

Issue 19 **Christ for Youth** **Newsletter**

Issue XIX

July/August 1990

Greetings from Reverend Hicks,

Summer vacation is a special time for young people. Some of you are free to stay home and do things you do not have time to do during the school year. Some of you are old enough to get a job and earn a little money before you go back to school. Some of you are looking forward to starting college in the fall.

But all of you, I know, are faced with strong temptations to be like your peers. It is not easy, for example, to take a firm stand for morality when those around you are taking the way of least resistance, the way of immorality and lasciviousness.

While it may not be easy to maintain the highest of moral standards in the day in which we live, it is possible. That is why I want to deal in this issue of Christ for Youth with some questions that have to do with moral issues. If you make a firm decision now, before school starts, you will be better able to stand firmly for Jesus when the time of temptation comes your way.

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

QUESTION: Why does the Bible say, in First Corinthians 6:18, that all other sins are without the body, but that fornication is a sin against the body?

ANSWER: God tells us in His Word that the body is for the Lord.

Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. *Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body* (I Corinthians 6:13).

God gives us a threefold witness of this fact. First, God created

our body. Second, He purchased our body with His precious Blood at Calvary's Cross. Then when we come before Him in repentance for our sin and accept Him as our Saviour, the Spirit of Christ enters our body to possess it.

The indwelling of Christ's Spirit assures us that when Jesus comes back again, our vile, corruptible body will be changed to be like the Lord's. Our body belongs to Him.

To go a step further, when we receive the Holy Ghost, our body is *joined* to another body — the spiritual Body of Christ. Thus, a created, bought, saved, and baptized man not only has a personal body, but he also is joined to the

Body of Christ. This is why the Bible says our body is for the Lord.

When we speak of our body, we actually have two bodies in question — our personal body and our spiritual body that is a member of the many-membered Body of Christ.

Suppose, then, that a flirtation or steady dating between a boy and a girl results in an illegitimate relationship. We say it is an illegitimate relationship because God's Word clearly forbids the complete surrender of one person's body to another outside of the marriage bond. Why is this the only sin against the body? If a person overeats, smokes tobacco,

drinks alcohol, takes dope, or commits suicide, are these not sins against the body? Why is fornication especially singled out?

It is because of this *second* body. God is not referring just to our personal body. But because there has been a spiritual union between our body and the Holy Ghost, which has made us a member of the Body of Christ, the whole body partakes of the defilement of the sin committed by one of its members.

Remember, the Bible says that if one member suffers, the whole body suffers with it.

First Corinthians 6:16 says: "What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh."

As Christians, our bodies are members of Christ's Body, so says Paul in verse fifteen. So if we commit fornication with our physical body, we are joining the spiritual Body of Christ to a harlot.

A harlot is any woman who presents her body to a man outside of marriage. This illegal union is what is such a sin against the body — the many-membered Body of Christ. There is no sin that will kill the Spirit of God as quickly as does fornication and adultery, and it is because the whole Body of Christ is dragged along with the one member who sins.

This is one cause for a feeling of death in a church service. We, personally, may be praying and seeking the LORD the best we know, but, suddenly, we are hit by a horrible spirit of death. It is not

our personal death that we feel, but the death that some other member has brought to the Body of Christ because of his or her sin of fornication.

There is another important aspect to this particular sin. God is not going to allow anyone to defile the innocent Body of Christ and go unpunished. God's Wrath and Judgment will be meted out to a person who joins his body to a harlot.

The Old Testament punishment for a woman guilty of adultery was that her belly and thigh would rot. God also said for her to be stoned to death. The seriousness of this sin is in the defiling of innocent members of the Body of Christ.

God's Word also cites incidents involving spiritual adultery against the Body of Christ. One such incident is recorded in Second Chronicles, chapter twenty-six. King Uzziah dared to usurp the place of the Priests by offering up incense at the Golden Altar. He was warned by the Priests that he would be defiling the things of God by presumptuously joining himself to the Priesthood. When Uzziah failed to heed the Priests' warning, God's Wrath smote him with leprosy.

When we join ourself unlawfully to things that defile God's possession, we are not going to escape His Wrath. God's Judgment may not be instantaneous, but it will be sure. That is why we should be so careful about what we sow in this life. We sow deeds, either good ones or evil

ones. We reap God's Judgment, which will come either as a blessing or a curse, depending on the kind of deeds we have sown. So, then, every day, we are choosing more than what we are doing at the moment. We also are choosing God's Justice which metes out to us the consequences of our acts.

Let us consider, then, the blessing of a *right choice* in a man-woman relationship. If a man resists the enticement of an illegitimate relationship that is offered to him, he keeps himself clean. And by so doing, he receives the benefit of everything God has given to the whole Body of Christ. For example, perhaps one member has more Knowledge, more Wisdom, more Understanding, more Power than the others; then all the members who have not defiled the Body benefit from all the other member possesses. They get to share in everything the whole Body has in God.

Apart from what we share in the Body of Christ, the most cherished and wonderful gift a man and a woman can present to each other at marriage is a clean, holy body. There are no regrets for right doing. Righteous acts leave no bitter aftertaste.

Last of all, notice the order given by God: "*The body is not for fornication, but for the Lord.*" We must present our body to Jesus, first; then He clothes us with His Spiritual Body. His Body will give us power to overcome in the moment of temptation.

Suppose Temptation walks by in a low-cut blouse and tight-fitting mini-skirt, wafting perfume, sweet words, and a willing look. Down inside of the man's heart, something begins to tremble and rise up to reach out for what is being offered. It seems irresistible, even natural to respond. Where do we find help? Is it found in crying, "Help! Help!?" No! The key of power is in saying, "Jesus, my body is for You! My body is for You!" As soon as the LORD hears this cry, then *His Body* will be for us. The minute we say it, He will come down with His Spiritual Body and clothe our loins, which are corrupt and lustful, with His Holy, Pure Loins. Jesus will send His Pure Heart so we can feel pure, as He is pure. He will send His Pure Mind so we can think clean, pure thoughts.

This does not work just in church. It is real in our everyday life. It may seem impossible to have a clean mind in our present day world, but God has made a way. All we have to do is give our body to Him. Then He will give His Holy Body to us. As we stand clothed in His Holy Body, Miss Siren or Mister Don Juan will not be attractive to us because the Body of the Lord will be resisting them. When we are clothed with His Spiritual Body, we see through His Eyes, hear through His Ears, speak through His Mouth, and feel through His Heart.

Once we learn the Principle of giving our body to the Lord, with the result that He, in turn, gives His Body to us, we see many related

areas in which the Principle works.

First it establishes unity in the Body of Christ. After we have operated by the Principle and have resisted temptation out in the world, when we meet together again in church, we bring in with us a new portion of the Body of Christ. Each experience of reality will bring with it a new portion of Christ's Body, and all will be joined in a new way. Putting on the Body of the Lord brings unity.

This Principle also works with sickness. We give our sick, infirm body to Him; He gives us His Holy, Undeiled Body in return.

Another wonderful way in which this Principle works is in our will. Christ's Body has a Will! When we give our body to the Lord, His Will comes with His Body to clothe us. Thus, confessing "My body is for You, Lord, and Your Body is for me" brings a fresh desire to go on with the Lord. His Holy Will will give us a will that will go on for God. Bless His Holy Name!

QUESTION: Why did Jesus not permit the Pharisees to stone the woman who was caught in adultery, when God demanded that this sin be punished by death in the Old Testament?

ANSWER: To make the answer to this question clear, we must understand the procedure used when the Old Testament Laws of stoning were executed.

One sin which was punishable by stoning is explained in Exodus

21:15,17: "And he that smiteth his father, or his mother, shall be surely put to death. . . . And he that curseth his father, or his mother, shall surely be put to death."

In any case which merited capital punishment, judgment was pronounced by the High Priest. Suppose a child was indeed guilty of smiting and cursing his parent. First of all, the deed had to be established by two or three witnesses in the presence of the High Priest. After hearing the accusation and the witnesses, the High Priest entered into the Tabernacle where he stood before the curtain which screened the Ark of the Covenant from view. Standing there, he enquired of God whether the accusation were true or false and the accused guilty or innocent. He received a confirmation of the Truth when the Voice of God came forth from the Ark, causing the stones of the Priest's Breastplate to light up and flash. If the verdict was "guilty," the son or daughter was led out to the gate of the city where the elders stoned him or her to death.

The elders were holy men whose lives conformed to the standards of God's Holy Law. It was their job to mete out the Righteous Judgment of God.

For Jesus to prohibit the execution of the Law in the case of the accused adulteress, there had to be some flaw in the proceedings which kept them from being the performance of God's Righteous Judgment.

The flaw, obviously, was not

in the offender; she was guilty. The flaw was not in the number of witnesses, for there were enough. The flaw was not in the Judge, Who in this case was Christ Himself.

Although the Pharisees did not recognize the validity of their own act, they had indeed brought the woman before her High Priest. However, the Law could not be administered in this case because of the executioners.

Jesus proved Himself to be a Righteous Judge and a follower of the Law when He rightly said, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her." He reminded them that in order to execute righteous judgment, by casting stones, the executioners had to be holy. (This is why this Law had not been practiced for a long time in Israel; no one was holy enough to throw the stones.)

God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. His Principles of Operation never change. That is why sins of immorality go unmentioned in many pulpits today. A minister who is guilty of sexual immorality cannot throw stones at others who commit adultery and fornication.

This same Principle was established when Achan was stoned (Joshua 7:1-26). The rest of the people could stone Achan because they were innocent of disobeying God's Commandment. Only Achan was caught with the forbidden goods from Jericho.

According to Jewish Law, a person must be *holy* (not guilty of the offense himself) before he

could stone someone else. Jesus was not voiding the Law of Moses; He was acting on God's established Principle of stones being thrown only by the innocent. His Righteous Judgment sent arrows of guilt piercing into the hearts of those gathered about the accused woman. They knew their guilt, but left as unrepentant sinners. The woman, who openly admitted her guilt, repented and left the Presence of the High Priest cleansed of her sin.

Sometimes, beloved, people repent because they are caught. Sometimes, people are sorry because the judgment of death is upon them, not because they are sorry over the sin they have committed. There is a great difference between being sorry because we are caught and being sorry because we have offended God and His Word. Jesus saw the true repentance of the adulteress, forgave her, and bade her to sin no more.

Young people, I admonish you to offer your body to the Lord before the moment of temptation presents itself. He can keep you pure and holy in spite of how others are living. And if you already have sinned, you have a Merciful High Priest, Jesus Christ, Who stands ready to forgive you when you come to Him in true repentance.

Sometimes we allow all our imperfections to overshadow the good we have in us, and we develop a distorted image of our own worth and ability."

will the
real you
please
stand up

**God Doesn't Say, "I'll
Love You After..."**

**God Does Not Say, "I'll
Love You But..."**

**God Does Not Say, "I'll
Love You When..."**

A Letter to Jesus
Written by
T. A.
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Jesus:

I just want to write to you to tell you how much I love you. You died on the Cross for me and shed your precious Blood. You have saved many, and I praise you even more for that. Even when people didn't know it, You were there all the time.

I just want to thank you for sending Sister Hicks. She's a very beautiful person. She brings Your Word in such a special way. And I also thank you for sending my pastor and other pastors.

LORD, I know You are coming soon and I want to be ready. I take in Your Word every Sunday and through the week. And I can't help but praise you more and more.

I see myself and I know what I have to do. I have to get more sincere, praise Your Name more and most of all, pray.

I thank you for giving Sister Hicks the Message to have Jacob Prayer Warriors. It has really helped me and my youth group.

LORD, You have done Your part by saving me. Now it's time for me to do my part by paying my debt.

LORD, I have learned how to forgive. And, I want to forgive daily. You are so good to me; I shouldn't deserve to live. But You made a way for me to live and I love you more.

LORD, all I am trying to say is I thank You for everything and most of all, I love you. I know what I must do so I have made a goal to do it.

Please write to us....

WE LOVE RECEIVING LETTERS!!!

Please write to the newsletter staff! Send your testimonies, news of what your youth group is doing, recipes, etc.

We were so thrilled to receive a letter from a young man in South Africa. Here is his letter and the recipe he sent:



Dear Newsletter Staff:

I hope you are all keeping well. It's so exciting going on for God. I am really enjoying the Newsletters and I appreciate all your faithfulness and hard work.

Our Jacob Warrior's group is doing well. We will be sending you news of our youth group in the near future.

I'm doing well at college (Teachers College). It's great fun.

I have a very tasty pudding that you may like.



STRAWBERRY PUDDING

Ingredients

- 2 + 250 gm. creamed cheese
- 1 + 250 ml. cream
- 1 packet lemon jello
- 1 cp. extra fine sugar
- 1 packet boudier biscuits (Vanilla Wafers)
- 1 cp. boiling water
- 1 tin strawberries

Make jello with boiling water and let it cool. Mix sugar and cheese together and then add cool jello. Beat cream, not too stiff, and add to mixture. In dish, put biscuits and pour over 1/2 cup of milk mixed with 1/2 teaspoon of vanilla. Pour mixture over and leave to set + (more or less) three hours. Boil juice of strawberries and thicken with +/- 1 heaped dessert spoon of custard powder (cornstarch sweetened with a little vanilla). When cool pour over, after decorating the pudding with strawberries.

Here is a recipe that Rev. Pat Cotterill has shared with us.

SAVORY PIE

Ingredients

- White Bread
- Asparagus (or Broccoli)
- Butter
- Cheddar Cheese
- Two Eggs w/ a drop of milk
- Optional: Bacon

Cut the crust off of the bread; butter the bread on one side and then lay it, butter side down, in a pie plate. Put in asparagus spears (or broccoli); grate cheese on top (whatever amount you like); whip up the two eggs with a drop of milk and pour over asparagus; bacon pieces may be sprinkled on top. Bake at 350 degrees until set (a knife inserted in the center comes out clean). Sprinkle with cheese and more bacon and enjoy!



Dear Aunt Bea:

I really want to get a perm to make my hair easier to work with, but my Mm and I don't know of an experienced beautician in the church that could and would do a good job of it. There is a hairdresser's shop (Fantastic Sam's) close to my house that I think I would like, but my Mm is afraid that I shouldn't go there or to any beauty shops, due to spirits. I've talked to a couple of beauty shops by phone. They will perm it without trimming or cutting it. Would it be okay if I had my hair permed and at a beauty shop?

My Mm suggested we write you so we would know what I should do.
Signed: Needs Advice

P.S. Thank you for all your help.

Dear Needs Advice:

In some situations God permits a body permanent. It is wrong to have your hair cut or trimmed, according to the scriptures. You must seek the LORD and let Him personally guide you as to His will for you.

Some beauticians will give you a permanent in your home which is better than you going to the shop. You are right as far as the evil days we live in. Remember His Blood is precious and He will and does keep us when our hearts are set on Him.
Signed: Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea:

Our youth has been concerned with the regulations concerning jams and sweatpants, and also mixed bathing (if appropriate clothing is worn with adult supervision). We've heard different things so I've decided to write and find out. What do you and the witness think?
Signed: Concerned

(TURN THE PAGE FOR THE ANSWER!)

Dear Concerned:

1990 YOUTH CONVENTION

A poem

Always let the Word of God be your guideline. Sin always has its beginning in wrong thoughts and desires. We are the Temple of God and it is important where we go and what we do. When we are sincere in running on for God, we will feel the convicting power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

I have always dressed like a lady (dresses, skirts, etc.). Our clothing should always be descent, not clinging, too short, etc. Mixed bathing is not pleasing to the LORD.

Sometimes certain jobs require that you wear certain types of clothing. This does not mean that you dress that way outside of work though.

The LORD's coming is soon. Seek Him and tell Him that you want to please Him in all that you do.

Signed: Aunt Bea

Did you enjoy the 1990 Youth Convention? Sis. Hicks taught on how we allow the devil to strip us of the light but we have a choice to make to let the LORD strip us of our darkness. She used David and Goliath as examples. We had a powerful time, to say the least! Be sure that you get the notes and tapes.

We appreciate Sis. Hicks, Bro. Brooks, Bro. Hill and Bro. Bill Henderson, for a wonderful youth convention. We are also grateful for all of the adults that volunteered their time to fix and serve food after the services. Sis. Madeleine Petrie worked around the clock to serve delicious foods.

Make plans now to attend the 1991 Youth Convention. The dates will be established soon and will be shared in the next issue of the

CHRIST FOR YOUTH NEWSLETTER.

Be Happy—
You Are Loved!

WAYWARD STRANGER

Written by
Duffy Drake McGuire
Jeffersonville, IN

Get out while you still can.
Leave while you still have the chance.
Can you see where I'm coming from,
where I've been walking down this dusty road?

Switching my load from one shoulder to the other,
my weary feet plodding, just one step at a time.
I've been kicked at, I've been hurt,
but each time I think I've been whipped,
someone gives me a helping hand.

It begins to rain as I shudder from the cold.
I hear the thunder in the distance,
tattered clothes and shaggy, unkempt hair.
No shoes covering my feet,
no hat for my head.

A wrenching cough racks my lungs,
short of breath a rumble in my stomach,
I find an old decrepit house by the wayside.

I sit on the floor and take out my Bible to read.
Opening it at random I read the parable of the rebellious son coming back home,
with nothing to show.

A tear rolls down my cheek and hits the page. Just a few more miles, Oh God, I pray. The storm is over and I continue on my way. On the horizon I see the home I was reared and raised.

As I enter the courtyard I see my father running to meet me with tears in his eyes. Welcome back my son, he says as he envelopes me in his arms. With a lump in my throat and my chest constricting, All I can say is I'm sorry father.

HAVE YOU TAKEN YOUR VITAMINS TODAY?

Are you **Anxious?**

Take Vitamin A: "All things work together for good to them that love God." Romans 8:28

Are you **brokenhearted?**

Take Vitamin B: "Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4

Are you **Confused?** **Take Vitamin C:** "Casting all your care upon Him: for He careth for you." I Peter 5:7

Are you **Depressed?** **Take Vitamin D:** "Delight thyself also in the LORD and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart." Psalm 37:3,4

Are you **Empty?** **Take Vitamin E:** "Enter into (the LORD's) gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise." Psalm 100:4

Are you **facing failure?** **Take Vitamin F:** "Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it." I Thessa-lonians 5:24

Are you **Grieving?** **Take Vitamin G:** God "Grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His spirit in the inner man." Ephesians 3:16

Are you **Hurting?** **Take Vitamin H:** "Happy are ye; for the Spirit of Glory and of God resteth upon you." I Peter 4:11

Are you **Insulted?** **Take Vitamin I:** "Increase and abound in love one toward another." I Thessalonians 3:12

Are you **Jealous?** **Take Vitamin J:** "Judge not that ye be not judged." Matthew 7:1

Are you **Kicked Around?** **Take Vitamin K:** "Keep yourselves in the love of God." Jude 21

Are you **lonely?** **Take Vitamin L:** "Lo, I am with you always." Matthew 28:20

Are your **mortgaged more than your means?** **Take Vitamin M:** "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

Are you **neglected?** **Take Vitamin N:** "Never", promised Jesus Christ, will I "leave thee nor forsake thee." Hebrews 13:5

Are you **oppressed?** **Take Vitamin O:** "Overcome" urged Christ, because "greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world." I John 4:4

Are you **persecuted?** **Take Vitamin P:** Paul assured: "Persecuted, but not forsaken." II Corinthians 4:9

Are you about to **quit?** **Take Vitamin Q:** "Quit you like men, be strong." I Corinthians 16:13

Are you **rejected?** **Take Vitamin R:** "Reaching forth unto those things which are before." Philippians 3:13

Are you **sad?** **Take Vitamin S:** "Seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Colossians 3:1



Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Are you **troubled**? **Take Vitamin T:** "Trust in the LORD with all thing heart." Proverbs 3:5

Are you **upset**? **Take Vitamin U:** "Understanding what the will of the LORD is." Ephesians 5:17

Are you **victimized**? **Take Vitamin V:** "Verily, thou shalt be fed." Psalm 37:3

Are you **weary**? **Take Vitamin W:** "Weary(not) in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Galatians 6:9

Are you **exasperated**? **Take Vitamin X:** "Exercise thyself rather unto godliness." I Timothy 4:7

Are you **yearning**? **Take Vitamin Y:** "Yield yourselves unto God as those that are alive from the dead." Romans 6:13

Are you **zapped**? **Take Vitamin Z:** "Zealous of good works." Titus 2:14

That's Christ's Prescription!

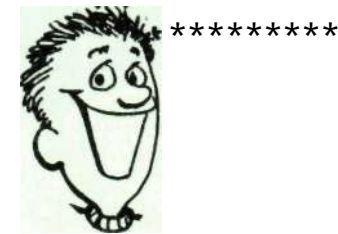
(Someone sent this to us to use in the **CHRIST FOR YOUTH NEWSLETTER**. They had taken it from a little paper they receive. We enjoyed it so much we thought you would enjoy reading it too.



when everyone else in the room has on shorts. With sweat dripping from your forehead it is a little difficult to remain composed when kids turn to you and say, "Aren't you hot wearing that? Why don't you wear shorts? Are you religious or something?"

There is no one good answer for every situation, but if you sincerely serve the LORD, and ask Him to help you through each day. He will put the right words in your mouth when you face things like this. Always keep a good attitude. Don't be hateful when you respond because you are a testimony to them by whatever you say. You can answer with, "It is hot isn't it? I guess I should have worn something cooler." If they go on to ask if you wear shorts, etc., be honest and tell them you don't. People will respect you when you stand up for what they believe. If they make fun of you, let it be a lesson to you to never make fun of another person's religion.

The LORD is mindful of every situation you are in and He will help you through it if you will ask for His help.



School is starting up again and kids of all ages are returning to a new year. No matter what age you are, it is never easy to start up in a new school year with new peers, teachers, rooms, etc. All of us want to be liked and accepted and sometimes we as Christian teenagers fight an "extra heavy" battle in school because we stand out as being different.

Though our parents and pastors tell us to ignore what people say, both with their mouths and their looks, it is awfully hard when you are the only one in the room with a dress or a skirt on, or as a boy, with long jeans on,

AUGUST



MY PAYCHECK AT
LAST! NOW...
WHAT TO PAY
FIRST.



OH, YES, OF COURSE!
GOD'S TITHE IS MY
FIRST PRIORITY.

