

# Issue 11 Christ For Youth Newsletter

Issue XI

Editor-in-Chief: Rev. B. R. Hicks

March/April 1989

## Greetings from Reverend Hicks,

Have you been doing Jess "putting off until tomorrow" since you read our last Newsletter? I do believe I heard a resounding "Yes!" from many of you.

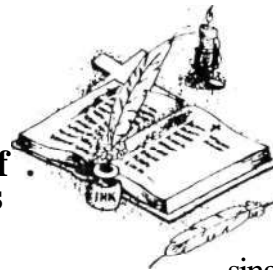
As you know, the remaining days of my life are dedicated to sowing seeds of truth in hungry hearts. So as long as you show the LORD that you have hungry hearts, I know He will let me continue pouring my life out for you and in working with you in every way I can.

One of the ways the LORD lets me share my life with you is through the lesson that appears in each issue of this Newsletter. If you truly appreciate these seeds of truth, you will allow them to take root in your heart and begin to change you from day to day.

Our lesson this time is going to help you understand more about the power of song. I hope you enjoy it. But more than that, I hope you will let it affect the kind of singing you do in your home and at school.

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## From the Desk of Rev. B. R. Hicks



Songs are powerful! They touch and sway our emotions.

Some songs tell of life's joys and pleasures; other songs reveal the sadness and bitterness that accompany war, oppression, and defeat. Yet all good songs have one thing in common—the words and the melody both express the same feeling. For example, even without hearing the words of a song, we can easily distinguish between circus music, band music, and grand opera. We would feel very confused if we heard happy words sung to the tune of a funeral dirge.

We all sing a song every day of our life. Our song might not be one the music world would record, but it is a song nevertheless. By our words and our behaviour, we sing a "song" and play a melody which affects us personally as we sing and which affects others who must listen to our song.

God's people should sing and play the happiest, most victorious songs in all the world. Yet we frequently hear Christians say glorious things about the joys of living for God while the music of their lives refutes the words they speak. The song of their life, in fact, drags with discouragement.

Young people, if our lives sang the songs that the LORD intended, the Devil's music would have less drawing power in this world. Let us consider briefly one of the songs that Israel sang to the LORD, for it portrays one of the spiritual songs our own hearts and lives should sing to Him.

Israel knew neither the words nor the music to the SONG OF TRIUMPH when she left Egypt. Indeed, her first reaction to the impending death she faced at the Red Sea was one of despair. Listen for a moment to her first tune.

. . . and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD. And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness (Exodus 14:10-12).

Israel learned to sing the right words to the song of triumph only after she had actually passed through the Red Sea and saw the enemy lying dead on the shore. At last, her song rang with notes that were fitting to God's chosen people.

**Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously, the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea (Exodus 15:1).**

As Christians, we also face situations in life when it looks as though we have come to the end of the way. The world, the flesh, and the Devil is in hot pursuit; further spiritual growth seems impossible. From all appearances, we will perish where we stand.

This is not the time to start singing a sad song, as Israel did when she faced the Red Sea. The LORD already has revealed His power to triumph over the "Egyptians" that seek to destroy our soul and over the elements that stand to hinder our spiritual growth.

It blesses the LORD's heart in a special way when, in the presence of what seems to be an impossible situation, we begin to sing a song that exalts His Name and His great power that sustains us in the time of trial.

**The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation; he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him (Exodus 15:2).**

The LORD is not the only one who listens to our song; we hear it too. How can we feel weak while we are singing, "The LORD is MY strength"? How can we feel hopeless when we are singing, "His is MY salvation and MY God"? Feelings of fleshly discouragement cannot linger in the heart that is singing the song of triumph.

Any time we choose to sing a song of anxiety and rebellion, the Devil moves immediately to take advantage of us by swooping down upon us like a mighty army. He makes the mountains seem higher and broader than they are; he makes the sea look wider and deeper than it actually is; he also magnifies the strength of his own corrupt power.

Everything looks bleak when we are singing a sad, mournful tune of defeat. But the scene has to change as soon as we change our song. Fallen Lucifer and all his evil forces have to flee when we lift our voices and start singing the song of triumph.

**The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name. Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red sea. The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone. Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy. And in the greatness of thine excellency thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee: thou sentest forth thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble (Exodus 15:3-7).**

God does not bring us to seemingly impossible situations to destroy us. He brings us there to reveal to us, to the Devil, and to others His mighty power to triumph over every foe. When Moses and the children of Israel sang the song of triumph, it put the fear of God in the hearts of all the others nations who heard the song.

**The people shall hear, and be afraid; sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of Palestina. Then the dukes of Edom shall be amazed; the mighty men of Moab, trembling shall take hold upon them; all the inhabitants of Canaan shall melt away. Fear and dread**

# CONGRATULATIONS



## CONGRATULATIONS ALL 1989 GRADUATES!!!

In our last issue of 'the Christ For Youth Newsletter' we asked that you send us the names of anyone in your church that is a 1989 graduate. We didn't hear from too many of you and we are sure there are more than this graduating.

Congratulations to all those that are a 1989 graduate, whether you are graduating from high school, college, a technical or vocational school, etc. We are proud of your accomplishments!

Following is a list of some of the 1989 graduates:

- Joe Browning
- David Jones
- Stephanie R. Atkins
- Sharon M. Zirkle
- David Ross
- Guy Calais
- Beth McClellan
- Monica Lindgren
- Randy Home
- Carol Brey
- Tammy Pascoe
- Marilyn Monroe
- Delores Terry
- Keith Foster
- Stephanie Foster
- Chris Bellamy
- Angel Mitchell
- Ramone Monroe
- Leslie Cordle
- Robert Jones, Jr.
- Joel Hubbard
- Lisa Harrison
- David Miller

shall fall upon them; by the greatness of thine arm they shall be as still as a stone;... (Exodus 15:14,15).

Remember this, young people: God's principles never change. If our lives "sing" the spiritual song of triumph, that song will carry a triumphant anointing on it. Others will hear and know of the LORD's triumphant power. They may never elect to serve the LORD in this life, but at least they will fear to oppress His children. Hallelujah!

Ask yourself these questions and then answer them honestly: What kind of words and what kind of music did I sing today? Did I tell people how wonderful Jesus is and how great His power is? And then did I, by my actions and thoughts, actually accuse His nature and doubt His power?

We all sing the wrong song sometime, but we do not have to keep singing it, day after day, month in and month out. We can repent as soon as we recognize a sorrowful note of defeat, and we can pray, "LORD, forgive me. I want the words and the melody of my life to always give honour and glory to Your triumphant power."

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## SEND US YOUR TESTIMONY!

Please write and send us your testimony. Everyone has a testimony. Please take the time to write it down so other people can be blessed by it.

Write to the attention of the Christ For Youth Newsletter staff.

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A testimony from . . . .

**Geoffrey Francis  
Pretoria, South Africa**

"God is good. He put me in a Christian, God fearing home. This is something I didn't appreciate at the time. It was about two years after I was born that my parents joined Christ Gospel Church. They had been introduced to the message a few years earlier.

Shameful to say, I rebelled against all principles and discipline my parents brought me up with. But once again, God is good. He changed me, my outlooks, and most of all, my heart. Now I think what and where would I have been if the LORD didn't give me the parents I have. Parents in the message. If I didn't have these parents that I rebelled so many times against, I might not have heard this Bride's Message. This growing up message. This life changing message!

Unfortunately, we realize these things too late. Well, God is good and He worked a change in me. I had never had the opportunity, luckily, to really go into the world, due to my parents wonderful restraint. But the big change came on January 1, 1986, the New Year's Eve service, at about 1:30 a.m. Everybody in our church was asked to say something for the LORD. Well I said, "I want to make a commitment to the LORD, to serve Him this year." Well, from that day He hasn't stopped working in me. I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit in September and was baptized in the water of His wonderful Name on the second of February, 1987.

I was sent to Pretoria for my compulsory two years military service. I asked the LORD to send me to a place where I could grow spiritually. I was sent to the Air Force and was based for almost the full two years in Pretoria. Rev. and Sis. Cotterill have a church in Pretoria that I attended whenever I had the opportunity.

God is good and He kept His promise. I have definitely grown spiritually since I've been in Pretoria. I've finished my National Service (military training) and now I am studying further at college in the accounting field.

Our church in Pretoria is not too big but we are growing spiritually, which counts. The youth group in our church isn't big. We come together on Saturday nights to praise the LORD with our energies. You have a choice - you can either use your energies to praise the LORD or the devil and I've chosen to praise the LORD. I lead the Saturday night services where we've been learning about Jacob Warriors and all the youth convention messages. God is good and is working mightily in each of our lives as we praise Him with our all, just shaking off all forms that so easily hinder us in our walk with Christ.

It would be nice to have fellow Christ Gospel youth write to me; somebody with the same interests and goals. My name and address is:

Mr. G. N. Flance  
547 Ruddell Street  
Bailey's Muckleneuk  
Pretoria 0181  
Republic of  
South Africa

Thanks once again for your hard work on the newsletter. I really appreciate it.

Well, I say goodbye. Included is a poem about a weaver that if you find appropriate you can add to one of your newsletters.

God bless,  
Friend in Christ,  
Geoffrey Francis"

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**THE WEAVER**

My life is but a weaving  
between my LORD and me;  
I cannot choose the  
colour,  
He worketh steadily.

Oft' times He weaveth  
sorrow,  
and I in foolish pride,  
forget He sees the  
upper,  
and I, the underside.

Not till the loom is  
silent,  
and the shuttles cease  
to fly,  
shall God unroll the  
canvas,  
and God explain the  
reason why.



Make plans now to attend the youth convention!!!

The dark threads are as needful,  
in the Weaver's skillful hand,  
as the threads of gold and silver,  
in the pattern He has planned.

Author Unknown  
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**CAN YOU UNSCRAMBLE THE WORDS IN THIS SCRIPTURE?**

"ertag aecep vaeh hyet hchwi voel hyt wla: dna ihgnont ahsll efondf htem."

(Unscramble the words to find out what scripture this is. The answer is hidden in the newsletter!)

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**DEAR AUNT BEA**

Is there anything wrong with going to aerobic exercise classes at the **YMCA** or a fitness center? I am not interested in body building. All I want to do is get a little exercise. Please give me some advice.

Signed: Wondering



Dear Wondering:

There are several things that you must take into consideration. First of all, the Word of God should always be your guide. For example, the atmosphere, friends, are males and females together, language used, clothing, etc. Always do those things that are pleasing to the LORD. (I John 3:22) We are living in such perverted days. Why not form your own group with Christian friends, using Christian music?

Signed: Aunt Bea

**Dear Aunt Bea:**

Can you tell me if it is OK for a girl to ask a guy out?

Signed: Confused

Dear Confused:

The LORD does all things well. Tell God you want someone that is going on for God. You will know the difference if you are going on yourself. Stay a lady and let someone ask you out. The LORD will hear and answer your prayer.

Signed: Aunt Bea

**TEENAGE MONEY MATTERS**

It is important to begin good budgeting when you first begin receiving your own money, either from a job, gift, allowance, etc. If you start good habits when you are young, you will keep them when you have to manage your own finances as an adult.

Reverend Hicks has written a booklet about tithing that every young person and adult should read. The first thing you should do when you receive any money is to give the first 10% back to the LORD. Remember, that is His money and for you to use it for something else is the same thing as if you stole it from someone. By not tithing, you are actually stealing from the LORD.

After you pay your tithes, you should also set aside a set amount to save. It is good to save 10%, and do it regularly.

Put down on paper what expenses you have, even those that come along just once in a while. Then write down what money you have coming in on a regular basis. Begin while you are young, learning to live within your budget. Most people get into trouble financially because they fail to live within their means.

**DROP EVERYTHING!**

Drop everything and make plans now to attend the youth convention!

# Special Recipe!

## CHOCOLATE PEANUT

## BUTTER BLITZ

by Leslie Cordle  
Jeffersonville, Ind.

Ingredients:

- 3/4 cup of brown sugar
- 1 lb. confectioners sugar
- 8 tblsp. unsalted butter
- 2 cups crunchy peanut butter
- 12 oz. semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 tblsp. unsalted butter

Mix first five ingredients. Press into ungreased 15" x 10" x 1" pan. Melt chocolate chips and butter in a double boiler. Spread chocolate over peanut butter mixture. Chill 15 to 20 minutes. Makes 50 or more bites.

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## "DELICIOUS"

A recipe from the kitchen of.....

Rev. Pat Cotterill  
Pretoria, South Africa  
for

## COCONUT PYRAMIDS

Ingredients:

- 1/2 tin of condensed milk (Eagle Brand)
- 1 tsp. vanilla essence
- 8 oz. grated coconut (desiccated)

Mix all ingredients then drop mixture in dessert spoonfuls, one inch apart, onto a greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for ten minutes until golden tinted.

(A note from Sis. Cotterill....

"I know I'm not a "young" people, except in heart, but thought you might like this quick recipe for **Coconut Pyramids**. They're sweetly delicious!  
Sis. Cotterill")

Look to the next column for another great recipe.....

Whenever you go to purchase something always stop first and ask yourself three questions: (1) Do I really need this? (2) Is it really worth this price? (3) Can I do without it? Stopping to ask yourself and answer these questions will help you to stop impulse buying, which is where a lot of money is wasted.

It is also a good practice to keep a "diary" for a three month period, taking time to write down every penny you spend. If you will do this, you will be surprised to find out where some of your money is going.

The LORD has commanded us in Matthew 25:24 and II Cor. 8:5 that we are to be good stewards of our money. You begin good habits when you are young. Learn these things now and even though prices are soaring daily, the LORD will bless you for your faithfulness to obey His commandment.

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Rev. Gloria Jones  
National Quiz Master

Greetings to the 1989 Bible Quizzer! This quiz season will cover the first four books of Romans.

Our quiz season runs from March to August, ending with our National Bible Quiz Tournament. Every quizzer can be a winner if he is involved in the "quiz ministry," and not just with a team. The object of the quiz ministry is to encourage each quizzer to reach for not only the content of the book of study, but also for the God who inspired the book and the principles contained therein.

Quizzers who learn to reach for God through the quiz experience rather than for trophies and honor will be the "long range winners!" **Bible quizzing is much more than a game!**

This month's nugget:

### "A Key to Memorization"

What makes us remember? Most scientists agree that thinking and remembering are electrochemical processes. The brain is something like a huge telephone switchboard.

Everything we see, hear, smell, taste, feel or think is given its own electrical circuit sequence of digits to make a particular phone ring. A certain circuit of brain cells must be stimulated to make us remember a certain fact. How do we remember a fact whenever we wish? Imagine a muddy road over which a farmer drives a truck everyday. Each time he drives over the road, the rut he leaves behind grows larger. As he increases the load the truck is carrying, the rut gets even larger. In a similar way, each time we review a verse of scripture, the memory patterns it leaves behind get a little deeper. And anytime we bear down mentally by intense concentration, we speed up the learning process by forming deeper and deeper brain patterns.

So keep working, quizzer, and stay tuned to your Christ For Youth Newsletter for the next **Key to Memorization!**

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"NEWS"

The Jeffersonville Jacob's Warriors have a youth service on a Sunday night, once every quarter. The services are directed by the Jacob Warrior Prayer Group leaders, Sis. Shirley Woods and Bro. Stan Harper. They are **POWERFUL !!!**

You can purchase tapes from these services by writing to the Tape Department at the church address. They are fantastic!!! Order your tapes today.

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Be sure to send us your change of address so you do not miss any newsletters!!!