

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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For a free subscription, update your address, feedback, comments or to submit an article, contact us at:
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Crisis, emergency, or to "just talk about something",
call: Your Mom; Your Dad; Your Pastor, or
Rich or Marie Dymmel
(336/674-7564 or 336/908-3652)

Crimson & White? What's this?

... This letter is part of a ministry primarily to students and singles. It started with college students. Now about 60% of the mailing list are college students, 20% middle and high school, and 10% are age 22 to 30, and we'll just leave ages unsaid for the last 10% since, well, they're old.. Articles are on character, values, spiritual life, relationships and more ... and some fun.

The theology position is "conservative," i.e. Jesus is God's Son, eternal, part of the single triune God, born of a virgin, sinless, crucified and risen, and is the *only* way to eternal life. We are free to choose Him. He has told us to be holy and that includes behaviors such as: sex outside of marriage is wrong.

This letter and post cards are sent about twice a month. We're trying to say that you are important enough for us to put this in your mailbox. We care about you and want to encourage your character growth and your spiritual walk.

A second part of the ministry is prayer. We pray for each person on our mailing list as the mail is prepared. When you get mail from us, you know someone prayed for you.

A college student reader chose the name **Crimson and White Connection** based on Isaiah 1:18 in the Bible "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." The cleansing of our nature and our sins is a universal need. If you base your trust for entrance into Heaven in Jesus, God's Son, and His death and resurrection on your behalf, then your crimson stains are made white as wool. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. There is no other way. If you admit that you can not reach God's standard, are repentant and sorry for your short fall (sin) and have asked Him to forgive you, then He has forgiven you. If you are truly repentant, then there will be evidence of that in your actions, your life. - - If the "religion police" were to arrest you, would you be turned loose for "lack of evidence"? Or would the evidence of your actions convict you of being a Christian?

If you have chosen to accept Jesus as Lord of your life, either the first time or again, we would like to know so that we can pray for you and encourage you. Write or call us.

You WILL BE and ARE a slave! But you can CHOOSE your master! CHOOSE God today.

John 3:16 is true. Accept no substitute!

July 4, 2005 Free To Dance

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

Freedom - July 4th - you expected this. Right?

With the exception of the C&WC readers in Germany and Australia, all the rest are United States folks. For us, the 4th of July is our Independence Day - the day our country declared freedom from someone else ruling over us. For the Christian, there is "freedom." There is also "DEpendence."

Sunday Marie and I worshipped with some friends in Virginia. Among the songs we sang in the first service in their new church building was "I Am Free."

Through You the blind will see		I am free to run
Through You the mute will sing		I am free to dance
Through You the dead will rise		I am free to live for You
Through You the darkness flees		I AM FREE
Through You hearts will praise		I AM FREE

Through Jesus we have the ability to see, sing praises, dance. We can choose to do that, or choose not to. I can choose to write and encourage someone today... or not. You can choose to praise Him, be thankful, or not. You can choose to live for God... or not.

"Dance." Marie and I took several months of ballroom dance instruction a few years ago. Gee, it's been nine years ago already. Anyway... In a dance, one person leads, the other follows. - Some of what kids do now and call dancing is actually "individual dancing." They might just as well have gone out there and just danced by themselves. There is no "connection" with the other person. Except in the case of some dancing. At the HS prom, they retrieved some kids from the floor for obscene dancing. ... let's not go there today. That's a whole topic of modesty, etc. - In these songs that mention a "dance," think about: one leads, the other follows. A dance is also voluntary. Usually one says, "Want to dance?" And the other replies, "Yes." If both people try to direct the dance, it will not go smoothly. One raises their hand for a pass under and turn and the other steps back and steps left, pulling away. If they both go left, they will separate, go in opposite directions.

So Jesus invites us to dance. We are FREE to accept the invitation or not. He starts to lead. We are FREE to follow His lead, or we can decide that we want to go another direction. When He moves and goes to His left, we either follow, stay where we are, or go the opposite way. If He moves to pull you close... will you pull away, stay your same distance, or let Him pull you close.

One of my favorite movie scenes is in Scent Of A Woman (1992 with Al Pacino, it is R rated). The blind retired Colonel and his companion, Charlie, a military high school student, are doing a weekend in Manhattan. At a fancy restaurant they start a conversation with a young lady, Donna. The colonel asks her, "Would you like to learn to Tango, Donna?" Timidly, "Right now?" "...I'm offering..." "I think I'd be a little afraid." "Of what?" "Afraid of making a mistake." "No mistakes in the Tango, Donna. Not like life. Simple. That's what makes the Tango so great. Make a mistake, get all tangled up, just Tango on. Why don't you try it?" .. "All right. I'll give it a try." Donna and the Colonel head for the dance floor. Charlie tells him the dimensions of the dance floor. It starts off slow, she's learning to trust him to lead and she to follow. He "dips" her backward, she is a little startled, learns he won't drop her, he is in control. Fast; slow; spins; traveling; turning. Close, at arm's length, then back close, facing him, facing the same direction, lots of change-ups. ... The dance requires that she follows his lead and direction. One of the "secrets" of "dancing" is staying in touch and communicating. In a dance, the "leader" has all the responsibility for direction. The "partner" has responsibility to receive the directions and follow through. It is a beautiful dance sequence, energetic,

alive! - She

[Finish on page 2]

Free To Dance (continued)

chose to follow. When the dance is over, she has had an exciting dance experience. If she had chosen not to trust the colonel, because in her opinion, he was blind and he couldn't possible lead her around the dance floor, then it would have been a disastrously clumsy dance. She submitted, he led, it's really pretty cool. It would have been a show stopper, clear the floor, everybody watch, dance at any Prom.

So how is your dance with Jesus? He has asked, "Would you like to dance?" You are free to respond either "Yes" or "No thank you." Or maybe you said, "I'm a little afraid," or "I'm afraid I'd make a mistake." If you accept, He says, "I like to lead." Maybe it's here that you've said, "I'm a little afraid." Like the Tango, if you get tangled up, just keep going. There's some lyrics that go, "What if I stumble? What if I fall? What if I make fools of us all?" ("What If I Stumble," DC Talk, CD: Jesus Freak) The answer is, "Just keep going." In the song they also ask, "Will the love continue when my walk becomes a crawl?" Answer: Yes. God knows you aren't perfect. If you were, Jesus didn't need to become the sacrifice. Just hang on, crawl, get back up, keep going, "Tango on."

So, you are free to choose. You can dance with Jesus or not. He wants to lead. You are free to choose to follow His lead or try to lead or try to dance "by yourself." And if you don't "dance" perfectly, miss a step, get tangled up, just keep on dancing.

The Colonel starts the dance slowly. Trusting an invisible God usually comes after you have learned that there is someone you can trust. Trusting someone might be scary. Trusting an invisible God can be scary, too, till you learn to trust Him. Then you'll begin to see Him working all around you. He never fails. Trust me, I know, I've experienced Him and seen His work.

In Christ, Rick

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. –

**“May I have
this dance?”**

Jesus

I have a photo of the actual billboard, but it didn't turn out great, and it made the file too big.

**About YOUR mailbox**

As I was updating the database, I noticed that there were FORTY students that I count as college Seniors and 12 HS Seniors. That is 52 students that are potentially changing addresses, 40 NOW and 12 in August. Only TWO have sent me

updates. **PLEASE** email me your new

addresses for "during the school year" and "home for the summer and holidays" addresses. If the P.O. returns 30 of those in August, at 92c, it will cost \$27.60 in return postage.

www.SolidSounds.org

Reflections on today's Christian music

(used with permission)

What If I Stumble

performed by **dc Talk**

on the album *Jesus Freak*

11/30/1999

**Reflection #2 on 'What If I Stumble' by dc talk**

Will the love continue

When my walk

Becomes a crawl?

What if I stumble,

And what if

I fall?

The group dc talk asks the question, "What if I fall?" Well...what if you fall? What if I fall? How will God respond?

The Bible is very clear: He will lift us up! "Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy. Though I fall I will rise; Though I dwell in darkness, the LORD is a light for me" (Micah 7:8 NASB).

"The steps of a man are established by the LORD; And He delights in his way. When he falls, he shall not be hurled headlong; Because the LORD is the One who holds his hand" (Psalm 37:23-24 NASB). I really like this psalm because it says a man will fall, but God will hold on to him. God knows we aren't perfect. God doesn't ask us to be perfect! Only Jesus was perfect.

But God does ask us to keep our hearts perfect toward Him. That means, dedicated to Him. When we do that, when we strive to honor Him with our hearts, our thoughts, our words and our actions, God will help us. And when we fail, when we mess up, when we sin—God will forgive us!

"Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits; Who pardons all your iniquities; Who heals all your diseases; Who redeems your life from the pit; Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion" (Psalm 103:1-4 NASB).

God forgives us all our sins when we humble ourselves before Him. When we confess our sins, He forgives us! When we turn away from our sins and move in line with His commands, He blesses us!

Don't let fear of failure keep you from stepping out to do the things God is calling you to do. He knows you can't do them on your own, and He doesn't expect you to even try. He plans to do these wonderful things—through you. Hold on to God. Keep looking for His strength and wisdom. And if you stumble, remember: God will be there to pick you up!

-Suzy C.

Scripture Reference: [Micah 7:8](#); [Psalm 37:23-24](#); [Psalm 103:1-4](#)

More lyrics I heard for the first time this weekend:

Jesus You Are

Jesus You are You are
Everything I'm not
And everything that I want to be
Jesus You are You are
The maker of my heart
Finish what You started in me

Come Let Us Sing A Song

Come let us sing a song
A song declaring
We belong to Jesus
He's all we need

A small tribute of thanks to our military and veterans:

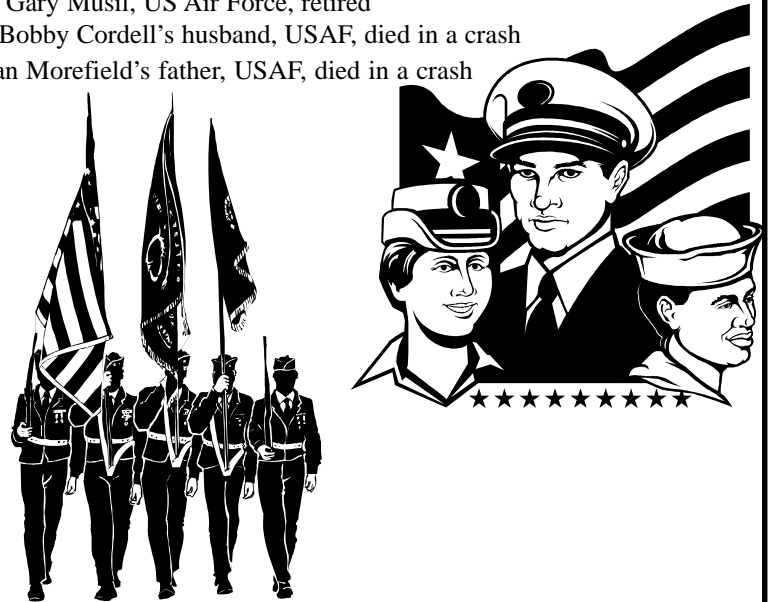
Freedom isn't free. It is purchased with a price. Thank you to those who are and have served to protect freedom.

These are current active military and veteran C&WC readers and in memorial to family members who died in service. (As soon as I start naming these, I'm sure there will be someone that is omitted. If you are in the Reserves, or a veteran, whatever, please let me know.)

- LTJG Rae Lynn Bangs, US Coast Guard, Florida
- Cadet Megan Dillon, US Coast Guard Academy, Connecticut
- 2ndLt JeanetteKellum, RN, US Air Force, Colorado
- AMAN Mark Ledbetter, US Navy, Afganistan
- Spc. Ben York, US Army - Baghdad, Iraq

Veterans (that I know of):

- Ralph Musil, US Army, WW2, Invasion at Normandy ...
- Gene Ledbetter, UN Navy
- Rich Dymmel, US Army
- Capt. Gary Musil, US Air Force, retired
- Mrs. Bobby Cordell's husband, USAF, died in a crash
- Nathan Morefield's father, USAF, died in a crash



[Shirts:]

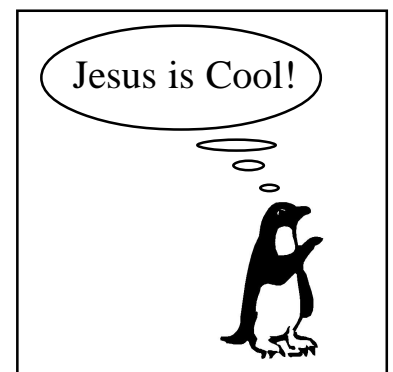
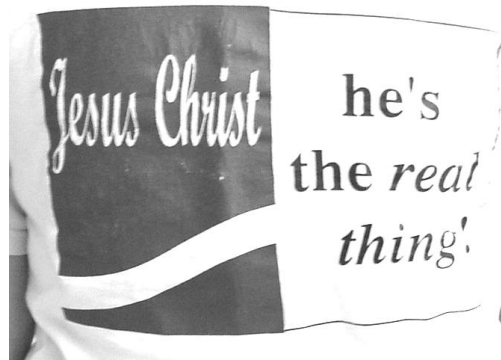
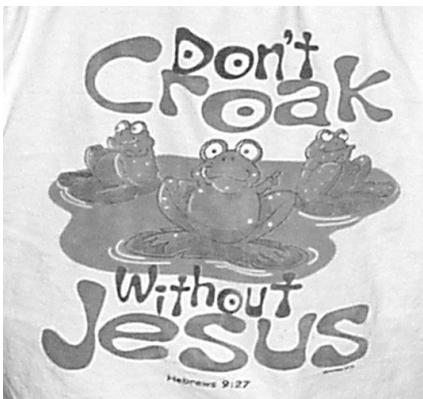
**MY
INVISIBLE
FRIEND
CREATED ME**

Psalms 139:13-16

**Who is more irrational?
A man who believes in a
God he doesn't see, or a
man who is offended by a
God he doesn't believe in?**

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**live your life so the
preacher won't have to
lie at your funeral**



Subj: FW: A Special, True Story..... Date: 10/1/2000
From: (Nancy L. Christmas)

[Oct 2003 - Professor of Theology, John Powell, S.J (Society of Jesus, a Jesuite priest) of Loyola University of Chicago, is now retired and in a nursing home in Michigan. I talked with the Theology department secretary and she had personally verified that the story is true. Prof. Powell has written many books on theology and marriage. In searching the web, one site had added "Whether this story is true or not, there is a powerful principle in it." Another gave credit to SALEM Voice magazine, actually in India. After talking with the departmental secretary, I think there is no problem in printing this story, saying it IS TRUE, and giving credit to Prof. Powell.]

John Powell, A professor at Loyola University in Chicago writes about a student in his Theology of Faith class named Tommy.

Theology of Faith

By Prof. John Powell

A true story of how one person found God and much more.

Some twelve years ago, I stood watching my university students file into the classroom for our first session in the Theology of Faith. That was the first day I first saw Tommy. My eyes and my mind both blinked. He was combing his long flaxen hair, which hung six inches below his shoulders. It was the first time I had ever seen a boy with hair that long. I guess it was just coming into fashion then. I know in my mind that it isn't what's on your head but what's in it that counts; but on that day I was unprepared and my emotions flipped. I immediately filed Tommy under S for strange. . . very strange.

Tommy turned out to be the atheist in residence in my Theology of Faith course. He constantly objected to, smirked at or whined about the possibility of an unconditionally loving Father/God. We lived with each other in relative peace for one semester, although I admit he was for me at times a serious pain in the back pew. When he came up at the end of the course to turn in his final exam, he asked in a slightly cynical tone, "Do you think I'll ever find God?"

I decided instantly on a little shock therapy. "No!" I said very emphatically. "Oh," he responded, "I thought that was the product you were pushing." I let him get five steps from the classroom door and then called out, "Tommy! I don't think you'll ever find him, but I am absolutely certain that he will find you!" He shrugged a little and left my class and my life. I felt slightly disappointed at the thought that he had missed my clever line, He will find you! At least I thought it was clever. Later I heard that Tommy had graduated and I was duly grateful.

Then a sad report. I heard that Tommy had terminal cancer. Before I could search him out, he came to see me. When he walked into my office, his body was very badly wasted, and the long hair had all fallen out as a result of chemotherapy. But his eyes were bright and his voice was firm, for the first time, I believe.

"Tommy, I've thought about you so often. I hear you are sick," I blurted out.

"Oh, yes, very sick. I have cancer in both lungs. It's a matter of weeks."

"Can you talk about it, Tom?" I asked.

"Sure, what would you like to know?" he replied.

"What's it like to be only twenty-four and dying?"

"Well, it could be worse."

"Like what?"

"Well, like being fifty and having no values or ideals, like being fifty and thinking that booze, seducing women and making money are

the real 'biggies' in life."

I began to look through my mental file cabinet under S where I had filed Tommy as strange. (It seems as though everybody I try to reject by classification, God sends back into my life to educate me.)

"But what I really came to see you about," Tom said, "is something you said to me on the last day of class." (He remembered!) He continued, "I asked you if you thought I would ever find God and you said, 'No!' which surprised me. Then you said, 'But he will find you.' I thought about that a lot, even though my search for God was hardly intense at that time." (My clever line. He thought about that a lot!) "But when the doctors removed a lump from my groin and told me that it was malignant, then I got serious about locating God. And when the malignancy spread into my vital organs, I really began banging bloody fists against the bronze doors of heaven. But God did not come out. In fact, nothing happened. Did you ever try anything for a long time with great effort and with no success? You get psychologically glutted, fed up with trying. And then you quit. Well, one day I woke up, and instead of throwing a few more futile appeals over that high brick wall to a God who may be or may not be there, I just quit. I decided that I didn't really care . . . about God, about an afterlife, or anything like that. I decided to spend what time I had left doing something more profitable. I thought about you and your class and I remembered something else you had said: 'The essential sadness is to go through life without loving. But it would be almost equally sad to go through life and leave this world without ever telling those you loved that you had loved them.

So, I began with the hardest one, my Dad. He was reading the newspaper when I approached him.

'Dad.'

'Yes, what?' he asked without lowering the newspaper.

'Dad, I would like to talk with you.'

'Well, talk.'

'I mean . . . It's really important.' The newspaper came down three slow inches.

'What is it?'

'Dad, I love you. I just wanted you to know that.'

Tom smiled at me and said it with obvious satisfaction, as though he felt a warm and secret joy flowing inside of him.

"The newspaper fluttered to the floor. Then my father did two things I could never remember him ever doing before. He cried and he hugged me. And we talked all night, even though he had to go to work the next morning. It felt so good to be close to my father, to see his tears, to feel his hug, to hear him say that he loved me. It was easier with my mother and little brother. They cried with me, too, and we hugged each other, and started saying real nice things to each other. We shared the things we had been keeping secret for so many years. I was only sorry about one thing: that I had waited so long. Here I was, just beginning to open up to all the people I had actually been close to.

Then, one day I turned around and God was there. He didn't come to me when I pleaded with him. I guess I was like an animal trainer holding out a hoop, 'C'mon, jump through.' 'C'mon, I'll give you three days, three weeks.' Apparently God does things in his own way and at his own hour. But the important thing is that he was there. He found me. You were right. He found me even after I stopped looking for him."

"Tommy," I practically gasped, "I think you are saying something very important and much more universal than you realize. To me, at least, you are saying that the surest way to find God is not to make him a private possession, a problem solver, or an instant consolation in time of need, but rather by opening to love. You know, the Apostle John said that. He said: 'God is love, and anyone who lives in love is living with God and God is living in him.' Tom, could I ask you a favor? You know, when I had you in class you were a real pain. But (laughingly) you can make it all up to me now. Would you come into

my present Theology of Faith course and tell them what you have just told me? If I told them the same thing it wouldn't be half as effective as if you were to tell them."

"Ooh I was ready for you, but I don't know if I'm ready for your class."

"Tom, think about it. If and when you are ready, give me a call."

In a few days Tom called, said he was ready for the class, that he wanted to do that for God and for me. So we scheduled a date. However, he never made it. He had another appointment, far more important than the one with me and my class. Of course, his life was not really ended by his death, only changed. He made the great step from faith into vision. He found a life far more beautiful than the eye of man has ever seen or the ear of man has ever heard or the mind of man has ever imagined.

Before he died, we talked one last time. "I'm not going to make it to your class," he said.

"I know, Tom."

"Will you tell them for me? Will you . . . tell the whole world for me?"

"I will, Tom. I'll tell them. I'll do my best."

So, to all of you who have been kind enough to hear this simple statement about love, thank you for listening. And to you, Tommy, somewhere in the sunlit, verdant hills of heaven: I told them, Tommy . . . as best I could.

If this story means anything to you, please pass it on to a friend or two. It is a true story and is not enhanced for publicity purposes.

With thanks.

John Powell, professor at Loyola University in Chicago

When things are going well: "I've got things under control, I don't need You, God. You can help someone else a while." We get dulled of His presence.

Sonic Flood sings "**Resonate**" - What is it to resonate? To vibrate in sync with. To move in sync with God! To resonate is to have one source and a second object picks up the motion or vibration and vibrates at the same frequency.

Sign:

"If you miss heaven, then what? - God"

Sign:

Do you have any idea where you're going? - God

"We were enjoying our religion. But were we doing what God wanted?" Romans 12: 1-2

We are the sinners - He has the scars

"Our pea-sized brain can never figure out God. I don't want a God I can figure out."

Only fools believe only in what they see.

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Daily Encounter ~ Monday, July 4, 2005

By Richard (Dick) Innes. Published and (c) by ACTS International <http://www.actsweb.org>

* * * * *

Today's Daily Encounter

1. Gratitude

"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13, NIV).

Today is a day of celebration for U.S. citizens—the day when each year they celebrate their independence as a nation. For those who live in the U.S.A. let us not forget that our independence was bought with a price—the price of blood on the battlefields. Thousands of men, supported by wives, mothers and sisters, fathers and brothers, fought for our freedom, multiplied thousands of whom gave their lives in the process.

No nation in world history has experienced more freedoms, privileges, and opportunities. This nation was founded and built on a solid foundation of liberty and justice for all with a firm belief and trust in God.

Today, however, too many of us are taking our freedom for granted and have forgotten that the "price of freedom is still eternal vigilance;"¹ not only militarily, but perhaps even more important, morally. Too many are confusing liberty with license and are wanting personal freedom without personal responsibility and accountability—not realizing that they are being enslaved by their own passions and selfish desires which will erode the very foundation upon which this nation was built quicker than anything else.

For all of us who live in a free country may we ever be thankful to those who gave their lives to give us our freedom and independence and may we guard these freedoms with our lives. And may we also be ever thankful to God for the gift of his Son who died so we could be eternally free and for the wonderful privilege that we can serve him with our lives. And may we never ever forget that "blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."²

Suggested prayer: "Dear God, for those of us who live in a free country we give you our never-ending thanks. May we never take our freedom for granted but guard it zealously. And we pray for those people who are enslaved by despot leaders, who are imprisoned and tortured for their Christian faith, and for all who know nothing of freedom—and we especially pray that the gospel will go forth in spite of their situation. And grant that those who belong to you will have peace in the midst of their circumstances and be kept from all harm and danger. Thank you for hearing and answering my prayer. Gratefully in Jesus' name, amen."

1. Thomas Jefferson.

2. Psalm 33:12.

<:)))<><

2. To Know God and be sure you're a real Christian without having to be religious click on: <http://tinyurl.com/8glq9> (or cut and paste the URL in your browser).

**Subject: update from jordana
(Going to Sweden)**

Date: 6/29/2005 9:26:11 A.M. Eastern Standard Time
From: oneday_268@hotmail.com
To: rdymmel@aol.com

Hi Rich! Hope you and Marie and all your family are doing well. Just wanted to update you on what's going on with me. This is a letter I just sent to my church family. I'll soon be writing an article about this for our church newsletter, and if you want me to send you a copy for C&WC, I'll be glad to.

Thanks, Jordana

Dear Christ Covenant Friends and Family,

I'm sure that some of you have heard this information already, but I just wanted to formally let you know that I will FINALLY be moving to Sweden after having a passion to serve and minister there for the past six years. After listening intently to the Lord in order to discern his will for my life, I believe and have had it confirmed by many faithful believers that God is indeed calling me to Sweden now, in his timing, not mine.

I am leaving from Charlotte on 2 Aug and, although I will return on 20 Dec for the Christmas holiday, I believe that this will be a rather long-term and perhaps permanent move. Despite my extreme elation and excitement, I am nervous and apprehensive about such a huge move and hate to leave my family and friends behind but know that they are in the Lord's care!

My service will begin as I work as an au pair for a Swedish-British family. The children, Ben and Caroline, are 12 and 10, respectively, and the mother, Caroline, is quite ill with an unknown gastro-intestinal disease (Crone's maybe?). As a result, she is unable to care for her children, and their father, David, works full-time as some sort of music producer. In speaking with him, I have learned that he has studied the Bible intensely and has a solid theological backing. However, after asking me if I was "born again" he said that he was not because of fear. He said that the Lord called him to be a pastor many years ago, but that he has been afraid of what God wants to do in his life, so he's never answered that call.

Please be in prayer for me as I minister to this family (the Smith-Gordons) and their children as well as to those in the community. The children have never lived in Sweden until now (just moved from NJ) and will have a difficult time adjusting to the school system, not to mention the language. Pray for me also as I take language classes and attempt to become fluent in Swedish. Pray that I find a strong, solid, support base of believers over there to encourage, challenge, and hold me accountable in my faith. I have visited several good churches in the area, so hopefully finding one will not be a problem... and with my (gasp!) Methodist contacts, I am indeed not short of Christian friends. Finally, please pray for my family, especially my mother, as this potentially permanent move is very difficult for them.

I am sure that this mission seems rather odd to most of you, but I believe that it is what God is currently calling me to do, and I believe that I am called to be in and among the people, to reach them in their everyday lives that are void and empty and longing to be filled with Christ. And in case you don't know, only 1% of the population of Sweden is actually composed of believers, a devastating fact.

I am composing a team of prayer partners to commit to pray for me only one day a week. If you are interested in being part of this team, please email me back with the words "prayer team" in

the subject line so that I don't accidentally delete your email from my junk mail folder. In advance, I thank you for your prayers and support and for being such dear family to me for the past eight years.

Välsignelser (blessings),
Jordana

my new address information:
Jordana Hart
Kullaviks Kaprifolvägen 8
429 33 Kullavik SVERIGE/SWEDEN

email is the same for now :)

and if you want to know exactly where Kullavik is, it's in the suburb of Kungsbacka, just outside of Göteborg/Gothenburg on the lower west coast. I'm including a link to a map if you want to see where that is. <http://www.sverigeturism.se/smorgasbord/smorgasbord/service/sweden-map.html>

To trust is to allow someone else to make a decision for you, to lead you. Some believe others, including the TV, that experimenting and playing with alcohol, drugs, marijuana, and sex won't hurt you, is 'normal,' and 'everyone else' is doing it. — It can, it's not, and they're not. Someone you can trust is someone who is interested in your well-being and future, has your long range benefit in mind, not necessarily shortsighted "now" or their benefit.

- Spring of Life -

H. Roger Bothwell

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Be Careful Who You Trust

According to Eric H. Erickson, a benchmark human developmental theorist, the very first stage of a child's psychosocial development is figuring out whom to trust. A baby's world is filled with giants. Some of them are nice and some not so nice. If one is to survive in this big bad world one has to know whom to trust. As the years go by most of us learn to trust ourselves. Surely we will always do the best thing for ourselves. But we don't. We over eat. We don't get enough exercise. We spend far too much time in front of the TV.

When one learns to fly an airplane one of the very first lesson is do not trust yourself. Trust the instruments. There are times when you [are] absolutely sure you are going up but you are really going down. There are times you think you are flying straight ahead but instead you are banking into a curve. It is called vertigo.

Have you ever been waiting a traffic signal and a large bus or truck beside you starts to move very slowly? You are looking ahead and catch the movement in the side of your vision. If you are like most of us you will press your foot harder on the brake to stop from drifting. Your senses deceived you. You weren't moving at all.

Solomon once said, "There is a way that seems right to a man. But the end thereof is the way of death." One of life's great lessons is do not put too much trust in yourself. Proverbs 14:12

I'm Roger Bothwell and my address is 151 Old Farm Rd. Leominster, MA 01453. Thank you for your support of our faith ministry.

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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 better to be alone than in bad company.

Bad company corrupts good character. 1Corinthians 15:33

Do not be afraid of tomorrow. God is already there.

"Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Resources and links at www.CrimsonWhite.org