

# Crimson & White Connection

A ministry of encouragement to "High School, College, & Singles" (& others, too) on Values + Character + Relationships + the Christian Life  
Resources and some back issues available at [www.CrimsonWhite.org](http://www.CrimsonWhite.org)

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For a free subscription, update your address, feedback, comments or to submit an article, contact us at:

4401 Wild Oak Lane, Greensboro, NC 27406-8306  
Ph.: 336-674-7564; e-mail: RDymmel@AOL.com  
Editor: Dr. Rich Dymmel

**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!**

## June 8, 2006

### The Battle For The Mind

By Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D., (c) 2006

The lyrics go something like, 'The battle for the mind is on... No you won't. Yes I will.' What arguments go on in your head? Accept God's forgiveness? Surrender to God? A battle over some sin? -- Charles Swindoll says that "Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.

John Leonard was at our church yesterday. What happened and how did he react? -- They are planting churches in a poor state in Northeast Brazil. Five churches in 16 years. Average attendance: about 90 new Christians. Last Fall, outside his church, he was shot!!! One bullet hit his spinal cord. He is paralyzed from his arms down. Yes, he admitted there was a time of "down" and "Why did You let this happen?!" He is strapped in one of those full power electric chairs. His view? He brought at least one nurse in the hospital to salvation. And they are planning on heading back to Brazil. Maybe John was the only way she would listen. She did. John was used.

A few years ago... thousands actually... I was reminded of this again on the History Channel as they did several interesting pieces on the Pyramids and tombs and all in Egypt... I wonder if the Jews as slaves in Egypt built all that. ... Joseph (start reading the whole story at Genesis 37) was attacked by his brothers... then they sold him into slavery. Potifer bought him as a slave (Genesis 39) and eventually Joe ran the whole house. Potifer's wife tried to seduce him, but he resisted, even ran when she grabbed him. She accused him and he ended up in jail. Through contacts there, he went from jail to the Pharaoh's court and became the Secretary of Agriculture. This was the "weird" path God took to get Joe in charge of Egypt. Why? So he could save his people from starvation (this part of the story continues to chapter 47).

Along the way, Joe had lots of opportunities to do battle in his mind. He could have been bitter about being thrown in the well and sold to slave traders. Potifer probably wouldn't have bought an angry, bitter slave, and certainly not eventually put him in a position of trust and responsibility. When seduced by the powerful wife of Potifer, he could have thought, "Hmmm. I could have everything, including the woman." But he ran. This is what integrity looks like. And it got him in jail. Sometimes "bad things" happen, even when you do the right things. It happened to Joe. But with Joe, we can see what happened next and next. (Hind sight is sometimes 20-20.) Now we can see that God was manipulating a whole set of bizarre circumstances and situations to eventually put Joe in a place to be used. He certainly couldn't have ridden his camel to the Pharaoh's Civil Service Office and said, "I want to apply for the job of running the country." "Yea, right. An interview with Pharaoh? Right away."

Sometimes it takes a lot of faith to see where God is moving us. My experience is that we usually just have to go where He leads us and we might see why later.

So why didn't God just make the crops grow and eliminate the famine? I don't know. Maybe so we could look at this and say, "Gee, God HAD to be in control of all the details to make it work together; it's too weird to be coincidence. Maybe I should trust Him with planning things for me."

God calls us to a life of values, His values; a life of integrity. He calls us to TRUST Him with our lives and circumstances. ... Believe that God is in control and has a good plan. ... What's your "disaster? Believe God knows. And He still says, "Do what is right."

*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 away to come home. -



**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

**A tribute and thank you to the C&WC readers, and those who aren't, that are members of our military. From Sea to Shining Sea - animated Flash ecard by Jacquie Lawson**

an animated web link  
<http://www.jacquielawson.com/viewcard.asp?code=1545489532>

**Subject: Crimson & White Ministries**    **Date:** 6/7/2006

**From:** jw @ .org

Hey, this is J\_\_\_\_\_, the young man whom you spoke with at Wal-Mart a couple of weeks ago. I just wanted to shoot you an email to let you know that your website looks great and the pamphlet was funny. It's always great to see people finding unique ways to win souls for Christ. I will catch you later!

J\_\_\_\_\_

*[actually it was at the McD in W-M, I asked if I could share his table for dinner, and then just started talking about school and college, and eventually gave him a witness-postcard, like are available to download and print at the [www.CrimsonWhite.org](http://www.CrimsonWhite.org) web site. Carry a few with you. Give them out.]*

**Subject: Re: Crimson & White Ministries**

**Date:** 6/8/2006 6:41:17 A.M. Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Rdymmel@aol.com

**To:** jw @ .org

Thanks for checking out the web site.

Did you get a chance to download and read one or more issues of the Crimson & White Connection? Is it something you'd be interested in getting in your mailbox regularly (well, sort of regularly)?

Blessings

Rich

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Going to church and reading the Bible doesn't make you a Christian any more than going to McDonald's and reading the menu makes you a Big Mac or sitting in the garage long enough will make you a Honda.

\*\*\*

*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 [RDymmel@AOL.com](mailto:RDymmel@AOL.com) 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.*

**Subject: A morning accident**

**Date:** 6/8/2006 12:42:55 A.M. Eastern Standard Time

**From:** [hyn\\_angel@yahoo.com](mailto:hyn_angel@yahoo.com)

June 7th, 2006

What a day it has been!! My heart is so sad and broken at the moment for the people of Molokai. I was awoken this morning at 7:15 to a friend calling to inform me that a car accident had occurred this morning about 1am involving some of our youth. She really didn't know any details but was calling to make sure my roommate, Jasmine, wasn't involved. Praise God she wasn't but as I later found out four of our young people were involved. One killed, three in critical condition.

Living on an island of 7,000 people news travels quickly through coconut wireless and everyone knows everybody. So when something like this happens everyone is affected. The young lady that was killed was an exchange student from New Zealand. I met her when I went to New Zealand in March. (She was traveling to New Zealand with Molokai's Hawaiian Immersion class). She returned home to New Zealand and came back out to Molokai recently for the Hawaiian Immersion graduation last weekend. I also knew the driver of the car.

On my way to school this morning, I had to take a detour through Kualapuu because they closed a two-mile stretch of the main road. The accident took down two telephone poles. On my way home this afternoon, the road was reopened and there were friends and family cleaning up the remaining debris from the accident sight. After seeing that, I felt like bursting into tears, screaming at the top of my lungs, and stopping to pay my respects. I did the only thing that would do any good- I prayed!

Why are situations like this so tough???? God has promised in his word that he can turn a situation intended for evil and make it out for good. I have seen this happen where someone dies but through their death so many of their relatives and friends come to know Christ as the Savior of their life. A couple of years ago on Molokai, we had three of our youth die in separate incidents. God used these incidents to convict hearts and get our kids back on track. Our Tuesday evening youth Bible Study grew so much that there was no sitting room available.

I know in my own life it took losing a friend to an accident to get me back on the right track with God. It is a chilling thought- If you died tonight, are you going to heaven? If you can't say for positive that you are going to heaven, then I give you Jesus. He is the only way to heaven!! Just believe and receive. Acts 16:31 says, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." It is not by works but by accepting the gift of salvation. I love each one of you and want to spend eternity worshipping Jesus with you!!

Please be praying for Molokai- that God would use this accident to turn hearts and lives back to Him!!!

Much love and God's blessings,  
Angela

Angela Dawn Calhoun  
PO Box 9 Hoolehua, HI 96729

I'd rather be ridin' a mule on Molokai!!!

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?" - Psalm 27:1

## Job Search - Short term... plus the other side of the World

**Subject: An update finally!**    **Date:** 5/29/2006  
**From:** [madsience@... .com](mailto:madsience@...) (Jennifer Nall of Wake Forest, Auburn, Peace Corps, NC, South Africa, and now \_\_\_)  
 EDITED

Greetings everyone!

Most of you know that I left South Africa (after 2.5 years there) in December and I'm currently living in NC with my parents. It's been quite an adjustment to being back which is part of the reason it's taken me so long to write. I've wanted to write (a mass email and individual emails to many of you) but then I sit down to write and I just don't know what to say.

....

For the first 2 months after I got back I had the joy of being my parents maid since I had no job, but I can't really complain because at least it gave me something to do! I also was on the big job search. Everyday I would spend lots of time in front of the computer looking for jobs (both short term and long term). I applied for several short term jobs but I wasn't hearing back from anyone until the first week of February then everything started happening and I went from having no jobs to having 5 job opportunities. I ended up taking three of them: substitute teaching (preK-grade 5), Mad Science instructor, and receptionist at a large furniture company in High Point.

I also applied for two public health internships to help get me on the road to a future career. Because I was in limbo adjusting to everything, I decided that an internship was the best way to get my feet wet without having to decide on a full-time position somewhere and only end up hating it after 2 months because I rushed into it. I applied for an internship with Samaritan's Purse (a Christian relief and development organization) and with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). These two internships are kind of on opposite ends of the spectrum, but both are feasible and fit into my long-term job search outlook. The SP internship is 5 months in one of their international field locations. The CDC one is 3 years somewhere in the US working most likely with a state or county level health department or organization. ...

... I was offered a position with Samaritan's Purse at the same time I was offered an interview with CDC. Later that week I found out exact dates for both programs and found out that they overlapped. After much prayer I followed God's leading and accepted the SP offer.

**So, all that to say** that I am really excited about serving God at Samaritan's Purse and taking this next step in my life! I will be leaving **June 19** to go to **Afghanistan** to work with a girl's education project. As I know from my Peace Corps experience, job descriptions on paper and what actually happens in the field aren't necessarily the same. But what I've been told I will be doing is working with the girl's education project to develop the curriculum (including English, agriculture, animal husbandry, health, hygiene, and moral lessons), teaching the girls, and also training other teachers. And through all of these actions and through the relationships that I form with the girls and the community, sharing the Good News of our risen

Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

There is a team of 5 expats already working there and SP has a good reputation and relationship with the community (they've been in Afghanistan since November 2001). I'm looking forward to working with this team and adding bits and pieces where I can. ... This is a crucial time in the history of this country and I pray that God will use me in some small way to make a difference in the lives of the people I work with.

I know many of you have **concerns** about my going to an area of the world where there is much tension, but please take comfort in knowing that **God** is sending me there and He will take care of me. I am walking in the way of obedience to God and that is the place of greatest safety. God is already preparing the way and I know that **my God is big enough**, and strong enough, and loving enough to take care of every little detail of my life for the next several months regardless of the situation. Yes, I could choose to stay here and stay "safe" but that would be an act of disobedience towards God. And how can I, in my humanness which cannot even begin to fathom the ways of God who created all eternity, question God as to what is best for me and where I will be safe? Where He leads, I will follow.

**My prayer for all of you** is that if this concept of trusting God and following Him makes no sense to you, that you would ask me, ask another friend, ask a pastor, anyone who has a personal relationship with God to help you to also come to know God. Nothing in your life that you could ever do matters more than knowing God as your personal Lord and Savior!

**I would also ask those of you who do have a personal relationship with God** to keep me in your prayers. Pray for my preparation... that all the details will fall into place, that God will give me an overabundance of love for the people I will be living and working with, pray for the God to soften the heart of the people, pray for safe travel driving and flying, pray for my intimacy with God to grow deeper and stronger. Pray for my work there... pray for safety and security in my living and working, pray for my relationship with the team that we will support each other, pray for my connection with God to stay strong, pray for health, pray for quick adjustment to the new climate/living conditions, and pray that above all and through all God's name will be glorified!

I'll send another email soon regarding communication with me while I am away. Given the current religious and political environment of the area, I will not have complete freedom of speech when communicating with all of you. But, I will send another email soon regarding all of that.

So, til next time... God Bless!  
 Jennifer Nall, MPH  
 Permanent e-mail address:  
[JenniferNall@alumni.wfu.edu](mailto:JenniferNall@alumni.wfu.edu)

Lord, help me be a  
passionate, abandoned,  
radiant, overcome,  
infused, holy,  
transformed, broken,  
authentic, undignified,  
obedient, sold-out,  
yielded, exuberant,  
humbled, surrendered,  
forgiven, devoted, radical,  
intimate, consumed,  
living sacrifice!

## Romans 12: 1,2

**Five translations, a few different phrases, say the same thing.**

### The Message:

<sup>1</sup>So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering.

Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.

<sup>2</sup>Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

### New Living Translation:

<sup>1</sup>And so, dear brothers and sisters,<sup>e</sup> I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask?

<sup>2</sup>Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect his will really is.

### New International Version:

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual<sup>f</sup> act of worship.

<sup>2</sup>Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

### New Century Version:

<sup>1</sup>So brothers and sisters, since God has shown us great mercy, I beg you to offer your lives as a living sacrifice to him. Your offering must be only for God and pleasing to him, which is the spiritual way for you to worship.

<sup>2</sup>Do not change yourselves to be like the people of this world, but be changed within by a new way of thinking. Then you will be able to decide what God wants for you; you will know what is good and pleasing to him and what is perfect.

### King James Version:

<sup>1</sup>I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

<sup>2</sup>And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

\*\*\*\*\*

Now this idea of presenting yourself might bring about the idea that if you are going to present yourself, you have to be "perfect" first. Elsewhere in scripture it shows how we can't be perfect. Yet, if I were to give a present, I wouldn't give something I considered to be trash. If I had a choice between trash and something good, if I respected the recipient, I would choose something good. (Think about that when you think about giving stuff to a clothing drive at church ... for like Christmas shoebox distribution.)

As I'm writing and assembling this I took a break to work on a small project. One thing Marie wants me to do is clean up my stuff in the garage (and elsewhere around the house). See, I'm a pack-rat.

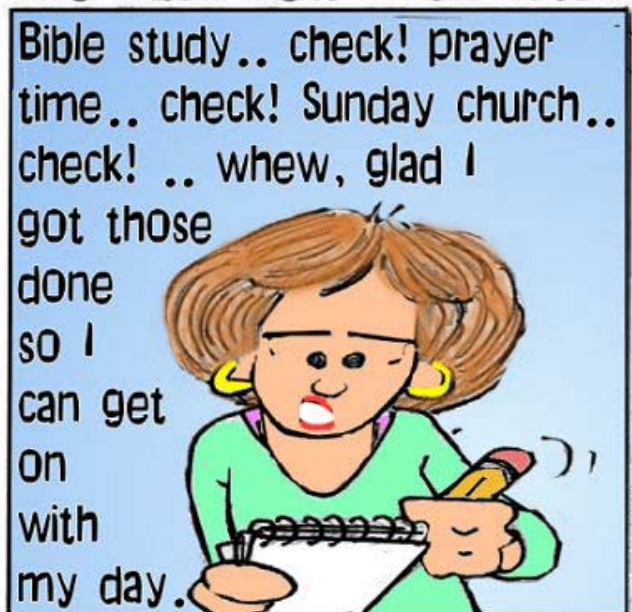
Being a traveling teacher this past year without one room at school to call mine, I found and used this folding box on wheels with telescoping handle. To carry all my stuff from room to room, I developed a way to set up the box with two layers/levels. Well, I push it to and probably beyond what it was intended to carry. So from September to June, I have broken or damaged two carts... and kept them among the stuff in the garage. "I'll scavenge them for repair parts for the *next* box." Well, I have 2 broken, 1 in use, and 1, they were on sale, really cheap, so I bought one a month ago, figuring I'd need it. Tonight I DID scavenge the two damaged ones and assembled one with no broken pieces!

Now suppose I wanted to present someone with a gift. I have 3 choices - A new box/cart, one that is slightly used and in good condition, and the latest one, made from scavenged, mismatched color parts. - Might it depend on the relationship I have with the person? Maybe how much I respect or honor them?

So if I am going to present a sacrifice to God, I may want to make it as good as possible. But our BEST is like a pile of filthy rags (read Isaiah 64:6), so it's still is pretty trashy. God wants us just as we are, so that He can make something so much better. HE does the "cleaning up." "The world wants our BEST. God wants our ALL." God will take it and fix it and use how HE wants.

So what's our part? Show up. Give yourself over to God. But you are not to be a dead, lifeless thing. You are to bring your LIFE and give it up. One of the problems of being a "living sacrifice," is that it is living. Being living, it may have a tendency to sometimes get OFF the alter. I do it. I want to get back in the driver seat. The "sacrifice" doesn't get to choose any more. - Let God be in control of the sacrifice process. We show up and say, "Okay, God. Here I am for You to use as only You know how to best make me and my life fit in to Your good master plan."

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



**WORSHIP is not PASSIVE..** give your bodies to God. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice the kind he will accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask? **Romans 12:1**

<http://thebackpew.com>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/cl/2006/003/8.23.html>

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Campus Life, June/July 2006

## Taking Light Into Dark Places

### *How P.O.D. shocked a shock jock.*

by Mark Moring

**No Nonsense:** P.O.D. was live on the radio with controversial talk-show host Howard Stern when they completely shocked the notorious shock jock. Stern couldn't believe his ears. The guys in the band had just said, no, they *don't* sleep around with groupies.

"You've got to be kidding me," Stern said. He couldn't believe these rock stars were faithful to their wives and not indulging in all the sex and drugs of rock and roll. But that's just the P.O.D. way—hard music and clean living. The band, one of the hottest in the mainstream a few years ago and now making a comeback with their latest album, *Testify*, has always been serious about living for Christ and doing the right thing.

"We want to represent the things we believe," says singer Sonny Sandoval. "We're trying to walk our own walks and not get caught up in all the nonsense."

**Watching Their Steps:** When they first started out, P.O.D. was offered a deal with a Christian record company. The band needed the money, but said no thanks, because they wanted to take their music, hope and faith to the mainstream. A few years later, they signed with Atlantic Records, and became regulars on MTV and secular radio. They also became a popular act at big-time tours, including Ozzfest, and appeared on the same stage as Korn, Staind, Taproot and other hot hard-rock bands.

That's why Stern was stunned. Everybody he knows in the hard rock scene is, well, *misbehaving*. And P.O.D. faces the same temptations as those other bands. By going to Ozzfest and performing with secular bands, they are walking into some very dark places.

"Let's face it," says Sonny. "It is a different world. We always go to these places in fear—a *good* fear. But God has us in our place. I know God is watching out for me, and he's saying, 'OK, son, watch your step now. You can be in these places, but just be careful. Keep your guard up.' We have people on the road with us—our wives, our families and pastors. We come alongside each other and we're always in prayer. To know that so many people have our backs and support us is an awesome thing. You need people saying, 'Hey man, I'm with you all the way.'"

**Screaming from Rooftops:** P.O.D.'s latest album is, at times, in your face with the band's faith—as was last fall's *The Warriors*, Vol. 2 EP.

"We go into each album on our knees, and pray that God would do something awesome with it," Sonny says. "It's just the P.O.D. way to always intertwine our music with the hope we have in Christ. We encourage people to scream their faith from the rooftops. Whatever you're going through in your own life, God is the same, regardless. That's what we're testifying about. God is good always."

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Do you get and/or read *Ignite Your Faith* (formerly *Campus Life* magazine)? We can arrange it or at least get you a 50% discount.

GOD's Graffiti by Tim Bertram  
[www.christiancartoons.com](http://www.christiancartoons.com)



As we see our own righteous acts.... As God see our righteous acts.  
And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags. Isaiah 64:6

There is only



God's  
Traffic  
Directions



The world sometimes doesn't allow  
U-turns, but God **DOES**.



to Him



**Crimson & White Connection**

Dr. Rich Dymmel, Editor  
4401 Wild Oak Lane  
Greensboro, NC 27406-8306

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A 39c stamp is required to forward this to a new address

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***If they have a NEW address, would you send that to me?***

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**June 8, 2006**

Battle For The Mind -  
Jennifer's job search takes to the other side of the world - Living Sacrifice -  
P.O.D. shocked a shock jock

**The Back Pew - Jeff Larson**



Accepting Jesus into your heart as a child, believing he is literally in your heart neither demonstrates a grasp of theology or anatomy. BUT is a very real start to a life with Christ. THE FAITH OF A CHILD **Mark 10:15** PRICELESS!

**The Back Pew - Jeff Larson**



While attempting to stomach another of Dora's home cooked meals, it dawned on Merle... Jesus was like ketchup, both can cover a multitude of sins, and at that very moment he accepted Jesus into his heart.

<http://thebackpew.com>