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?

... 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 <u>you</u> are <u>important enough</u> 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 <u>you</u>.

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!

March 18, 2006 Shine

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

Did I mention before that I bought a copy of <u>Shine</u>, a book by the Newsboys (2002, Whitaker House)? The physical rough edges, the burgundy print, the layout, the occasional quotations, ... and being on super-sale, all attracted me to get it, as well as what the content may be. So far it is following the theme of one of the songs they are known for: "Shine: make 'em wonder what you got. Make 'em wish that they were not On the outside lookin' bored (I always thought the words here were "On the outside lookin for it"). Shine, let it shine before all men, Let 'em see good works and then, Let 'em glorify the Lord."

But now I ask you to think about that a minute... How can you "shine"? What is required to "shine"? What do you need to "shine"?

Let's get back to "shine." ... (p.46-47) "There's a reason that "Shine" comes before "Make them wonder" in the title. It is a truth we often forget or ignore: We can't make people wonder about Christ if our light isn't first shining. We can't make them wonder what we've got if we haven't got it! So when Christ says, "Let your light shine," He's saying, in essence, "Remember who the Light is. Let Me shine through you.""

What sets you apart? Are you doing "good works"? - I admit it, I haven't gone and worked on a disaster relief team. I've encouraged some to go. I've promoted it. I've promoted and

gone to and taken men to Promise Keepers. (Have you gone? Gals can go and volunteer in a hundred ways.) Now "good works" won't save you. But out of gratitude to God, he has asked you to be set apart. Be different. - Out of 5000 students at Wake Forest, 100 are going to do disaster relief work in the Gulf area. And when you do "good works" people do notice. Sometimes it may make the 10 o'clock FOX News or the newspaper. Most times not. But people do see what you do. And God sees.

If you have a light in you, Jesus in you, do you "hide it"? Let your light shine! - One of my students is making a copy of a table (I brought her pictures and dimensions) that I made as a copy of a table I saw at the Henry Ford Museum. It is a stand for a candle. And as the tall candle burns down, you can raise the table top so it remains high to shed light around the room.

Matthew 5:15-16 (KJV) Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before

men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. "People living in a culture where what is true and real has been trivialized will welcome an authentic manifestation of the life of Christ when it is communicated consistently and with love so that the difference is inescapable" (p.43-44). If you really like Fords or Chevys or a particular brand of clothes... I can't tell you how much kids wear A&F logo clothes, or a couple of my students talk about their cars. If you have Jesus, shouldn't that truth be even more important?! Standing at the crosswalk in the morning, I see a couple kids with shirts with some kind of Christian message. I've seen a couple stand up in front of hundreds of peers and tell what Jesus has done in their lives. Not just a candle... a torch. And when you put a bright light in a dark room, some will turn away. But others will be curious as to what the light is all about.

So, #1 is to GET the Light. And #2 is to let your light SHINE!

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. –



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*

** Jordana's blog is at www.JordanaHart.com ** Subject: Re: Blog

	0
Date:	3/13/2006 8:07:56 A.M. Eastern Standard Time
From:	jordana.hart@.com
To:	RDymmel@aol.com

you're most welcome to use it all...and i'm honored that you'd want to include it. glory to God!! thanks for all you do, rich!! peace, love, and swedish fish, jordana

Subject: Re: Crimson & White issue

 Date:
 2/15/2006 4:31:21 P.M. Eastern Standard Time

 From:
 jn
 @..com

Hi Rich,

I just wanted to send you a quick message and say thanks for always keeping me in touch with the Crimson & White Connection! I'm back from South Africa and living in _____ until I figure out what is the next step. I actually really like the email version because it's less paper for me to forget that i have and never get around to reading! :-) If I was still at college or somewhere dying for a piece of mail in the mailbox, I would definitely prefer it that way. But these days, no mail is good mail because it's not a bill! :-)

Thanks again for all that you do! In Christ, Jennifer

Subject: Re: 03/17/06 Fri – Face of Victo ry

 Date:
 3/17/2006 12:41:39 P.M. Eastern Standard Time

 From:
 b
 @
 .com

... - - - - your comments in this devotional rang true with me; in fact, every year we discuss the same story about David's murderous past and transformation with the 5-6th grade SS class - - - - also just wanted to let you know that I appreciate and find encouragement from your examples / works - - - not just from your devotionals Benjy

You can get an encouraging word (almost) every morning. I select from several daily devotionals, I usually add a comment of my own and email it out. To try our daily morning thoughts, just drop me an email at <u>RDymmel@AOL.com</u> and write "try the daily email please" and we'll send it for two weeks and then ask you if you want to continue or not.

Matthew 5: 14-16

TMSG: (The Message)

¹⁴"Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill.

¹⁵If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. 16Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven. Completing God's Law

NLT: (New Living Translation)

¹⁴You are the light of the world—like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see.

¹⁵Don't hide your light under a basket! Instead, put it on a stand and let it shine for all. ¹⁶In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

NIV: (New International Version)

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.
¹⁵Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

NCV: (New Century Version)

14"You are the light that gives light to the world. A city that is built on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵And people don't hide a light under a bowl. They put it on a lampstand so the light shines for all the people in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, you should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do and will praise your Father in heaven.

The Back Pew is used with permission



shinin' his LIGHT! Mt. 5:14-16

(Roger Bothwell's stuff is used with permission)

- Spring of Life -H. Roger Bothwell Be Careful Who You Trust

#50 for 2006

www.religionworld.org/dd/archiv20/5169.htm Selective Memories

Have you ever been accused of having a selective memory? If so, it was likely justified because most of us conveniently forget embarrassing details of past escapades. We only remember the good things we have done and even enhance them a bit. Lest we become righteously indigent over the idea of intellectual dishonesty let me share a wonderful verse from Hebrews 10:16 and 17. God said, "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, said the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more."

In Psalm 25 David even prays for God to exercise selective memory. There are certain things he wants to be sure God remembers and others he wants to make sure God does not remember. "Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy loving kindnesses; for they have been ever of old. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD."

God apparently has no difficultly in putting certain events to rest. Since we are striving to become more and more like Him each day it seems we too should exercise selective memory. It is the key to a happy life. In Psalm 51: 9 David prayed, "Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities." When things are blotted out they can no longer be read. They are covered. When God's grace smothers us with love the bad stuff goes away. 46 for 2006

www.religionworld.org/dd/archiv20/5165.htm **EZ Pass**

I love my EZ Pass. In the east we have lots of toll roads. Every few miles we have to stop and pay. Sometimes on holidays the lines are long and we inch to the tollbooth. But there is EZ Pass, a wonderful electronic device on the windshield that lets you bypass the long lines. You zip through the Fast Lane and the computer automatically charges your credit card. It's sort of like Monopoly. You pass "Go" and proceed right to jail where you can immediately pay and get right out.

I used to worry about God's Judgment. It was the place where I was going to have to pay. I would have to listen to all my sins being read from some horrible record book totally shaming me before everyone I knew. Then I had to wait to see if I was going to be lucky enough to receive God's grace. But I found John 5:24. Listen to this. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that hears my word, and believes on him that sent me, has everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

Isn't that grand? It's like having an EZ Pass. There will be no waiting in line. We believe Jesus. We accept His offer and we do not come to condemnation. The moment we accept Jesus we pass from death to life. This is even better than an EZ Pass. There is no charge to my credit card. Jesus paid for it. Don't you just love the Gospel? This is such good news.

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

#41 for 2006

www.religionworld.org/dd/archiv20/5160.htm The Banquet Table in Heaven is Round

Evening television is full of competition programs. We have the Winter Olympics, American Idol, Dancing with the Stars, Skating with Celebrities and of course Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune that never go away. Each program features lots of losers. Watching brings back a host of memories of personal competitions and less than stellar results. We live in a competitive world and win-win situations are rare and far between.

I have seen family situations where children had to compete for their parent's love and approval. There is tremendous pain when one feels like they do not measure up or are not worthy of their parent's affection. The psychological damage of such relationships lasts a lifetime. So many adults still long to hear "I love you" from their parents. It doesn't matter how old we grow. It doesn't go away.

I have great news regarding our heavenly Father. We do not have to compete for His love. He has no favorites. Your pastor has no advantage. Those who gave their lives in martyrdom have no advantage. Sister Teresa has no advantage. "God is no respecter of persons." Acts 10:34. The banquet table in heaven is round. There are no high price and no nosebleed seats. Every seat was incredibly expensive and Jesus picked up the tab.

It is grand to live a fruitful life but your fruit occurs not because you are wonderful but because you are grafted into a wonderful vine. See John 15. If you sometimes feel worthless and can't make a list of people you have brought to Jesus, don't for a moment think God loves Billy Graham more than He loves you.

I'm Roger Bothwell

http://www.jordanahart.com/

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Sunday 12 March 06

quirkyalone...

March 12th 2006 Posted to updates

...zak told me about the word about a month or so ago, and i didn't think too much of it. Webster's New Millennium[™] Dictionary of English, Preview Edition (v 0.9.6) Copyright © 2003-2005 Lexico Publishing Group, LLC defines it as "a single person who is happy to wait to find the perfect mate or partner." i thought about that word again today, as the title of our sermon at church (preach it, gudrun!!) was "single and satisfied" (really good stuff....check it out online if you're interested at www.newlife.nu). i can happily, willingly, and honestly say for, perhaps the first time in my life, that those words describe me.

see, God's been dealing with me a lot regarding this issue, and *i* know now that *i*'m better and more refined for having gone through the fire...on my way to being gold, baby! especially in events that shall remain anonymous that have taken place over the past week, i have fully realized that never again will i settle for less than God's best for me. i've played the spiritual leader in relationships for too long, and i've made excuses for guys. i've substituted close (and sometimes co-dependent) friendships in place of the relationship i really want and desire, and i have suffered as a result. i've spent much too much time pursuing something where there was nothing, liking and even allowing myself to fall in love with guys who were unable or unwilling to reciprocate those feelings or who did so in an unhealthy way. and all along, i set out a doormat (or made myself one, rather) while many of my other girlfriends put up walls, although we should have all been using our "mini blinds" (ask me about the mini blind theory if you're really interested....gracie and i are going to patent it one of these days...). worst of all, i let these pursuits distract me away from my true love, Jesus Christ. if you don't know what having a relationship with him is all about, then you've really never experienced true love. ask me if you want to know more...i'd be THRILLED to tell you.

anyway, i just want to say that i finally agree with and understand paul when he writes in 1 corinthians 7 that it's good, even better, to be single because it's so much easier to focus on God and what he's doing in our lives...and he's totally right. i'm at a point in my life when i don't have to split my passion and energy between two people. and i've realized that i'm surrounded by wonderfully Godly men these days, and i'm not attracted to any of them, and that, my friends, is a miracle in and of itself.

most importantly, i stand amazed as i watch Christ work in my life in ways like i've never experienced before. i feel that i am now communing with him like never before, and i have truly fallen in love with my Savior; i abide with him. i have fallen completely in LOVE with Jesus, and i am certain that this relationship is better than any other in the world! i truly look forward to knowing him more intimately each day and wait expectantly to see how he's going to bless me next. trials and temptations will come, friend, but i can assure you that it doesn't get better than this. as our celebration week theme was back in 2000 at gwu, "there's more to this life." you betcha....and his name is Jesus....

"i ask-ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory-to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what he is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life he has for Christians, oh, the utter extravagance of his work in us who trust him-endless energy, boundless strength!" - ephesians 1.17-19, the message

"blessed by the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! according to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. in this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faithmore precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire-may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. though you have not seen him, you love him. though you do not now see, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls." - wow...that good stuff is from 1 peter 1.3-9

okay, that's enough for now...so many thoughts going through my head...just want to leave you with this one: despite the fact that it's 86 F in boiling springs, nc right now and about 20 F here right now and the snow seems like it's never going to disappear, i love this country, and i love the fact that i can go in a pizzaria and hear kent and then coldplay simultaneously on the radio. it's little things like that that make me very happy. yay!

perhaps more to come tomorrow (if you're lucky)....

/j

"Never be afraid to try something new, Remember amateurs built the ark -Professionals built the Titanic."

Have you checked out www.CrimsonWhite.org?

http://www.jordanahart.com/index.php?paged=2

(Used with permission from Jordana Hart in Sweden.)

Tuesday 7 March 06

mat, fred, och några andra saker...

March 07th 2006 Posted to updates

...and for those of you who don't speak swedish, that means "food, peace, and a few other things." i'll start with food. have you ever thought about the power it has over us? how we can be tempted to eat things we shouldn't or crave one certain thing for hours or days, even...or, more importantly, how it brings people together...around the world. i haven't experienced every culture by any means, but as far as i know, food can bring together a group of people about anywhere, and that, i think, can be a great thing.

i'm thinking on this because my weekend and part of last week revolved around it, food that is. we (cathy, lisa, and i) spent hours grocery shopping for our peace party (fredsfest) that was held this past sunday (**see photos for more**) and never seemed to have quite all of our ingredients. and then cathy and i cooked for seven hours at church on saturday and three more on sunday afternoon so that the 60+ people who came to fredsfest would be happy and full and so that they'd socialize with one another. just think of going to party without food...wouldn't that be weird? i think so, anyway. (kourtney (mia, fwd this to her), the salsa was a hit, and i thought of you. and mom, your famous special ham and cheese sandwiches were wiped out quickly.)

although the food was loved and eaten by all and consumed much of my time over the weekend (if only they knew what fattening ingredients they ate...i'm a great cook but not always a healthy one), it wasn't what stressed me out as party time drew near. no, it was the fact that the four "peace mix" cds (and they were GOOD) i'd created for the event were missing (stolen??), the power point presentation sent to me by bradley (thank you!) didn't open, and i had forgotten to bring a dvd that was supposed to be played in the background during the party. and as ten different people were constantly asking me questions about what they could do to help, tears started streaming down my face.

i excused myself and went to pray alone in a classroom. and as i sat in solace for a moment, i realized that i had let much of the event become about me and what i was capable of achieving, and when those things fell through, i fell. so i sat still and prayed, prayed that God's will would be done and not mine, prayed that this day would be for his glory and not mine, and reminded satan that he wasn't welcome in my heart or at our party. and then i thanked God and went back to business.

now, as much as i'd have loved to have had everything altogether, i think it's a good thing that it wasn't. it's so easy for me to want to take credit for things and to want the glory for events myself. isn't that true for all of us? but it wasn't mine to take, and i had to be reminded of that in some way or another. andgasp-the party was amazing. i think at least nine nationalities were represented there as we had loads of fun, ate loads of food, and talked and sang about world peace, peace among relationships, and, most importantly, true peace that comes only through having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. just like the song i sang says, "whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say, 'it is well, it is well with my soul." can you say that today?

off to meet my new workout buddy at the gym. that's right, i FINALLY joined here, although i must say that the intimidation factor is HIGH. for those of you americans reading this, just imagine yourself going to the Y in the middle of NYC with signs in another language (i can read most of them, though) surrounding you. it's interesting to say the least.

"When I accepted Christ, I became a part of the best family ever. It is a family with unconditional love -- the family of Christ" -- Stephanie H. Age 23. (p.61)

"Sometimes I still have to think about it before I speak, but now my words represent who I am -- a child of God." --Jody D., Age 14. (p.113)

"Look at us! We use God like weed, just enough to get a spiritual buzz. We forget that the Spirit calls us to obedience, to action, and, yes, even to that dreaded word of discipline. See, we get so caught up in the freedom of Christ, we forget that we're also His slaves. And on the flip side, we get so caught up in rituals, we forget the meaning behind it. We reduce Jesus to a gold-plated crucifix on a chain, to the point where we can't even tell you the way to salvation without breaking out the hymnbook to look up "Amazing Grace." We have all faith, but no application. We have all discipline with no meaning behind it. And, ya'll, that's a sorry state to be in. I just want to know. Can we get back to something real?" -- Laura S., Age 16 (p. 131)

Dear God, there is a hole inside of me that I fill with a;; the wrong things. Your Word says that I am valuable to You. It says that You can see the hurts of my heart and have compassion. Help me to turn to You when I hurt. Let me find my self-worth in Your presence. Thank You that You are my Heavenly Father. (p.137)

"Hopefully we can show that we're different from what people expect, and that after that we might be able to actually show them what Christianity is truly like: a relationship with God, not just some cultural group that does certain activities, listens to certain music, and disrespects everybody else." -- Matt W, Age 17. (p.152)

Quoted from *Real Teens, Real Stories, Real Life* by T. Suzanne Eller. 2002. ISBN: 1-58919-500-0 If you'd like a copy of the book, contact Rich at RDymmel@AOL.com and we'll see about getting one for you.

Opportunities

Does your light shine? Do you let opportunities pass by?

Sunday we were wrapping up a "Missions Conference" where several of the mission projects and missionaries supported by our church were represented. Part of the sermon was about getting out and doing. Sometimes we're reluctant.

He told of a youth project across town where they were going to go door-to-door in the community. She didn't feel comfortable doing that. She didn't want to go. But she ended up going.

Knock, knock, knock on the first door. "Oh, Lord, please let no one be home" There was someone home. "I'm with the church down the street." The person who answered the door was a Muslim. They said, "I have been praying that God would send someone to tell me how to know him better," and invited them in.

WOW! What if she had decided to stay home? What if she had decided to just pass that house.

Are you open to having Him set you up to meet someone?

http://www.jordanahart.com/index.php?paged=3 (Used with permission from Jordana Hart in Sweden.)

Tuesday 28 February 06 <u>reconciliation...and a few other snippets</u> <u>from my life</u>

February 28th 2006 Posted to updates

frankly, i don't even know where to start, but sunday morning is perhaps a good place. i spent the night with my friend cathy on saturday night, and we rushed to catch the bus on sunday morning, only to realize that we'd just missed it. sometimes that's not such a big deal, but on this day it was, as i needed to be at church early in order to serve Communion. so, here are the options with which a very frustrated jordana and cathy were left: 1) walk 30 mns to the nearest tube stop, which would prove superfluous, as the next bus would be there by then, 2) wait on the next bus, which would put us at church at 11.25 (NOT good), 3) get a taxi, which would have been 300 kr (\$35)....um, no. so, i created option 4) find a nice person in this snooty neighborhood to drive us to the tube station. i walked around a bit and finally found a nice lady. cathy, assuming that i'd lost my mind, lagged a bit behind. assuming the sweet, innocent american role, i nicely explained our situation and asked for a ride and offered money for fuel. anna (as i later learned was her name) happily obliged. so, that could have been the end of the story except for the fact that we got to tell her all about our church and Jesus. and i told her that i believe that Jesus sent her to us that day and had used her to bless us. i then prayed my blessings over her and told her that i would continue to pray for her, and she, who had done us a favor, said thank you. wow...

nonetheless, things only got better from there.

...... [You can read more at Jordana's blog.]

Here are some suggestions on where you can find guidance for your life today:

- * If you're afraid (Psalms 27; 91; 121; 139)
- * If you want to be sure of eternal life (John 3)
- * If you don't feel like obeying God (book of Jonah)
- * If you're suffering (book of Job)
- * If you're sick (James 5)
- * If you need some common sense (book of Proverbs)
- * If you're happy (Psalms 95-101)
- * If you're feeling guilty (Psalm 51)
- * If you're tempted to sin (1 Corinthians 10)
- * If you need to make a decision (Proverbs 3; James 1)

* If you want to know what real love looks like (1 Corinthians 13)

* If you're thinking about death (1 Corinthians 15; 2 Corinthians 5)

* If you wonder about the world's future (Matthew 24; 1 Timothy 4; book of Revelation)

* If you wonder about God's power (Genesis 1; Exodus 1-15; Isaiah 40)

* If you're wondering what being a follower of Jesus is all about (John 13-16)

Dick Innes, ACTS International (Daily and Weekend Encounters) www.actsweb.org Used with permission.

I walked into a Religious Education classroom in a public school in Australia and with tongue-in-cheek wrote in large letters across the blackboard: "I hate religion"

"Man, in this class, you'll get shot," gasped one student in amazement.

"But I'm sold on real Christianity," I responded.

"Well, what's the difference?" several chorused.

"Let me explain," I replied.

God's Purpose

True, Christianity is a religion, but people can be religious without being Christians. Christ condemned the religious Pharisees of his day because they hid their real selves behind a facade of religion and external morality.

It may sound odd, but God isn't into religion or external morality. He's into relationships and reality. That is, he wants us not only to have a right relationship with him, but also with each other and with ourselves. And he wants us to be real—to see and admit what we truly are so he can help us.

Neither is it God's goal to make us good. It's to make us whole, for only to the degree that we are made whole will our actions, lifestyle, and relationships be wholesome!

Religion tends to want to fix us from the outside in. God wants to fix us from the inside out. The first can become an impossible burden. The latter is what brings freedom. Christianity is not a set of rules and regulations. It is experiencing divine love, divine acceptance and divine forgiveness.



NEW ...email delivery

"You've got mail." - I like that movie... - A couple people have suggested that some college students do EVERY-THING by email and can't even remember their campus mailbox number. Our experience for some time now was that a physical piece of mail was preferred by everyone we talked to. So. We'll ask again, and now make that an option. If you would PREFER to get the C&WC by email please let us know. We will deliver by either method. - We've added that line on the form --> for new folks. Or you can just email us with that request for change of delivery method.

Mostly just for fun...

Spelling Errors and Wrong Notes

A man walked into a downtown Bank of America branch and wrote "Thiz iz a stikkup. Put ull your muny in thus bag." While standing in line, waiting to give his note to the teller, he began to worry that someone had seen him write the note and might call the police before he reached the teller window. So he left the Bank of America and crossed the street to Wells Fargo. After waiting a few minutes in line, he handed his note to the Wells Fargo teller.

She read it and surmised from his spelling errors that he was not the brightest light in the chandelier. She told him that she could not accept his stick up note because it was written on a Bank of America deposit slip and he would either have to fill out a Wells Fargo withdrawal slip or go back to Bank of America. Looking somewhat defeated, the man said, "OK" and left the Wells Fargo bank. The Wells Fargo teller then called the police who arrested the man a few minutes later, still standing in line in the Bank of America lobby.

Why didn't the Skeleton go the dance? He didn't have any body to go with! [Prom season is coming!!!:-)]

Why couldn't the Skeleton go skydiving? He didnt' have the guts.

A man calls a lawyer and asks: "How much would you charge me to answer three questions?"

Lawyer: "Four hundred dollars."

Man: "That's a lot of money isn't it?"

Lawyer: "I guess so. What's your third question?"

There are three types of people in the world, those who can count and those who can't.

The Wonderful Son In Law

A gentleman, fresh out of gift ideas, bought his mother-in-law a large plot in an expensive cemetery. On her next birthday, he bought her nothing.

She was quick to comment loud and long on his thoughtlessness. The gentleman said only one thing - "Well, you haven't used the gift I gave you last year."

If Wal-Mart is lowering prices every day, how come nothing in the store is free yet?

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.

Name_____ Home address _____ City, St. ZIP

Phone _(____)_____

Home e-mail address

Birth**date**

School:

____ in the Fall or ____ now, I am in (what grade/year) ...

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

'at-school' address, if different

City, St. ZIP _____

Phone _(____)____

School e-mail address

 x^{00} , x^{0

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).

 \mathbf{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 call 1-888-NEED-HIM, and say, "I just asked Jesus to be my Lord."

U.S.Postage

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

<u>PLEASE</u>, if the student has moved, would you put a 37c stamp on this, change the address, and mail it to them? If they have a NEW campus address, would you send that to me?

Mar 18, 2006 Shine Be Careful Who You Trust - EZ Pass quirkyalone - Someone PRAYED for <u>YOU</u> and mentioned <u>YOUR NAME</u> before <u>God's throne</u> as this was prepared for mailing. God bless and watch over you today.

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, counterculture 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

"Let's say that God was the color blue. Every aspect of your life should be some shade of blue"

Kemisha N. Age 17

Lord, when people see me, I want them to recognize that You live inside me. Help me to think before I speak and to share the message that You still change lives today.

> Real Teens, Real Stories, Real Life T. Suzanne Eller. 2002. p. 114