

Issue 16 Christ For Youth Newsletter

ISSUE XVI

January/February 1990

Greetings from Reverend Hicks . . .

Happy New Year, young people! At this point in your life, a year seems to move rather slowly. However, as you grow older, you will discover how quickly a lifetime goes by.

So in the beginning weeks of this new year, let me encourage you to take advantage of every moment and use it to gain God's eternal treasures of Truth. Now, while you are young and strong, you have an opportunity to dig deeply and lay hold of the Rock of Truth. In order for your spiritual house to stand when the storms of life come and the strong winds of adversity blow against you, you need to have a firm spiritual foundation of faith in the Righteousness and Holiness of God's Nature.

Jesus is coming soon. What you do for Christ must be done now, while there is still time.

From the Desk of Reverend B. R. Hicks:

Many technological discoveries made during the past century have freed men and women from some of the most monotonous tasks. Nevertheless, the "disease" of boredom continues to afflict Christians as well as sinners. That is why, in this issue of the Christ for Youth Newsletter, we want to learn about God's cure for the boredom of monotony.

The wise preacher in the Book of Ecclesiastes learned about the monotony of the creation apart from the Creator. Early in his writings, he declared:

I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit (Ecclesiastes 1:14).

The King gave himself, first, to searching out natural wisdom. By using the natural, Skillful Wisdom he received from the LORD, he built the most gorgeous parks, gardens, and buildings. Yet all these beautiful works of his hands

failed to satisfy the inner longings of his spirit. Instead of bringing pleasure to him, his works brought vanity and vexation to his spirit.

Then the wise man decided he would give himself to mirth and spend his days in doing all the so-called "fun" things in the world. But that, too, was vanity. Finally, after much searching in the wrong places, he received a revelation that having a personal relationship with the Creator was the secret cure for monotony.

Whenever we get that "Oh, I did that same old thing yesterday" feeling, our problem is boredom. And if we are bored, it is because we have ignored the Creator. His Presence makes the most mundane tasks, such as washing dishes, vacuuming the floor, and carrying out the garbage, exciting. His Creating Power takes the monotonous boredom out of jobs that must be done regularly, day after day and week after week.

We can expect day to follow night, summer to follow spring, autumn to follow summer, winter to follow autumn, and spring to follow winter. Round and

round the creation goes, always making the same circle and always returning to begin the cycle again. Without the Creator in the midst of all this sameness, life is monotonous and boring. But with Him, it is exciting, thrilling, and a never-ending joy.

That is why the wise preacher admonished his son to remember his Creator in the days of his youth. He closed his book by saying:

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil (Ecclesiastes 12:13,14).

Unfortunately, some Christians fail to follow the advice given by the wise preacher. Those who turn away from their Creator, who is in the middle of the scales, are the ones who get entangled in doing the very things that are nothing but vanity and vexation to their spirits.

Young people, the thing to remember in the coming year is this: if you fear God and keep His Commandments, if in the midst of pleasure and pain, you keep in touch with your Creator, then everything you have to do will be exciting! He is the Giver of Life and the Maintainer of it.



The 1990 Quiz Competition Is Coming!!!

Plan now to participate in the 1990 Quiz Competition, The memory verses are from Romans, chapters six thru ten. That is a total of five chapters to cover over a five month period. The verses are:

Chapter 6	Chapter 7	Chapter 8
1	12	3
4	15	8
5	18	11
7	22	14
12	24	18
13	25	25
23		26
		28
		31
Chapter 9	Chapter 10	
14	8	
15	9	
16	10	
20	13	
22	15	
23	17	
28		
30		

SEE YOUR PASTOR FOR
DETAILS!



Thanks to those that have taken time to write to us. We love to hear from you.

We'd like to share with you some of the recent letters we've received. They were such a blessing to us - we trust they will bless you also!

"Dear Newsletter:

I just want to write and tell you how much I really appreciate the newsletter. It would come in the mail and I would read it one time and then lay it on my dresser.

Lately I have been really battling with something, especially going to church. We don't have any young people really so it would be hard for me to get in like I should. I was getting to where I was starting to like worldly things, the music and everything. So one day something kept nagging me to go read my newsletter, so I did. I picked up my very first issue, the July/August 1987 premier issue. I opened it up and inside was the message titled, "Who Will You Serve?" I read through it and not only got a deeper appreciation for the LORD but for the newsletter.

In this year of 1990 I'm going to serve the LORD greater than I have before. I encourage the other young people, not to just read the newsletter once, but pick it up occasionally and read it and you will be surprised how much it will help. Now everytime I read the messages, I learn something new and I really appreciate that. I really think you guys are doing a great job. Keep it up!"

L.G.

Ft. Myers, Florida

Thanks for taking time to write to us. It is so encouraging to receive your letters!



Write and tell us what your youth group is doing. Here is some news from the Presque Isle, Maine Christ Gospel Church Youth Group.

Presque Isle, Maine, was the scene of the 1989 "Winter Weekend". It was a Thanksgiving weekend that will not long be forgotten. Our theme for the weekend was Philippians 3:13 and 14:

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Before the weekend officially began, we found some youth sliding down a snow covered hill with plastic garbage bags. As I look at it now, I can see how that night gave a demonstration of the weekend ahead. Everyone that would be coming to this weekend was holding on to something from their past and a lot of it was just plain garbage. But we can go to a snow covered hill, a place of humility, and sit on that garbage of the past and actually use it as a vehicle to reach forth toward the prize.

As orientation began Friday morning, the union of five states came together. The days were filled from morning showers to breakfast to morning classes to lunch. Separate craft classes were held for the girls and the boys. There were videos to watch that left vivid impressions on everyone. Supper was the place of nourishing the body to prepare for the evening ahead.

Rev. Burnie Sanders held four power-packed, life-changing services. The Word came in and picked us up and shook us around and set us straight with instruction to travel on ahead toward the New City.

Saturday afternoon took us to Canada for a horse-drawn sleigh ride. Reverends Jim and Lynn Christy hosted a weekend retreat that was just plum out of sight! They poured their very lives into it, that others may come to a greater walk with the LORD.

Sunday night ended with tears of gratitude for a message that was real, for the making of new friends, for a stepping stone to tomorrow, and most of all, for a Saviour that shed His blood on a Cross that made this all possible.

A. D.
Presque Isle, Maine

A very nice letter accompanied this report. We would like to share it with you too:

"Everything we have ever wanted will not be enough. . . if our life purpose is just to squeeze a little excitement out of a life that's going nowhere."

"Dear Christ For Youth:
Hi! I go to the Christ Gospel Church in Presque Isle, Maine. My pastor's names are Rev. and Mrs. Christy. Our youth leaders are Bro. and Sis. Dorsch. We have got only eleven youth in our youth group. Our youth group's name is "LifeSavers." We go out to save youth.

We just had a "Youth Winter Weekend" with Rev. Burnie Sanders. It took place from November 24-26, 1989. My life was totally changed and I thank God for that! If it wasn't for God, Rev. Hicks, Rev. Burnie Sanders, our pastors, and our youth leaders, I would never be in the place I am today.

Rev. Burnie Sanders talked about the devil being defeated, Goliath, the weight of armor and the press. I learned so much!

People from Virginia, Ohio, Arizona and Jeffersonville, came to our Winter Weekend. I made so many new friends that it was unreal! I hope that we can have one next year.

God bless you!"

A.D.
Presque Isle, Maine



LET'S CLEAN HOUSE
Author Unknown

LORD, help me to leave at Golgotha City Dump, right at the foot of the Cross, this garbage cluttering my mind, and choking my heart.

I need to begin again with a clean house, wide open for the visitation of Your Holy Spirit, plenty of room for my friends to enter, and space for me to live comfortably again without tripping over my own trash.

Shovel out my fears and insecurities, LORD, and burn the blood-soaked bandages of my hurts. Sweep out the guilt which slows my walk, and brush away the cobwebs of doubt.

Scrub down the walls of my spirit, caked with unshed emotions. Dust off the residue of smoldering discontent. Wash the windows of my soul that I may see You clearly once more.

Create in me a clean heart, Oh God!



Dear Aunt Bea....

I have a problem and I think you can answer it. I am fifteen years old and I like this guy who is 18 years old. We are both in the message and both know the rules that say we can't date until we are sixteen years old. That's no problem for him but it is for me for another nine months. I am writing you to ask what can we do?

I know we can't go out on a "date" together, but could you list a few specific things that are in God's permissible will for us? I had a friend who was in the same circumstances as me and she wrote you. You wrote her back and it helped me a little, about the maturity, but you didn't tell her what was O.K. to do. I'm talking about stuff like talking, writing, sitting by each other in church and other stuff like that.

Please help me because I don't want to be out of God's will in this relationship. I really like this guy and I wouldn't want God to bust us up because we did something wrong.

PLEASE HELP!!
Signed: Troubled

Dear Troubled:

It is so easy to be detoured from God's way. Anything that is God's perfect will can be tried, trusted and tested. God sees our hearts and our desires. I'm sure you're sincere. There isn't anything wrong in speaking to one another but don't tease yourselves to break God's rules. Many girls become afraid they will lose if they keep God first. They try to redeem keeping the guy and lose out on both sides. Pray - pray pray. Let God prepare your heart for courtship. Let your relationships always please God and you will be pleased.

God bless you. I will pray for you.
Signed: Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea:

Is it alright to watch videos like "Sleeping Beauty", "Cinderella", etc.?
Signed: Likes Fairy Tales

Dear Likes Fairy Tales:

I would not want to be watching "Sleeping Beauty", or "Cinderella", when Jesus comes. If you are going to watch videos, it is best to watch Bible Stories.
Signed: Aunt Bea

Following is a testimony from an adult in the Jeffersonville church. Sometimes as teenagers we look at the adults around us and tend to think they can't possibly understand what we're going through because they've never gone through what we have. Sure times have changed and the evil spirits hovering over the earth are worse and closer than they've ever been, but the adults around us have gone through struggles as teenagers that may not be exactly the same as ours, but they know what struggles are all about. Maybe you can relate to this testimony.

To be like Christ is to
Give as He Gave.

"Someone asked me to do this testimony for the youth newsletter, but I thought what can you write about a life time of falling downs and getting ups. A life full of big mistakes and little mistakes. A life that, looking from the lofty mountain of life, you would say, "There is a real mess!"

I can remember one great turning point in my life, that wonderful freedom point of age 16. I thought I was almost grown! Major things were happening to me at this glorious age. My step-mother had left my father. I was just getting a good dose of the Crucified Way, as I had been raised as a Baptist. Oh what a day when I heard I could make something called, "The Bride." **WOW!!!** And there was a place you could find the Mind of God in your life. So I started telling a select group of my few friends about this place called Jeffersonville. I was hooked!

Well, just as God faithfully tests our choices by His faithful servant, Lucifer, I was to get one of my first **BIG ONES!**

I was on my way to a little town in Pennsylvania to visit my Grandmother and I was full of joy to share what I had learned. Well, of course I was weird looking since I was the only one with a dress and the only one with long hair.

Everyone else was in shorts and swim suits. Everyone was having their summer fun in the lake. As yet, no one knew of my new found relationship with Jesus or my commitments to this wonderful revelation. I mean, everyone was asking me to go swimming, go to the movies, just go goof off.

No one was watching me and after all, I was only 16 and the summer had been so boring and I was at my Aunt and Uncle's who wanted me to go skating while they drank and skated. What's the harm, I thought. So I went, but the joke was I couldn't even skate so I sat there with the Holy Ghost convicting me all the time, promising God that if He would just get me out of there, I would never come back to a place like that again.

Well, needless to say, I faced a continuous struggle the whole summer but the LORD gave me strength and I made it through. Summer slipped on by but there was another big test I had to face just before I left for home.

I was walking down to the corner store and dropped my money when this black haired, strong built, handsome, young man picked it up for me and said, "I've waited for a chance to meet you." My heart fell out and my stomach bounced up and hit my temples, causing my face to redden. Introducing himself to this very, very shy girl, who always felt ugly started a whole series of emotions. Finding out he was a Christian I just knew this was God.

Learning he was 20 years old and a Navy man who had been married and had two children halted me just a little. I mean, he was so good looking and he was such a gentleman so all of that other stuff didn't matter. Besides, I told myself, it probably wasn't his fault anyhow.

Well, we became good friends and we talked about the LORD and life in general until one night, he came over to my house and told me it was his birthday. I felt terrible because I hadn't known. I expressed my regret to him about not knowing and not having a gift, etc.. He responded by asking, "What about a birthday kiss?"

Think about this: **TO UNDERSTAND ALL IS TO FORGIVE ALL!**

Always be considerate of others - you don't know all they've gone through that might make them act and react the way that they do.

My conscience smote me, but flesh said, "He's so kind, I mean, a little kiss on the cheek - what's the harm?" All the time the Spirit was saying, "That's not right. Don't do that." Well, it was more than one little kiss on the cheek and it was more than harmless feelings that arose but the LORD, in His grace and mercy, saw my real desire to serve and please Him so He kept me and very soon I told my friend good night. After he left I spent a little time repenting.

The very next day I was looking out the window for him and saw him coming toward my house. He came only to tell me that he had been called suddenly to go to the Reserves and he had to leave that very evening.

Our relationship didn't end there. There were letters exchanged back and forth between us. My friends in the Message warned me with genuine concern. The LORD all the time knew what I really wanted in my heart and He never let go of me. I felt this Divine tug so I prayed, "LORD, is this really you? If not, show me."

From that day till this I've never heard from the young man again. How can I thank the LORD enough for these 24 years since that time for all His love for me, by not letting me destroy my soul.

The mountains of love and the mountains of mercy and grace have watched after this mess for a long time, continually making a way for me. I love this Message and the Great Messenger.

M.P.
Jeffersonville, Indiana



MONEY MATTERS

Have you ever stopped to count up how much money you are spending when you go out just for a soft drink or a bite to eat? Some of you live on very tight budgets, having only an allowance and/or what you earn at jobs making minimum wage or less. By the time you pay 10% tithes and save 10% of your earnings, that leaves very little for yourself, which is why it is very important that you be a wise money manager.

Next weekend record exactly what you spend and where you spend it. You may be surprised at just how quickly your money leaves your hands leaving you nothing to show for it. Why not start asking a parent to host a get together after services, on Saturday, etc., taking turns so that the burden and expense isn't always on the same parent. This way you and your friends will save money and you will still have a place to fellowship.

Another way to save money is by sharing your talents. Years ago when someone needed something, they just asked a friend. People helped each other. Now people are afraid to ask for help because no one wants to do anything without there being a price tag attached to it. As young people, let's start giving to others for the blessing of giving and not always have our hand out for something in return.

If you sew, offer to sew something for your friend that doesn't sew. Maybe that person fixes hair, bakes, is knowledgeable about mechanics, etc., and they can do something for you, which will save both of you money.

Look around to see what you can do to help someone, without them paying you for your help. The good feeling you will have inside is something money cannot buy.

The mother of a young man who has been in and out of hospitals and jails because of what he has done to himself by using drugs, shared the following poem with us. Read this carefully and listen to the message:

Go now, little man, you've grown tired of Grass, LSC, Goof Balls, Cocaine and Hash. Someone pretending to be a true friend said, "I'll introduce you to Miss Heroine.."

Just let me inform you how it will be, for I will seduce you and make you my slave. I've sent men much stronger than you to their grave. You think you could never become a disgrace, and end up addicted to Poppy Seed waste.

So you'll start inhaling me one afternoon. You'll take me in your arms very soon, and once I have entered deep in your veins, the craving will nearly drive you insane.

You'll need lots of money (as you have been told), For darling, I'm much more expensive than gold.

You'll swindle your Mother, and just for a buck, you'll turn to something vile and corrupt.

You'll mug and you'll steal, for my narcotic charm, and feel contentment when I'm in your arm.

The day when you realize the monster you've become, you'll solemnly promise to leave me alone. If you think that you've got the mystical knack, then, Sweetie, just try getting me off your back.

The vomit, the cramps, your gut tied in a knot, the dangling nerves screaming for just one more shot.

The hot chills and the cold sweat, the withdrawal pains, can only be saved by my little white grains.

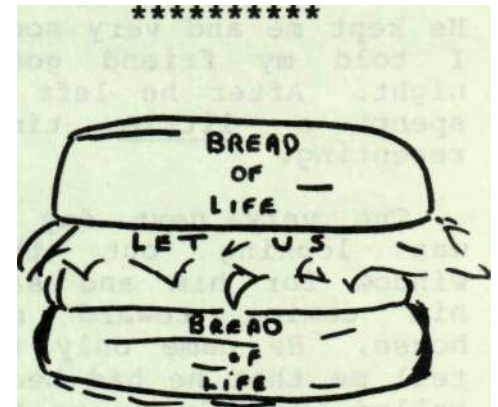
There's no other way and there's no need to look, for deep down inside, you will know you are hooked.

You'll desperately run to the pusher, and then you'll welcome me back to your arms again.

And when you return (just as I foretold), I know that you'll give me your body and soul.

You'll give up your morals, your conscience, your heart, and you will be mine until death do us part.

Written by
An Anonymous Addict



**DON'T GET IN A PICKLE -
RELISH THE MEAT OF THE
WORD!**

Don't forget to watch the date that appears below your name on the label attached to the envelope your newsletter comes in. That is the date that your newsletter subscription will expire.

Don't miss an issue!!!

Subscriptions are still just \$1.00 for a one year subscription. That is six power-packed issues.

WORD PUZZLE

Circle the names listed below found in the puzzle, They may be horizontal, vertical or diagonal.

M O D O S A U L P S A L M S I S
 J A C O B Y A E U S R E B M U N
 A Y H S R U T H H Q S N P S G O
 M A D A M E N T A X S U W N A I
 O H M R R Z E V E Z O E T A L T
 J N I A C B O A Z O R O D I A A
 J O G I A O A R K B C C M H T L
 O A S Z E J M S E J G I O T I E
 H H I E L E A H L N K S A N A V
 N L V A P M R C O N C U B I N E
 E K U L O H K R S N A M O R S R
 C W E H T T A M E G Q T Z O E O
 A C T S D A V I D O V W A C M N
 H G E N E S I S U D O X E R A M
 Y H T O M I T F J E S U S K J A

Can you figure it out?!

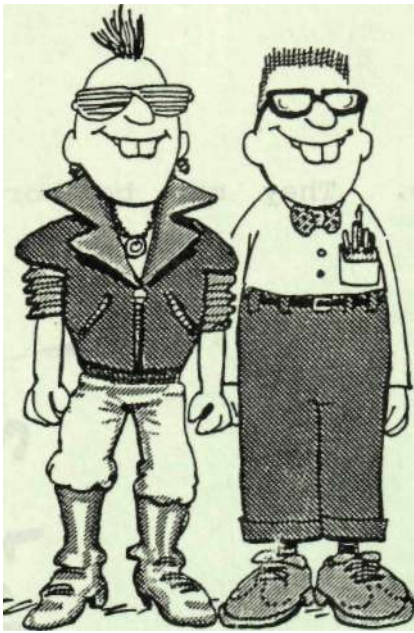
Ahaz
 Boaz
 Galatians
 Saul
 Aaron
 Elizabeth
 Sodom
 Psalms
 Adam
 Mary
 Titus

Abraham
 Sarai
 Paul
 Luke
 Amen
 John
 Madam
 Corinthians
 Ruth
 Moab
 James

Yah
 Revelations
 Thomas
 Peter
 Ark
 Job
 Jesus
 Noah
 Eve
 Hebrews

Timothy
 Leah
 God
 Matthew
 David
 Numbers
 Genesis
 Cain
 Music
 Joseph

Cross
 Hagar
 Rod
 Mark
 Concubine
 Exodus
 Jacob
 Romans
 Jude
 Acts



Romans 13:10 -

Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Hebrews 13:1 -

Let brotherly love continue.

I John 4:7 -

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God and knoweth God.

