

Crimson & White Connection

A ministry of prayer and encouragement to "High School, College, & Singles" (& others, too) on Values + Character + Relationships + the Christian Life
Resources and some 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 29, 2006

What Are You Good For?

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

As I went for a walk around the block, I saw this in my neighbor's driveway (which brings up the question in my mind, which also demonstrates how easily I can be distracted, see I really am ADHD, 'Why do we park on driveways and drive on parkways?') and had the following thoughts:

Here is a "specialty vehicle." It has no doors, so to mount mirrors and to keep him inside, he built the "doors" or bars like you normally see holding the spare tire on the back. Can you make out the full roll cage inside? Notice the HIGH ground clearance and big tread tires? This baby is made for a specific purpose - off road running.



Here's another truck. A Power Wheels Big Jake dump truck. It has a specific purpose, too. - Fun for a 2-6 year old to drive at 2 1/2 mph and learn coordination, spacial judgement, anticipate, and carry your stuffed toy monkey around in the dump box.

There are racing cars and posh luxury cars. There are all kinds of vehicles for all kinds of uses.

So how about people? Are there "specialty people"? Do people have particular uses?

There are physical fitness junkies. For example "K" does 10 mile runs before breakfast and when she was 4 months pregnant ran a half-marathon, 13.1 miles, in 1 hr 34 minutes!!! Now me... I don't think the words "ten miles" and "run" make any sense being in the same sentence. -- And there are computer programmers. "L" does an aerobic class regularly at the church and has a number of people from the neighborhood come. -- Computer gurus... we certainly can't get along without them. And English and math and pre-school teachers, and children and teen and college and adult Sunday School teachers, and preachers, and encouragers, and I am glad there are people who can put together dinner for 100 on Wednesday evening, and some sing a lot better than I do, and some have a commercial drivers license, run a mowing tractor, trim bushes, plant flowers, can type (certainly faster than I do),..... and there are tens of thousands of skills and talents. -- Let's see, what can I do? I have a knack for taking a crying baby and going for a walk and they will usually calm down. And some people tell me I'm a decent writer and I can manipulate stuff on the screen and can use programs like Word and PageMaker to create; I've been told I'm a good math teacher; I'm handy at fixing a lot of stuff.

So what are YOU good at? Someone once said, 'The thing that you do that other people say is so great, and you think is so simple and easy... that's your gift.' - Gift? Yes a gift. Gift means someone gave it to you. God gave you that talent as a gift. - One list goes like this: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers" (Ephesians 4:11). And what are the gifts for? The next verse tells us: "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." I like the way the New Century says verse 12 as: "Christ gave those gifts to prepare God's holy people for the work of serving, to make the body of Christ stronger." - So again, what's your gift, and, are you using it for God? - See like this: A talent to do face painting on kids, you could do it at VBS. Deal with pre-school age kids; at church, at VBS, teach Sunday School. Sing or play guitar or drums; that's obvious. Our Assistant Pastor often plays bongo drums as part of the accompaniment instruments. Cook? Paint? Fix doors? Maybe you're someone who can just walk up and start a conversation... are you on the visitation team at church?

So the two-part question is: What are you good for? and are you using the gift that God gave you for God?

In Christ, Rich

Do you have a relationship with God where you know He has accepted you just as you are? If not, and you want that, call me at 336-674-7564. Or call 1-888-NEED-HIM. -- With God, even if you have gone the opposite direction, you have never gone too far to turn around.



**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

* * * * *

Hey, Rich. Could you send the C&WC to my Sunday School teacher. He's seen it and liked it. [Mailed it out to him.]

* * * * *

Subject: Please keep me on your mailing list!

Date: 6/12/2006 8:55:41 A.M. Eastern Standard Time

From: p____a@____.com

To: Rdymmel@aol.com

Dr. Rich, I wanted to let you know that I still would like keep receiving C&WC. My new address is __, Thomasville, NC

Amanda

* * * * *

PLEASE! It is so costly and time consuming when we get mail returned and do the follow up to get your new address. PLEASE tell us when you move. Or if you want to stop the C&WC and save us the postage and printing, just tell us.

* * * * *

From: Rdymmel@aol.com

To: ____, ____, Cheryl@____

Subject: ???

Hi, It's been more than just a couple weeks I've been sending the e-devotionals. What do you think? Decide yet whether you want to keep getting them? If so, then I can move you to the "regular" group in my address book and save me an extra double-click. Not sure, I can leave it as is yet. "No thank you," and I'll delete you.

Subject: RE: ???

Date: 7/18/2006 8:16:31 A.M. Eastern Standard Time

From: Cheryl@____

Please continue to send me the daily devotions. Thanks

* * * * *

You can get the daily e-devotionals on a trial basis by just emailing rdymmel@aol.com and say "Like to try the daily email for a couple weeks."

Subject: Re: C&WC - July **Date:** 7/23/2006

From: E____@____.edu **To:** rdymmel@aol.com

Hey there!

I read something about a daily devotional email (or something like that) in the newsletter I got in the regular mail, so I just wanted to let you know that I'm interested in receiving that message... Not sure whether or not you send it in the summer, but either way, I'd like to be added to the list! Thanks, Elizabeth

Date: 7/25/2006 **From:** rdymmel@aol.com

Sure thing! We function all year. I'll add you to the "temp" list until I hear from you a second time after a week or so. If I don't hear from you, when I get to it, I'll drop an email asking to confirm you want to get it after trying my writings for a while.

Blessings, Rich

[Refers to the daily e-devotional included on p.3]

Subject: Re: _07/25/06_Tue_Fruit_4

Date: 7/26/2006 9:40:56 P.M. Eastern Standard Time

From: matt@____.au (Australia)

It's a blessing to still get your emails after all this time. I still find them often the most encouraging thing in my otherwise ordinary inbox.

I thought that i could help add to your series in "Fruit", where you were drawing the analogy between your neighbour's odd tomatoes and our fruits.

You said "We're talking about "fruit" the last few days, not "vegetables." Well... I read once that apparently tomatoes ARE actually a fruit... so that fits perfectly into the analogy. :) Check this site out: <http://www.garden-services.com/tomato.html> (In the US, there was a supreme court ruling (i just found this out) to say that Tomatoes were vegetables for the sake of import duties... but apparently technically they are fruit!)

Just a funny little detail that i thought might add to the parallel.

Hope all is well with you and your whole family.

God bless, Matt

TOMATO—FRUIT OR VEGETABLE?

Botanically speaking, the tomato you eat is a fruit. So is a watermelon, green pepper, eggplant, cucumber, and squash. A "fruit" is any fleshy material covering a seed or seeds.

Horticulturally speaking, the tomato is a vegetable plant. The plant is an annual and nonwoody. Most fruits, from a horticulture perspective, are grown on a woody plant (apples, cherries, raspberries, oranges) with the exception of strawberries.

In 1893, the United States Supreme Court ruled the tomato was a "vegetable" and therefore subject to import taxes. The suit was brought by a consortium of growers who wanted it declared a vegetable to protect U.S. crop development and prices. Fruits, at that time, were not subjected to import taxes and foreign countries could flood the market with lower priced produce. (A hundred years really hasn't changed anything.)

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The daily e-devotional from 7/25/06:

07/25/06 Tue – Fruit 4 (#4 in a series on fruit)

Fred, our neighbor, brought over a bag of vegetables from his garden yesterday. The tomatoes looked, well, they looked really ... I can't think of how describe them without being TOO derogatory, but they looked weird, strange, distorted. They did NOT look like the "nice, round, smooth, red tomatoes you see in children's picture books or at any grocery store. But Fred said, "They may look strange, but those are the best tasting tomatoes."

We're talking about "fruit" the last few days, not "vegetables." But whether it is fruit or vegetables, and yes, I know that appearance enhances the taste, "presentation" of the food on the plate and all that, but really, honestly, when we eat fruit and vegetables, aren't we mostly interested in the TASTE?

So regardless of the "outside" we're really interested in tasting the "inside." – How about with people? Are we more interested in the inside than the outside? How about ourselves? Not that the outside is to be deliberately neglected or downgraded, but are we MORE concerned with the "inside" than the "outside"? I hope so.

Taste and see that God is, as Andy Griffith would say, gooOOOod.

Rich

Psalm 34:8

TMSG: "Open your mouth and taste, open your eyes and see — how good God is.

Blessed are you who run to him.

NLT: "Taste and see that the LORD is good.

Oh, the joys of those who trust in him!

NIV: "Taste and see that the LORD is good;

blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.

NCV: "Examine and see how good the LORD is.

Happy is the person who trusts him.

KJV: "O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

Faith@Work July 20, 2006 Fruitful Living

Jesus said, "Every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit." Matthew 7:17

Horticulture is not one of my strengths. I'm not very knowledgeable when it comes to plants, and I certainly don't have a green thumb. Yet I've found that I don't have to be an expert to know certain basics. For example, I don't look for apples to grow on a cherry tree. When I see an apple, I know it comes from an apple tree; when I see cherries, I know they come from a cherry tree. In short, without being an expert, I can easily see that certain trees only produce certain types of fruit, and, conversely, that certain fruits only come from certain types of trees.

Jesus said to the crowd that had gathered around him, "Every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit." He went on to offer what logically follows: "A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit." I suspect that Jesus used that metaphor, at least in part, because everyone could understand it. Just as we can tell the type of tree by the fruit it produces, so God can tell what we are really like by the lives we lead. What's more, other people can tell as well. Other people, or course, only see the fruit of our lives; they are left to infer the type of tree from which it comes.

What do people think when they look at your life? What kind of fruit do they find? What will they infer about the tree from which it comes? Will they want to be that kind of tree themselves?

Even good trees, of course, have some bad fruit. Some of the fruit is attacked by insects or birds, some falls to the ground

prematurely. The orchard owner knows that, and is forgiving. God forgives us, too. However, God, like the owner of the orchard, does everything possible to enable the fruit trees to produce good fruit. What kind of fruit are you producing?

Bringing It Home: Just as the orchard owner does all that he can to enable the trees in the orchard to produce good fruit, so God provides means to help us produce good fruit. One of those means is the Bible. How are you doing when it comes to spending time with God's Word? If you're not already doing so, can you start this week with a plan to read a portion of the Bible every day? Another means that God gives us to enhance our fruitfulness is the gift of Christian community. Are you an active participant in a Christian community?

Prayer: Gracious God, you call us to bear good fruit. Help me to be a good tree. By your Holy Spirit strengthen and sustain me that I might bear good fruit for your kingdom. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Dave Hanson, Pastor, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wheaton, IL

www.holycrosswheaton.org

Please feel free to share this devotion with others, or encourage them to subscribe to Faith@Work.

Kartoon Knuggets

By Troy Knechtel



See? It Looks healthy and all but ... but it has no fruit

... seed into the good soil hears and understands the Word and bears fruit.

Matt 13:23

www.christiancartoons.com/kartoons

c 2002

GOD's graffiti

by Tim Bertram

This IS NOT the proper way to display the fruit of the spirit.

Gal 5:22



Debris

by Dr. Richard R. Dymmel (c) 2006

de·bris also **dé·bris** Pronunciation: de-bre or da-bre

n. The scattered remains of something broken or destroyed; rubble or wreckage. Carelessly discarded refuse; litter.

We're having a party on Saturday.

Part, only part, of my responsibility is the outside of the house. There is also my boxes of stuff in the dining room to clean up. I've cut the lawn, which will have to be cut again before the party. I trimmed shrubbery and raked up the clippings and deposited that in the neighbor's compost pile. And cleaned the kitchen floor.

Today I started high, the roof. We have a lot of trees. I've lost count with cutting, planting, etc. At one time not long ago the count was at 99. I can't remember if that was before or after cutting 24 down. There is one tree in particular that is a "problem" for the house. Right behind me, right outside my office window, is the trunk of an oak tree. 8'8", that's 104" circumference or 33" diameter. And, oh, I'd estimate about 80' tall.

Oak trees are very hard wood. And they tend to grow a branch, then another above it, then when the lower one doesn't get any sun, it lets it die out, becomes dry and brittle, then it ends up on my roof, in the gutters, and on the ground as a lot of small dry broken branches, debris.

Today I tried to even "get ahead" by not just blowing off the roof, but with a 15' handled tree trimmer, I cut down several "no leaf branches" that

would be sending down more debris onto the roof in weeks to come. And there are a couple other oaks in the front yard, too. And a few other trees that also drop a few branches and twigs.

All told, it made quite a pile when cut and broken and carried and dragged and piled. Then came a little charcoal lighter and a match. It made quite a blaze for a while.

As I watched the fire I was thinking, "The yard, the roof, the trees all look a lot better with the debris cleaned up and gone. It took some work, but it is all so much nicer." And it was work! And it was hot. And it took all morning, about 3 hours. And then I was sitting on the porch steps looking at the fire consume, reduce, and eliminate all that debris.

And while I watch the debris disappear, I started thinking about the "debris" some people have in their yard, I mean life. There is the debris of bitterness. Maybe bitterness over being cheated or wronged - I did that for a while over a business deal gone bad. Or maybe over family or other relationship dynamics. Or how about the "debris" of the results of substances like alcohol, drugs, other stuff. Or the remains after casual sex, bad relationships, broken lives. - How can you clean up a life? Only a little on your own. But Jesus offers a chance at a "new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 6:15), a new life, a full complete life, life to the fullest and abundant (John 10:10). - Let Jesus help clean up the debris and give a fuller, clean, beautiful life.



2 Corinthians 5:17

TMSG:

¹⁷Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life burgeons! Look at it!

NLT:

¹⁷What this means is that those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun!

NIV:

¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

NCV:

¹⁷If anyone belongs to Christ, there is a new creation. The old things have gone; everything is made new!

KJV:

¹⁷Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

MSNT:

¹⁷So that if any one is in Christ, he is a new creature: the old state of things has passed away; a new state of things has come into existence.

Galatians 6:15

TMSG:

¹⁵Can't you see the central issue in all this? It is not what you and I do—submit to circumcision, reject circumcision. It is what *God* is doing, and he is creating something totally new, a free life!

NLT:

¹⁵It doesn't make any difference now whether we have been circumcised or not. What counts is whether we really have been changed into new and different people.

NIV:

¹⁵Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation.

NCV:

¹⁵It is not important if a man is circumcised or uncircumcised. The important thing is being the new people God has made.

KJV:

¹⁵For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

MSNT:

¹⁵For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is of any importance; but only a renewed nature.

John 10:10 (Jesus says, ...)

TMSG:

¹⁰A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.

NLT:

¹⁰The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness.

NIV:

¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

NCV:

¹⁰A thief comes to steal and kill and destroy, but I came to give life—life in all its fullness.

KJV:

¹⁰The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

MSNT:

¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy: I have come that they may have Life, and may have it in abundance.

Subject: Red, hot, boiling lava**Date:** 7/15/2006 2:58:53 A.M. Eastern Standard Time**From:** hyn_angel@yahoo.comWritten July 7th, 2006

Here I sit in the middle of a lava field watching hot magma flowing into the water of the Pacific Ocean. The steam from the collision of hot versus cold shoots up into the air and the trade winds carry it out to sea!!! What a magnificent sight! As night approaches, I can now see not only where the hot lava meets the sea but also the path down the side of the mountain.

Well if you haven't guessed yet, I am at volcano national park in Hilo. My parents are out visiting. I met them at the airport on Monday and we flew to Big Island together. We have driven all over this island and have seen almost every part imaginable. I have gotten carsick and I have gotten soaked because I didn't bring a raincoat!! Word to the wise: when visiting Hilo, bring a raincoat!

The longer I sit here writing the darker the sky is getting and the brighter the red of the lava shows which reminds me of God!! How so you may ask??? Just like the lava, God is always flowing through our lives creating a new landscape. When dark times approach, God should shine even more brightly. We should fade into the backdrop and the only thing that others see should be God through us.

.... This is going to be the last email newsletter for the summer!! Mom and dad leave Tuesday the 18th. I have preschool parent orientation that night. Teacher meetings will be the rest of the week. School starts July 24th (my birthday)!! So far I have 17 children enrolled! It will definitely be an adventure this year. Please be praying!

I hope all is well with you. I would love to hear from you.
Much love and God's blessings,
Angela Calhoun

* * * * *

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

What's in your "mail"?

by Gene Ledbetter, 7/2006

It is very rare that I actually get to talk to the mailman, but today I did. I was not looking for anything specific in the mail, but I am always drawn to the suspense. Have you ever thought of the mail in that way? Every day is different, each day new. Each batch of mail is unique- different publications, circulars, letters, and of course bills.

As I chatted with the mailman, I was eager to see if I could determine if he was a Christian. I was pleased....actually overjoyed to discover that he was indeed a follower of Christ, attending a sister church in Greensboro.

I mentioned to him "I guess you can learn a lot about a family or individual just by seeing the mail they receive". "Oh, yeah, most definitely!" he replied. "I can tell the gardeners, from the golfers, to the fishermen. I can tell who likes to travel, who likes being at home. I can tell the weird to the funny. I can tell who supports a charity, and who does not.

So I asked him "What do you know about us? What kind of evaluation would we receive?" He said, "Ya'll like to read a lot". That was interesting... true and interesting.

"What's in your mailbox?" Oh I'm not trying to be nosey. Have you ever stopped to think about what others see in you? What you see in yourself? When people look at your "mail," will they see boxes of prescriptions for ailments or mailings that show you care about people or charities? Will they see you collect stocks and bonds or just miscellaneous stuff?

Guess what.... God reads your "mail" everyday. He sees the junk that comes into your life. He sees what junk mail you keep for future reference of course, and what you cling to. He sees your pain and hurts, disappointments and fears. He reads your "mail"!

Now the questions can be, what do I do with my "mail"? Do I hide it hoping others won't see my hurts and pains? Do I pretend that the problems don't exist? Do I care if others know what "mail" I get? What do I keep and what do I throw away? Do I hang onto old "issues" that I refuse to release to God, and let Him deal with them? Do I keep a file folder of hurts, that I come back to and open up and feel the pain all over again? (That's not very healthy and it can really overload a file folder, or even a drawer- and before long you've filled a cabinet)?

Here's an often quoted verse that might help you "dump your junk". "I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you, and not to harm you." Jeremiah 29:11.

When you get "junk mail" in your spiritual "mailbox"...don't keep it. That's why they call it junk mail. Deal with it before the Lord and move on. It's a lot lighter than maintaining a "filing cabinets".

**Subject: Greetings from
Afghanistan!**

Date: 7/14/2006 **From:** JenniferNall@_____.

Hi Everyone!



I hope you are all having a great summer! I just wanted to take a few minutes to let you all know that I made it safe and sound to Afghanistan. It was a lot of traveling...after about 48 hours worth of flying and layovers in various cities Travis (the other intern) and I arrived in Kabul and then had a 7 hour drive to where we are currently living and working in the north of the country. Needless to say we were completely exhausted and happy to finally arrive! And when we did, we were greeted with a warm Afghani SP greeting of having buckets of water dumped on us! It was quite the surprise but it was actually kind of nice because it woke us up a bit so we were able to meet everyone and stay awake through dinner before going straight to bed!

The first week was mainly spent recovering from jet lag and trying to get orientated to the country and the heat and the projects that are going on here. This past week (our second week) has been spent getting more involved finding out about the projects we'll be working with and figuring out how we will fit into those projects. I'll be working with a learning centre that is currently teaching English and agriculture and also working with our national staff on English writing skills among other things. Travis will be working on a municipal water project. Water is a big issue here since it is the desert and water is so scarce.

My first impressions over these past two weeks have been very favorable and overall I've found that Afghanistan is a much different place than is presented in Western media. The people are on the whole very friendly and welcoming. If you go into someone's home, you are always offered tea and welcomed to sit and visit. Most people view the presence of our military and other international troops as a very good thing because it is the only thing bringing stability to their country right now. Obviously not everyone feels this way as you still hear of major attacks and military activity (primarily in the southern part of the country), but in this community, SP has a good reputation and is welcomed by all the leaders as well as the local people.

I have begun to learn to speak Dari and only wish I could learn it faster! For those of you up on your knowledge of siSwati, you'll find it interesting to note that in Dari "inja" means "here" (compared to siSwati which has the same word, pronounced the same way that means "dog")! When you greet someone here you don't just say "how are you?" you go through a series of how questions... how is your health? (there's 3 different ways to say this) how is your family? how are your children? how is everything at home? is everything ok? it makes it interesting to try to learn because not everyone uses the same greetings every time so you either really have to pay attention or just say "everything is ok" and "thank you" a couple times and act like you understand! :-)

The weather here is hot and dry (it is the desert, remember!). The average temperature right now is about 45C (which is over 100F, around 115 I think?) but it's been really nice the past few days because we've had wind and unusually cooler tempera-

tures (around mid-upper 30sC - around 80-90sF). If you know anything about the difference that humidity makes, you'll know that without the humidity the heat isn't so bad. So 95F without humidity feels much better than low 80s with humidity! We're just on the north side of a mountain range so we've got beautiful mountains in our backyard and the sunsets are just gorgeous because the mountains turn all shades as they're reflecting the sun's rays!

Living conditions here are pretty good within the compound where we live and work. We have water brought in every morning from a local spring so that we have cooking, bathing, and toilet water. The water isn't safe to drink so bottled water is bought for drinking purposes. There's a cooking staff so breakfast is on our own as are meals on the weekends. But during the week, lunch and dinner is prepared for us. We eat lunch together (men and women separate) as an entire staff every day which is nice. There's also a lady who cleans and does laundry so we don't have to worry about that either. It's very nice that way because we work normal work days (830-5) and also end up usually working on nights and weekends also (one of the "benefits" of living and working at the same place) so to not have to worry about the little details of food and clean clothes is a much needed amenity here. SP really does a good job of caring for its staff. And having had the experience of a similar living and working at the same place when I was in South Africa, not having to worry about the everyday tasks makes working and caring for beneficiaries a lot easier and keeps you from getting burned out as quickly.

Culturally, people here are very private also. In the town where I am it is pretty poor compared to the city that's the closest to us (about an hour away) and it also is more conservative than the city. You see very few women in the streets and when they are in the streets they all wear burkas (I found a picture on the internet: www.trekearth.com/gallery/photo253709.htm the only correction to what the person wrote is that in the cities, less women wear burkas than in the rural areas... the opposite of what this person wrote). The women in this area wear these blue burkas and also some wear white ones. There are high walls around all family compounds so that people from outside cannot see into the compounds. This is important because women do not wear the burkas when they're inside their own family compound and it would be inappropriate for a man to see them that way. As a foreign woman in this country I don't have to wear a burka, but whenever I am out of the compound I have to wear a head scarf. Afghani women who do not wear burkas wear headscarves. Clothing wise if I'm wearing western clothes I must wear a skirt over my pants. But I have bought some Afghan clothes (well, bought the material and had clothes made) which for women consists of loose pants and a long tunic-type top.

Well, I've written a lot for now. Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers and well wishes. I deeply appreciate your continued support! I will have internet access here pretty regularly so please continue to write! But again be sensitive to the information that is included in the emails and no large attachments. I will write again in a week or two with another general update, but if you have any questions about the country or anything feel free to ask and I'll try to answer the best I can!

Take care and thanks again for your support!

Jennifer Nall

Life is not a destination but a journey.

NEW ...email delivery

“You’ve got mail.” - I like that movie... - A couple people have suggested that some college students do EVERYTHING by email and can’t even remember their campus mailbox number. Our experience for some time was that a physical piece of mail was preferred by everyone we talked to. So. We’ll ask again and 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...

Turtle Accident

Two snails were standing on the side of the road, a turtle stopped and said, “Do you guys want a ride on my back?”
One of the snails took him up on his offer and off he went.
As the turtle reached the intersection another turtle came along and crashed into him. The poor little snail was thrown and killed. A cop investigating the accident began questioning the dead snail’s buddy. “What happened?” he asked.
The little snail replied, “I don’t know it all happened so fast.”

I was sitting on the sofa with my teenage son, discussing his day at school. “Mom,” he said, “there’s going to be a dance at the school this Friday and it’s going to be formal. Could I get a new pair of sneakers?”

The other night, my wife and I were going out for dinner.
She put on eyebrow pencil, eye shadow, eyeliner, eyelashes, mascara, toner, blush and lipstick, then turned to me and said, “Does this look natural?”

One caller to our answering service gave me his name, number and message and then said, “You know my name. What’s yours?”
“We’re not allowed to give our names,” I replied, “but my operator number is 4136”
Sounding disappointed, he said, “May I call you by your first digit, or would that be too personal?”
*_____ **Guaranteed to Roll Your Eyes** _____*

At a wedding I recently attended, the priest called for a moment of silence to remember the faithful dead...
As the church grew quiet, a little boy sitting in front of me turned to his father and said excitedly, “Dad, you have some of their albums!”

“Recently, while I was on a shopping trip in a department store, I heard a little five-year-old talking to his mother on the down escalator. He said, ‘Mommy, what do they do when the basement gets full of steps?’” —Hal Linden

While listening to an oldies radio station, my six-year-old evidently got the 60’s mixed up with the 21st century. Instead of singing along, “Goin’ to the chapel/ And we’re gonna get married,” I heard him sing, “Goin’ to the chat room/ And we’re gonna get married.”

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.

If you’d like to be on our mail/prayer list, and have the Crimson & White Connection mailed free to you, fill this out and mail it to:
4401 Wild Oak Lane, Greensboro, NC 27406-8306
*** or email to Rdymmel@AOL.com ***

Under 18 requires a parental approval SIGNATURE please.

- No thank you, remove my name
 - Please send ONE SAMPLE ISSUE to evaluate
- To subscribe, check ‘Yes’ below and fill in completely.*
- Yes, Please send me the C&WC (signature) _____
 - Check here to get the C&WC by email attachment and not by snail-mail.

***Under 18? Parental permission* : _____**

I’ve read the _____ issue, send the next one, please.
Please tell us how you found out about the C&WC. _____

Name _____
Home address _____
City, St. ZIP _____
Phone _(_____) _____
Home e-mail address _____
Birthdate _____
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 _____

Becoming a Christian: A-B-C

A – Admit that you’re a sinner. You just can’t meet God’s standard. The Bible says, “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23 (also see 1 John 1:8).

B – Believe that Jesus was the Son of God and died in your place, took the punishment for you. The Bible says, “For God so loved the world (that includes you) that he gave His only begotten son (that’s Jesus) that whosoever (that’s you again) believes in Him should not perish (that’s saved from eternal death, Hell) but have eternal life (given eternal life with God, that’s “salvation” or to “be saved”).” John 3:16

C – Confess your sin to God. – The Bible says, “If we confess (own up to) our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleans us...” 1John 1:9.

Want Jesus in your life? Pray this prayer: *“Lord Jesus, I confess to You my sin and need to be saved. I turn away from my old sin and place my trust and faith in You as the only way to be saved.”* Now contact your pastor, or contact us at 1-336-674-7564, or call 1-888-NEED-HIM, and say, *“I just asked Jesus to be my Lord.”*

Crimson & White Connection

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

Someone PRAYED for YOU and mentioned YOUR NAME before God's throne as this was prepared for mailing. God bless and watch over you today.

July 29, 2006
What Are You Good For? -
Fruit - Debris - Lava -
What's In You "Mail"? - Afghanistan

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.

If you have been tempted into evil, fly from it. It is not falling into the water, but lying in it, that drowns. --
Author Unknown

God's measure - shaken together, pressed down, running over
Luke 6:38
**How about what you give God?
Is it like a box of cereal or bag of chips from the store? Does He open the box and it's 3/4 air and 1/4 stuff?**