

# 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](http://www.CrimsonWhite.org)

The C&WC is produced and funded through **Crimson & White Ministries, Inc.**, a nonprofit corporation, supported only by tax deductible contributions.

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!**

## Aug 24, 2006

The 4 "Listening" pieces in this issue are from the daily emailed devotions we send out. Want to be on that list? Email me at [RDymmel@AOL.com](mailto:RDymmel@AOL.com)

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

## 08/8/06 Tue –Listening 6 – True

How about a science book titled "Things they used to tell us were true"? – Science does change. The epitome of that is "the Earth is flat. Go too far out in the ocean and you'll fall off and never come back." Actually some probably went so far they found Bermuda, St. Thomas, Florida, and North Carolina and never came back. – Or how about the Earth is the center of the universe; a series of concentric clear spheres on which the stars and sun and moon are attached rotate around us. Well, some people do still think everything revolves around them. ... Aristotle said that heavier objects fall faster than lighter objects. Drop a cannon ball and a feather – it's obvious. Galileo said that falling hailstones of various sizes all falling together didn't make sense if Aristotle was right. Galileo changed science. Galileo also showed the Earth was not the center but that we rotate around the Sun. He ended up under house arrest for the rest of his life, a sentence imposed by the Inquisition in 1632 and was finally cleared of heresy charges in 1992, 359 years later.

The Bible is not a "book of science." In Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina, (I did a graduate school research paper on this phrase for a History of Math class) Galileo wrote "the intention of the Holy Ghost is to teach us how one goes to heaven, not how heaven goes" (Drake, *Discoveries and Opinions of Galileo*. p. 186). The irony is that in writing this, Galileo is quoting Cardinal Baronius, a high official in the very church that was to later put him under house arrest for the remainder of his life for promoting a theory on "how heaven goes." During Galileo's defense at his hearing before the Congregation of the Inquisition, "Galileo and [Friar] Foscarini rightly urged that the Bible is intended to teach men to go to heaven, not how the heavens go" (Catholic Encyclopedia, The. "Galileo Galilei." 1996)

Many people have tried to prove the Bible scientifically or historically wrong. – Dr. Morris Massey, a hydrology engineer at VA Tech, antagonistic to the Bible, decided to prove that the Genesis flood could not have happened. He became a believing Christian and founded the Institute for Creation Research and wrote such books as *The Genesis Flood*. – I love to read things like when they found Jericho and said, 'See? No rubble from the walls falling over.' Then someone read and it says 'the walls fell down' so they could charge straight into the city. If the walls fell into a pile of rubble, it would still have been a tremendous barrier. They dug down and found the walls. – I just think that kind of stuff is cool.


The Bible is true. And Galileo was right, it tells us how to live this life. It also tells us how to go to heaven and live eternally. When someone contradicts the Bible, or says it doesn't really mean what it says, look out. Check what you're told against the Book. Don't take 1Kings 7:23 or 2Chronicles 4:2 in to your math class to prove that  $\pi = 3$ . About chemistry... nope. You won't find those answers there. But about life, relationships with parents, friends, and God... yep. About a right way to live... yep. Marriage, sex, alcohol, respect, honor, character, values, behavior... yep. Read and listen to those answers from the Word.

Selah. Think about it.

*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.

*See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. Colossians 2:8 NIV*

 **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

\* \* \* \* \*

**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.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Subject: Re: Peace**  
**From:** monika @ .se [in Sweden]

Hi Rich,

Thanks for adding me! [to the daily e-devotional list]

This very first mail is such blessing for me, as many others I tend to fix my eyes on the things falling around me instead for on Jesus.

God Bless you and your family!

-monika.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Subject: Try the daily e-mail please!**  
**Date:** 7/30/2006 10:25:55 A.M. Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** amanda @ .com

Try the daily e-mail please!!

**Subject: Trial**  
**Date:** 7/30/2006 7:32:14 P.M. Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** Rdymmel@AOL.com  
**To:** amanda @ .com

I added your email to the "daily trial" group in the address book To "jump start" you with my writings and ramblings, here are the last couple days. I had just started a series on "faithfulness." Here's the first 2. - Before that was about 5 on "fruit."

Hope you enjoy and these bless you.

Rich.

\* \* \* \* \*

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: More of the journey...**

**Date:** 8/12/2006 9:43:28 A.M. EST

**From:** JenniferNall

Do NOT relay or PRINT the email address.



[For her safety and security in Afghanistan, Jennifer has instructed me and others on her email distribution not to reveal her email or exact location. Afghanistan is a very restrictive environment without the "religious freedom" we enjoy here in the U.S.]

Shortly after I read this report from Jennifer, we were in the van heading down the Interstate highway at 70 mph. Signs, lots of cars and trucks, personal freedom, mobility... all these thoughts ran through my head. The "third world" phrase came to mind. Here in the U.S. students are returning to college campuses, some with worries of signing for thousands of dollars more student loans, and hundreds of thousands of school busses are taking millions of students to schools. Personally, I don't think, even after reading Jennifer's descriptions from Afghanistan and Julie's letters from Mozambique, I have any real idea of what the rest of the world lives. I can only say, "Thank You, God, for being SO GENEROUS to me. One way I can say thanks is to help send people out and give out of my overabundance. Next Sunday evening our church will be packing up 300 Christmas shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse to distribute.

Salamalekum! Hello!

Chotor asten? How are you?

Khob asten? Are you well?

Bakhait asten? Are you good?

Seatmand asten? Are you healthy?

Familiatan khob ast? Is your family good?

Khana khairat ast? Is everything at home okay?

Tashakor! Thank you!

Good, now that that's out of the way, Hello again from the other side of the world!

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying the last bits of summer (or winter for those of you in the southern hemisphere!) Things here are the same as always...hot and dry! I've been here for 6 weeks now which is hard to believe; after that first week time has been going by so quickly! I think in the last update I mentioned that we had had a cool spell of temperatures in the 80s and 90s, but that lasted about 4 days and it's been 115-120 during the days ever since. It gets down to the 80s at night if we're lucky. Unfortunately it never cools off as much inside as it does outside, but thank goodness for fans! But let me not get side-tracked and I'll try to share some of the interesting stuff going on here.

As I think I mentioned before I've been working with the female students who are studying English at the learning centre. Weekly we have 2.5 days for girls classes and 2.5 days for boys classes. Boys and girls cannot study at the same time which creates many difficulties with the scheduling. It also creates problems even with routine maintenance scheduling because whenever there are girl's classes, men cannot be anywhere in the compound except for our security guard who sits by the gate. We hired a new

teacher for the girls and this past week was her second full week. She is a great young lady who is very educated and motivated, a rare quality to find here among women. In addition to the girls English classes, she will be starting literacy classes with some other SP projects and also hopefully English classes at some of the girl's high schools. I will also be working with her on a health and hygiene campaign to be run for now in conjunction with current SP projects but we're hoping to get money thru a water proposal that Travis is working on so that it can reach even more women. Just this past week we found out that our project coordinator (who is only 17 years old but practically runs the program...he's a genius and I won't be surprised to see him in lots of international headlines in the future) has just received a scholarship to go and study in India. We're very excited for him because it's a great opportunity but it also means that we've got to find someone to take over his position. We had interviews this past week, but none of the candidates even come close to matching his talent. We have another set of interviews this coming week and hope to find just the right young man for the job! I'm also helping one of the guys study for the TOEFL exam which he hopes to take in January. He's a very intelligent young man but there's a lot going on in his life to distract him from studying. I hope that I can have a positive impact on him. I also try to spend time at as many of the girl's English classes as I can just talking with the girls and getting to know them. They're such sweet girls and I would love to be able to share the truth with them one day!

Public transportation here is quite scary and that's my perspective from the outside...thank goodness I've never had to try it to see how scary it really is! We have drivers who are almost always available to drive us where we need to go and on weekends the guys are usually pretty good about going with us girls if we need to go out for something. It's really nice to not have to worry about public transport ... makes getting around, especially for work, so much nicer and hassle free. The road conditions here depend a lot on where you're driving. Here in the village it's all dirt roads that are very rocky and bumpy. The main road to the city is mostly paved but there are huge sections that are either gravel or have potholes the size of Texas. They've started doing roadwork again for the last two weeks but it seems the gravel sections have only gotten longer...don't really know what that's about. But all in all we can't complain because it's much better than driving the whole way over the desert terrain which is a lot bumpier.

So far I would have to say that this is a great experience. I'm learning so much and I can only hope that I'm giving as much as I'm taking in! It seems sometimes like every day I'm learning something new whether it's cultural, spiritual, or just random sports/movie trivia (the guys on our team provide endless entertainment). Living here with a team, although it took me a little while to get comfortable with everyone, is excellent because we really are like a family. We spend so much time together we have to like each other! Even our national staff feel like family to us and will stay around sometimes even after work just to hang out. It's great that we don't have to hide the fact that we're Christians from our staff like so many other organizations that work in this country do. That's one great thing about SP, they never hide the fact of who they are or why they do the work they

do. We don't force our beliefs on anyone, but they know what we believe and it provides an open forum for discussion. Also, there was a recent incident with some "peace marches" that were supposed to take place across the country but thankfully stronger powers were at work and the people left the country without incident and without holding their marches. It's just another example of the greatness of the One we serve...above all nations and above kings...Thank you to those of you who were praying.

Well, it's Saturday afternoon and the weekend is almost over (the work week is Sunday to Thursday) and I still have some more reading I want to get done while it's still quiet around here. It's been a great weekend of rest that was much overdue! Last weekend we didn't get any rest because we had visitors or had to go to the city everyday and so it made for a really long two weeks without a break. But, as hard as the last two weeks have been, I am thankful because it led me to a place of being open to hearing what I needed to hear and understanding things I needed to understand. "All things work together for good..." And the thing that I've learned anew these past two weeks is that life isn't about getting to a certain point or accomplishing certain tasks, it's about enjoying the journey, the process of living. I knew this before but I've learned a new aspect of it this week...before I kind of thought that by living in the present moment you should never look back or look forward, you should simply look at where you are and enjoy it. But what I've realized the past week is that in order to enjoy the present to the fullest you have to remember the past and also look to the future. Imagine you're going to take a road trip; you could just get in the car and drive...you'll have fun and enjoy the trip, but you might not get very far because you didn't make certain preparations like putting gas in the car or getting snacks for the road. But, if you plan and make preparations for the trip (get food, gas, road maps, cameras, etc.) you can make it further and enjoy it more. Similarly, you could drive without a purpose not knowing where the road leads or you can take note of what's coming up next in order to be prepared and excited by it...you don't need to know the end, but just a few miles down the road to the next landmark. I say all this as a reminder to enjoy life...enjoy the ride...but never forget your memories because they were your preparation for where you are now and don't give up looking to the future because it can give you direction for where you are now. Enjoy the present and don't wish the time away, but memories and hopes/dreams will always be a part of the present reality...and that's okay. Or at least it is for me. Thank you to each of you for all the memories that we've shared; it's these memories that I cherish now that I'm away from you and also give me something to look forward to in the future! I wish there were a better way of sharing my current experience with you other than email, but until they come up with virtual reality email, I guess this will have to do!

So until next time, I pray for many good memories, joy filled days, and a hopeful outlook for the future for all of us!

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Jennifer Nall

Never underestimate the power of a seed.

## 08/3/06 Thu – Listening 2

“Hey, Rich. ‘Listening 2’? What about a ‘Listening 1’?” – Yesterday, ‘Faithful 4’ was about ‘listening.’ ... Anyway.

Do you listen to the ‘voices’? Now some people have blamed all kinds of bizarre behavior like killing people on ‘the voices’ that told them to do it. As always you need to discern who and what you are being told as to whether it is ‘right.’ Maybe even get the opinion of an ‘accountability partner’ or a wise, trusted friend.

Some people will tell you to do things that are simply in their interest. “Hey, let’s go get drunk.” See, if someone else is doing it too, then it must not be so bad. They want you to condone their bad behavior so it seems okay then.

In this “Daily Encounter” Samuel listened, heard the call for the third time, and replied. (You can read that part of the story in front of this verse.)

It could be a voice you hear, like Samuel. I’ve heard His voice a couple times. It could be a Godly friend advising you. Maybe a sermon. On the radio - I started the C&WC prompted by a guest on a radio show that said, “Is there a line kids shouldn’t cross, and is anybody telling them?” A good book on a spiritual topic. A verse in a devotional piece. A passage in the Bible as you read. Song lyrics. – All these are ways God can ‘speak’ to you. But (1) you have to have the messages coming (be in church, be reading, listen to good radio and music), (2) be listening, paying attention, wanting to get something, and (3) be willing to do what you’re told. – Shane decided to skip a job interview for M-fuge summer camp staff and was on his way to work when a song on the radio said, “If we are the Body... why aren’t our arms reaching... why aren’t our feet going...” and he called in to work that he wouldn’t be in and turned and went to the interview, in jean shorts and t-shirt as he dressed for work, got the camp job, God provided resources, he met Laurie, they got married, he is now the p-t youth director at their church, and this summer six kids made professions of faith in Jesus at camp in his group. – I have more stories. I won’t tell them now. Part of Jennifer’s story, to just name one more, is in the current issue of the C&WC that is in the mailing process.

How has God been speaking to you? Have you heard Him? Are you listening? – Oh, here’s a question: When you hear Him, do you do what He tells you?

Blessings,  
Rich

[The following used with permission]

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**Daily Encounter** ~ Friday, September 3, 2004  
Know God: <http://www.911Eternity.com>

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By Richard Innes and published and (c)  
by Acts International <http://www.actsweb.org>

### Today’s Daily Encounter 1. VOICE IN THE DARK

“The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ Then Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant is listening.’ (1 Samuel 3:10, NIV).

“One summer night a young man who lived in Scotland decided to take a shortcut across the moors on his walk into town where he worked.

“The countryside was known for its limestone quarries. He knew he would be passing near one of these quarries, but thought he could avoid it. The night was pitch black without a star in sight, but the young man set out through the rock and heather anyway.

“Suddenly he heard a voice call out with great urgency, ‘Peter!’

“He was unnerved but stopped and called back into the darkness, ‘Yes, who is it? What do you want?’ There was no response—just a gentle breeze over the deserted moorland.

“He decided that he’d been mistaken and walked on a few more steps. Then he heard the voice again, this time even more urgent than the first: ‘Peter!’

“He stopped dead in his tracks, bent forward to peer through the darkness, and stumbled to his knees. He reached out a hand to the ground before him, but only clutched thin air. It was the quarry! Sure enough, as Peter carefully felt around in a semicircle he found that he had stopped on the edge of the abandoned limestone quarry one short step before a fatal plunge into the abyss. Out there in the desolate moor someone knew him and someone cared about him.

“Peter Marshall never forgot that incident. Dedicating his life to the one who’d called him by name, he went on to become one of America’s greatest ministers.<sup>1</sup>

Did you ever stop to realize that God also knows you by name—and everything else about you. Have you ever “heard” him calling you? If you learn to listen with your heart, you will hear what he wants of you.

Suggested prayer: “Dear God, help me always to be sensitive to your call. Please give me an attentive mind and a listening heart as well as a willing spirit to always heed your bidding and obey your word. Thank you for hearing and answering my prayer. Gratefully, in Jesus’ name, amen.”

1. Steven R. Mosley, *Glimpses of God*, (Sisters, Oregon: Questar Publishers, Inc., 1990), pp. 149-150. Cited on [www.sermons.com](http://www.sermons.com)

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2. I Hate Religion ... For help to be sure you’re a real Christian without having to be religious click on: <http://www.actsweb.org/htbs1.htm> (or cut and paste the URL in your browser).

Those on the daily email-devotional list recently read the 4 “Listening” articles in their morning emails. But I thought they were good stuff to pass along to the others, too. Hope they don’t mind. I often reread stuff.

## 08/5/06 Sat – Listening 4

Have you ever actually noticed that you can't listen while you're talking? Think about it. The same principle works when you're trying to hear what God has to say to you.

In worship this weekend, listen for God.

Selah. Think about it.

*Rich*

### Faith@Work July 7, 2006 God Speaks Through Prayer and Silence

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. [8] For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.” – Matthew 7:7

The second road marker on the journey of discerning God's will is this: talk to God in prayer. I could spend weeks talking about prayer, but there are just a few things I want to say about prayer in relationship to discerning God's will today.

First, you've got to actually do it. In their book *The Knowing-Doing Gap*, business researchers Jeffrey Pfeffer and Robert Sutton discovered that most businesses don't do what they actually know. Businesses often substitute talking, studying, planning, or deciding for actual doing.

I believe that Christians often do the same thing. We talk about prayer, buy devotional books, go to seminars, and make commitments, but we often fail to actually pray. But if you want to discern God's will, there's no substitute for prayer.

In Matthew 7 Jesus said of prayer, “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” The real meaning of that verse is “Ask and keep on asking...seek, and keep on seeking...” We need to be tenacious in prayer. As Paul said, we need to pray without ceasing. (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

Second, when you're seeking God will in prayer, pay attention to your motives. Honestly ask yourself why you're seeking God's direction. Are you just looking for God to justify your own plans, or are you really seeking God's direction for your life? That's not an easy question to answer. James 4 puts it this way: “You do not have, because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.”

And finally, when it comes to discerning God's will in prayer, remember that prayer is a conversation with God, and conversation means speaking and listening. I think sometimes we don't hear God's direction because God can't get a word in edgewise. We're too busy telling God our problems, or telling him how to run the world. Try some extended silence.

Not long ago a friend told me an interesting story. He was having a hard time falling asleep during a really windy night. After four

hours of just lying in bed he suddenly “heard” a voice inside his head say, “water heater.” He thought that was strange, but hey, he wasn't sleeping anyway, so he got up and checked out his water heater. What he found was that a plastic table cloth had fallen right under the burner of the water heater, and probably would have caught fire if he hadn't picked it up.

What intrigued me about his story was his conclusion. It wasn't so much about the water heater. He said, “I've never heard God's voice like that before. Kind of funny that it took four hours of silence for me to hear him.” Not funny at all! Few of us give God the time, space, and silence to speak.

Do you want to discern God's will for your life? Spend regular time in prayer, and listen!

Bringing It Home:

1. During the next few days, spend at least 10 minutes in silence during your prayer time. Don't worry if your mind wanders. When it does, ask why God might bring your thoughts to that place. Use this “diversion” as an opportunity to pray.
2. Chuck Swindoll's little book *Intimacy with the Almighty* has a wonderful section on silence and solitude. I highly recommend it.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, I want to hear your voice, but I find it so very difficult to slow down and quiet down. The pace of my life is so often out of control. The chaos in my outer life often creates chaos in my inner life, and the noise and clutter drown out your still, small voice. Help me to practice stillness and silence for the sake of my soul, and as an expression of my desire to better hear your call. This I ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Jeff Marian

Upper Arlington Lutheran Church, Columbus, Ohio

[www.ualc.org](http://www.ualc.org)

Please feel free to forward this devotion to others.



## 08/7/06 Mon –Listening 5

### Notes, Directions, Maps

Why listen? Because we expect to hear something that is of benefit to us. – It's like going to class and not bringing paper and pencil. I went to a workshop about the stock market and I was amazed at the number of people that didn't bring paper or pencil – but the people giving the workshop have done this before and they had the hotel's pens and pads of paper on each seat. – Do you go to church expecting to hear something beneficial that you'd want to remember? Do you take notes during the sermon? Maybe write down a line from a song? Writing it down helps most people remember things, even if you lose the piece of paper. If you *really* want to keep it, have a small notebook that you keep notes in – Keep listening. Be aware of the messages coming to you.

Selah. Think about it.

*Rich*

### Faith@Work July 6, 2006 Knowing God's Will

“Your word is a lamp to guide me and alight for my path.” – Psalm 119:105

Discerning God's will for your life flows out of a love relationship with God. If you already know God and love God because of what he's done for you, but you're still hungering to know how to discern God's will for your life, I want to share some road signs along the journey. Discerning God's will is not a science. There's no formula to follow. But there are signs that can help to point you along the way.

The first road marker is this: Get into God's Word. If you want to know God's will for your life, you've got to spend regular time in the Bible.

I once got lost in Wisconsin and drove for nearly an hour until I finally found someone to ask for directions. A couple of days later I discovered that I had a Wisconsin map in my car all along. Wow, did I feel stupid!

Spiritually, people do that kind of thing all the time! They long for direction, when in fact they've got God's direction bound between the cover of their Bible. You'll get two kinds of direction from the Bible. First, you'll get the general direction that's available to all people who read the Bible. Get into the Bible and you'll discover all sorts of things about God's will for your life: what values we're to live with, how we're to interact with others, how we're to use the things that God has given us. The Bible is full of direction. That's not the problem. The problem is – we don't always like what it says.

A guy came into my office years ago in my former congregation saying that he was really struggling to discern God's will for his life. He'd been reading the Bible but it just didn't exactly address his situation. I asked him what his situation was. He said, “Well, I've fallen in love with this woman at work. I just know that God brought us together. We were meant for each other. One minor problem: I'm married. I'm really trying to discern God's will here.” Wow. Talk about standing in the river and dying of thirst! The direction that man needs is written all over the Bible – words about marital fidelity, the real meaning of love, and the boundaries of sexuality. It's just wasn't the direction he wanted to hear.

God's word is filled with general direction for all of us. But God's Holy Spirit also uses the Bible to speak to us in some very specific ways. Some of you will know what I mean when I say that sometimes when you read, study, and really mediate on the words of the Bible, a voice inside your head says, “Hey, I'm talking to you here. This verse is applicable to this or that situation in your life. Pay attention here.” You might have read that verse a dozen times before, but at times God will speak directly to you and guide you specifically through his word. What an awesome experience it is when the Holy Spirit speaks to you this way.

Want to know God's will for your life? You've got to spend time in the Bible. It's the roadmap right under your nose!

#### Bringing It Home:

1. How's your devotional life? It is alive, or is it merely dead obedience. Or is it non-existent? I find that people make two major mistakes in their devotional lives. First, they get stuck in a rut. Don't hesitate to switch gears. Try a new devotional book for a while! Second, we get stuck in an “all or nothing” rut. If we can't spend 30 minutes in quiet time, we don't spend any at all. Remember: the Word is a gift to us, not an obligation. Spending five minutes is better than none at all!

2. Ask five people this week about their devotional lives. What works for them? How has God blessed them through their unique disciplines? Ask these questions especially of those whose spiritual maturity you admire. Let them enrich and broaden your perspectives.

3. Read Psalm 119 and allow it to revitalize your commitment to the word of God.

Prayer: Lord God, what an awesome gift your word is! It is the Word of life and truth for my soul. Teach me to honor your word. Speak to me through your word in new ways, and let it lead me to a deeper relationship with the Word, Jesus Christ. Shape my heart, mind, and will as your Holy Spirit guides me. All this I ask as a gift of grace in Jesus' name. Amen.

Jeff Marian, Upper Arlington Lutheran Church, Columbus, Ohio  
www.ualc.org

Please feel free to forward this devotion to others.



**Kartoon Knuggets**

www.christiancartoons.com/kartoons



**“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 most students we talked to. Choices. If you would PREFER to get the C&WC by email please let us know. We will deliver by either method. - We still ask that you keep us informed of address changes.

**Mostly just for fun...**

**\*Medical Fraud\***

The police recently busted a man selling ‘secret formula’ tablets he claimed gave eternal youth.  
 When going through their files they noticed it was the fifth time he was caught for committing this same criminal medical fraud.  
 He had earlier been arrested in 1794, 1856, 1928 and 1983.  
 \*\*\*

After delivering a lecture on drawing, I gave my art class its assignment—complete a self-portrait. A young man in the front row raised his hand and asked, “Of anyone?”  
 \*\*\*

**Miracle Return**

The devout cowboy lost his favorite Bible while he was mending fences out on the range.  
 Three weeks later a cow walked up to him carrying the Bible in its mouth.  
 The cowboy couldn’t believe his eyes. He took the precious book out of the cow’s mouth, raised his eyes heavenward and exclaimed, “It’s a miracle!”  
 “Not really,” said the cow. “Your name is written inside the cover.”  
 \*\*\*

**Control Seminar**

The company I work for sometimes puts on what they call “Lunch and Learn” seminars during the employees’ lunchtime, dealing with a variety of physical and mental health issues. If the seminar lasts beyond the normal lunch hours, we’re supposed to get managerial approval to attend.  
 So, last week, this flier came around:  
 \* LUNCH AND LEARN SEMINAR:  
 \* WHO’S CONTROLLING YOUR LIFE?  
 \* (Get your manager’s permission before attending)  
 Looks like that question’s been answered...  
 \*\*\*

“I think the pilot on my last trip was pretty new to his job. I base that on his pre-flight announcement, ‘We’re going to be taking off in a few... Whoa, here we go!’” –Unknown  
 \*\*\*

**\*Eye Laugh\* “Backfire”**  
<http://www.cybersalt.org/q05.php?id=91>  
 \*\*\*

When Little Johnny’s family moved into their new house, a visiting relative asked him how he liked the new place.  
 “It’s terrific,” he said. “I have my own room, Billy has his own room, and Jenny has her own room. But poor Mom is still in with Dad.”  
 \*\*\*

And the gal who went to the auto-parts store and wanted a replacement 710 cap for her engine... Can’t figure it out? Turn it up-side-down.

**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**

Dr. Rich Dymmel, Editor  
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Greensboro, NC 27406-8306

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mail it to them?***

***If they have a NEW cam-  
pus 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.

Aug 24, 2006  
Listening - 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.

**School gets you ready  
for examination; life  
gives the finals.** -- Examine  
yourselves to see whether you are  
in the faith; test yourselves. -  
2 Corinthians 15:5 NIV

**It's better to be alone  
than in bad company**

**Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character  
1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)**

**The rotten apple spoils  
his companion.**

**He that walketh with wise men shall be wise; but a com-  
panion of fools shall be destroyed.  
Proverbs 13:20**