing spiritually? Have you taken that first decisive step of faith and believing that Jesus is God and paid for your sin? Are you growing?

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



Subject: Fwd: **Define Evil.....**

Date: 10/11/2005

From: KrehDaddy@.com

This might make some basic truths more clear to some people.

Subject: **Define evil**

The university professor challenged his students with this question:

"Did God create everything that exists?"

A student bravely replied "Yes, he did!"

"God created everything?" the professor asked.

"Yes sir," the student replied.

The professor answered, "If God created everything, then God created evil since evil exists, and according to the principle that our works define who we are, then God is evil."

The professor was quite pleased with himself and boasted to the students that he had proven once more that the Christian faith was a myth.

Another student raised his hand and said, "Can I ask you a question professor?"

"Of course," replied the professor.

The student stood up and asked, "Professor does cold exist?"

The professor replied "Of course it exists. Have you never been cold?"

The students snickered at the question.

The young man replied, "In fact sir, cold does not exist. According to the laws of physics, what we consider cold is in reality the absence of heat. Everybody or object is susceptible to study when it has or transmits energy, and heat is what makes a body or matter have or transmit energy. Absolute zero (-460° F) is the total absence of heat. Cold does not exist. We have created this word to describe how we feel if we have no heat."

The student continued. "Professor, does darkness exist?"

The professor responded, "Of course it does."

The student replied, "Once again you are wrong sir. Darkness does not exist either. Darkness is in reality the absence of light. Light we can study, but not darkness. In fact we can use Newton's prism to break white light into many colors and study the various wavelengths of each color. You cannot measure darkness. A simple ray of light can break into a world of darkness and illuminate it. How can you know how dark a certain space is? You measure the amount of light present. Isn't this correct? Darkness is a term used by man to describe what happens when there is no light present."

Finally the young man asked the professor. "Sir, does evil exist?"

Now uncertain, the professor responded, "Of course as I have already said. We see it every day. It is in the daily example of man's inhumanity to man. It is in the multitude of crime and violence everywhere in the world. These manifestations are nothing else but evil."

To this the student replied, "Evil does not exist sir, or at least it does not exist unto itself. Evil is simply the absence of God. It is just like darkness and cold, a word that man has created to describe the absence of God. God did not create evil. Evil is the result of what happens when man does not have God's love present in his heart. It's like the cold that comes when there is no heat or the darkness that comes when there is no light."

The professor sat down.

The young man's name — Albert Einstein.



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