

Issue 8 Christ For Youth Newsletter

Issue VIII

September/October 1988

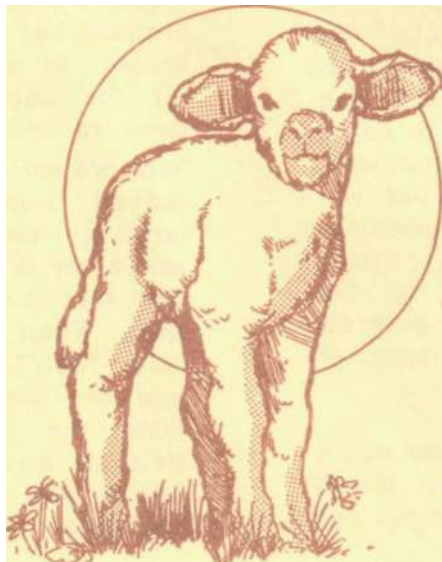
Editor-in-Chief: Rev. B. R. Hicks

A word from Rev. B. R. Hicks,

It is a joy for me to witness the change that is taking place among the young people of this organization. I am seeing young people that have been out of church and living for the world, repenting and making a new consecration to the LORD.

I love everyone of you, and I lay on my face daily before the LORD, asking Him to help you to make the choices that you have to make and to give you strong feet to stand for the Truth. He is mindful of the temptations that you face in this wicked and lawless day, and He has given you the armour to stand.

Always remember that I am here when you need me. You are precious to Jesus and to me. We are going to make it because the price has already been paid on Calvary!



**LET US
LIFT OUR
PRAISES
UNTO THE
LORD.**



**Greetings from
Rev. Hicks,**

The fall season is such a beautiful time of year! That is when God's natural creation seems to outdo itself; the trees are dressed up in their most vivid colours. Yet this fashion show is brief. In just a few weeks all the glorious leaves will be gone, and the branches will be bare. Only the stature of the tree can survive the icy storms of winter.

That is the way life is, young people. You may have some glorious leaves of theoretical truth in your spiritual garden, but if you fail to grow the stature of Jesus Christ that comes through moral development, then you will not be able to stand in the wintery time of testing and trials. It is not enough to shout over the truth when you are in church; that is good, and you should do it. But you also need to be willing to let the living Truth, Jesus Christ, grow up in your heart and manifest Himself in your everyday life. God bless you. I appreciate every one of you, and I want to see you press on with the Jesus Christ so we can **all** be together in the New City.

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

From the very beginning of my spiritual walk with Jesus Christ, He started teaching me to memorize His Word and then to practice it. One of the Scriptures that has sustained me through some of the darkest of days has been a very basic verse which almost everyone knows, at least they know the theory of it. This verse is one I have been encouraging all our spiritual family to start implementing in their lives. "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (II Thessalonians 5:18).

This is a short verse—just seventeen simple words! Yet, in spite of all its simplicity, this verse is profoundly important. You will never see the inside of the New City unless you make the truth of this verse an intricate part of the principles you practice daily, from moment to moment. Regardless of how old you become, naturally speaking, or how much spiritual maturity you gain in the LORD, you never outgrow your need for gratitude or thanksgiving.

Let me just share with you a few seemingly little things that God allows to cross our

pathway to give us new opportunities to practice being thankful for everything, not just the pleasant ones.

One time when I was in Mexico on one of my many trips down there, I started to sign in at the hotel, and the man gave me a pen that would barely write. I did not complain bitterly about the pen; I merely remarked, "This is a lousy pen." That was all there was to it, or so I thought. But after I was upstairs in my room, the LORD said, "You didn't thank Me for the pen, did you?" I replied, "No, LORD, I didn't. But if You will just wait two seconds, I will repent right now and do it right now." And I did that very thing. I told the LORD, "I will never complain about a pen again. If it can't even scratch a line, I will still be thankful for it."

If we think the little things, such a pen that will not write, are too insignificant to attract God's attention, we are wrong. When God said, "In every thing give thanks," He meant everything.

One sister from Texas once talked with me about how much trouble she and her husband had had selling their house. In addition to doing all the natural things one does to sell property, they had prayed and prayed and prayed some more. But nothing had happened. I asked her if she had thanked God that it had not yet been sold. When she said, "No," I said, "Don't you know that you are supposed to come into the Courtyard with praise and thanksgiving before you ever come up to the Golden Altar?"

This is so important for us to learn. Before we ever ask God to change our life in any way, we need to say, "God, I thank You that it is just like it is right now." Then, after we have thanked Him properly and sincerely for the life He has given us this moment, we can say, "LORD, I think I could thank You even better if You would sort of change it a little bit over here."

God gives us opportunities every day to thank Him for something that is not exactly to our liking. I could write a book about things that have happened to me while I was still flying on commercial airlines. (All the distressful things that happened to me back then are the reason I feel so deeply grateful for the airplane that this spiritual family has helped to purchase for me.)

Let me just mention one example of a time the LORD arranged for me to thank

**G O D
I S
T H E
R O C K**

Him in an airplane. It was one of times I was going to Dallas. Sitting behind me was a lady who had a child with her, and that child screamed at the top of his voice all the way from Louisville, Kentucky to Dallas, Texas. I love children, but I must confess that the screaming ones get on my nerves. So for the entire trip I took advantage of the opportunity to practice thanking the LORD for everything. "Thank You, Jesus," I said. "Thank You for that screaming kid. LORD, I thank You that You really did give him a good set of lungs! Thank You, LORD. Thank You." All the way into the airport at Dallas, I praised and thanked the LORD for things just as they were. Then when I walked out of that door, leaving the mother and her screaming child behind, I said, "Thank You, LORD. I believe I can praise You a little bit more now. Thank You that I do not have to listen to the child cry any longer."

You will never have a bad spirit—if you will just remember to practice thanking God in everything and for everything. Thank God for everything because He is the head of all things. Since He is the head of everything, that means that He is allowing the "thing" that is happening in your

life to be just like it is right now. He is waiting for you to thank Him for it as it is, not as you wish it were. Then after you have truly thanked Him, you have a right to walk up to the Golden Altar and let your request for a change be made known.

The best thing about the Crucified Way Message, young people, is that it works. Whenever we do our part, God is faithful to do His part. I challenge you to start thanking Him for everything in your life. You soon will see some marvelous changes in your life.



Let Us

Give

Thanks

For What

The Lord

Provides!

**A TESTIMONY BY MELISSA
NEWTON AS REQUESTED BY
MONICA LINDGREN. . . .**

"Monica Lindgren asked me to write my testimony for the **Christ For Youth Newsletter**. When I was first asked, however, I thought, "I can't. I don't have a testimony." I came into the message when I was six years old and that is it.

I asked Monica to give me some time to think about it, and I would get back to her. That night I went home, and during my prayer time I asked Jesus what I should write. I said, LORD, what is my testimony? I have never gotten involved in drugs, drinking or smoking. I have been blessed with a good family and have never been abused or unwanted by my family. Yes, I have been tempted by things of the world, but I have chosen against them, so what can I say?

"Then it hit me. I have chosen against these things! My testimony, on one side of the scales, is better than some person who has tried it all. I have chosen to stick in this message and be an example to the people around me.

"Don't get me wrong. I am not saying I am better than anyone else because it is only by the grace and mercy of God that I never went out there myself. I am saying that those of you who have chosen not to follow the world have a very powerful testimony, and you should not scorn it.

"Every person you come in contact with is watching you and the way you act. One of my favorite Scriptures is Philippians 2:15-16:

That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

"That word harmless has to do with being unmixed. We don't have to mix with the world and have those ideas to have a testimony. We can be as lights and shine in the middle of this lawless nation and be an example to others of what this message has done for us and can do for others, young and old alike!

"The next time you feel you are just another young person in this message, remember that the example you present to others is your testimony, a testimony not of where you have backslidden to, but what you have decided not to choose and who you have decided to stand for!"

Melissa Newton
Kenmore, New York



Doesn't it feel good when someone compliments you? Give someone a compliment today. Encourage one another. **EVERYONE IS SPECIAL!!!**

A PROSE
by Monica Lindgren

LORD, I look at my life
and,

I think You are doing
things wrong.

Let me tell You how You
should run my life. . . .

Then I hear You say,

"My child, did not I
promise to give you the
very best?"

Yes, my LORD, You did.

You also said that You
are working all things
together for my good.

"Well, my child, "

I hear You say,

"Why do you not give
these things over to
Me?"

"Well, my LORD, " I
answer, "I am afraid
You are going to let me
down."

Then You remind me,

like You have so many
times,

"My child, have I ever
let you down before?"

"Trust in Me, My child,
and I will see you
through."

Then I fall on my face,
and into His
outstretched arms,
as I drop at His feet
all my cares and
worries.

And I hear Him softly
say,

"That is it, My child.

Now I can make
something beautiful of
your life."

ALWAYS REMEMBER. . .

**EVERY PERSON IS
WORTH UNDERSTANDING!**

BE KIND TO EVERYONE!!!

Plan Early to
Attend the 1989
Youth Convention!

The dates are:

**August 10, 11 & 12
1989**

Start fund raising now
so your entire youth
group can come!

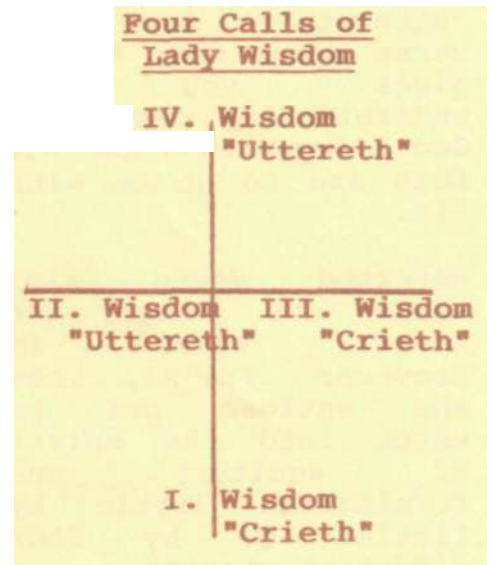
1988 YOUTH CONVENTION

by Pernilla Lindgren

The messages for the
1988 Youth Convention
were a continuation of
last year's theme:
LAWLESSNESS!

Reverend Hicks talked
about two women: the
Lady of Wisdom and the
harlot woman. God uses
these two women to
personify Wisdom and
adultery.

She told us how that
Wisdom means the Torah
and when Wisdom comes
to us, she will come in
four different ways.



Reverend Hicks showed this to us in Proverbs 1:20-21. The first "crieth" of Wisdom in these verses means that Wisdom comes with a triumphant shout of joyful victory. The first word "uttereth" in verse 20 means that the Lady of Wisdom comes publicly to show us or to appoint and to assign to us the things we need to repent about. In verse 21, the second word "crieth" means to address by name; therefore, it is a personal relationship with Wisdom.

The second word "uttereth" in that verse means that Wisdom gives you an understanding desire in God's Word to know the LORD and to go on with Him.

Reverend Hicks also showed us about the harlot woman in Proverbs 7:6-23, how she entices one to enter into the spirit of adultery and fornication little by little, or by four different stages.

**Four Enticements
of the Harlot
Woman**

**IV. In the Dark
of Night**

II. In the Evening

**III. In the
Black
of
Night**

**In the
Twilight**

The first stage that the harlot woman leads one through is the twilight time where there is a mixture of light and darkness, which leads into the second stage of evening where there is a total absence of light. Then, the harlot woman leads on deeper and deeper into the third stage of darkness which is the blackness of night. Then she eventually leads to the fourth stage, which is the worst part, the darkness of midnight.

The contrast of these two "women" was clear and plain. It was evident that we wanted to follow the Lady of Wisdom and not the harlot woman.

Friday night, Reverend Hicks gave an altar call after the service and many young people came to repent and to renew their choice for the "Lady of Wisdom." Saturday night, we were blessed by the preaching of Reverend Brooks. He taught us that even if we have grown up in this message and have parents in the Crucified Way, we still come to a time in our life when we have to choose personally whether or not we want the Crucified Way message for ourselves. Afterward, Reverend Brooks conducted a prayer line, in which God touched everyone.

This tells you just a little bit about how fantastic the 1988 Youth Convention was. Be sure that you get the notes and tapes from the convention because your life will be changed!





DEAR AUNT BEA

Send in any questions that you have for Aunt Bea. If you would rather have Aunt Bea write to you personally and not have your letter be printed in the **Christ For Youth Newsletter**, just say so and that is how your particular question will be handled. In any case, your name will never be revealed publicly, so you can ask Aunt Bea about anything that has been bothering you.

Send your letters addressed to Aunt Bea in care of the **Christ For Youth Newsletter** at the church address.

Dear Aunt Bea:

Is it alright to have posters of movie stars or singers hanging in my room? I don't have wild looking ones, just clean cut people that I admire. Is this pleasing to the **LORD?**

Signed: Not Too Sure

Dear Not Too Sure:

The Holy Spirit is faithful to convict us of any fake idols or images that we may have. Ask the **LORD** to reveal your motive and to let Jesus Christ be your Hero. This is pleasing in His sight.

Signed: Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea:

Most of the guys I am friends with have their hair cut "spiked" or in a mohawk. My Mom doesn't think Christian guys should wear their hair like that. What do you think?

Signed: Wants Spiked Hair

Dear Wants Spiked Hair:

Good for your Mom! She is right! The Bible tells us to dress and look as that which is becoming to those professing godliness. This hair style was originated by the so-called "punk" groups and is very unChristlike. The world does not set Christian standards.

Signed: Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea:

I am a 15 year old girl. I will be 16 in just a couple of months. All of my friends at church are allowed to date, even though they are not yet 16, as long as they double-date or are in a large group. They also get to stay out until 1:00 and 2:00 a.m. The kids make fun of me because my parents say I cannot date until I am 16 years old, and I have to be in sometimes as early as 11:00 p.m. Please reply so I can show my parents so they will know that it is alright for me to do what the other kids are doing.

Signed: Wants to Date

Dear Wants to Date:

If we all did what we want to, where would our carnal heart and desire lead us? We cannot do just because others are doing. We must do what is right according to God's Word. You will be the blessed one in the end. You cannot determine right by numbers. Many are on the broad road to Hell. I would rather be a little lonely and be on the right path to the New City! Obey your parents. They are right.

Signed: Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea:

I would like to know, how do you know when you are dating that this is the one for you? I know we have the witness to go by, but even before we get the witness, how do you know? My Mom says, "You just know." How is that?

Signed: Don't Know

Dear Don't Know:

For certain, when you are in question, it is not love. Perhaps it is just an attraction or infatuation. Real love will answer your question and the right one will make God Number One also!

Signed: Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea:

I used to be good friends with a guy until interests with other people got involved. Now we never even talk. I'd like us to become just friends again, but I don't know what to do.

Signed: X-Friend

Dear X-Friend:

Pray for your friend! Make going on for God your number one priority. God has a Master Plan for your life and He will lead the friends across your pathway that you need.

Signed: Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea:

I want to ask a girl out, but I don't know how to approach her parents. Please help me.

Signed: Wondering

Dear Wondering:

Approach her parents with much respect and courtesy. Keep your life above reproach and keep a good reputation and they will return your kindness.

Signed: Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea:

I know this certain guy likes me, and he continually follows me around. I don't want to be rude, but he cannot understand that I only want to be friends. What can I do?

Signed: Needs Help

Dear Needs Help:

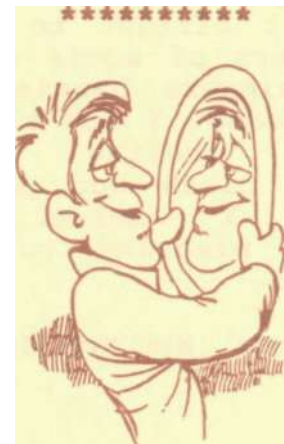
Speak up! Be kind but firm. Tell him you like him just for a friend. Reach for the sky. Set your morals high! God bless you.

Signed: Aunt Bea

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

Let's all memorize I Timothy 1:9:

Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers.



For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

James 1:23

**DO YOU KNOW OF
A SPECIAL NEED?**

If you, or someone you know, is in need of a winter coat, hat, gloves, shoes, food, etc., this winter, please write and let us know. A real Christian is one who cares about the needs of others. Let us unite to help people that may be in need. We have good used clothing that can be shared, and food that we can gather together when there is a need.

Don't be embarrassed to write to us. Your letter will be kept confidential, but we will see what can be done to help you to meet the need.

No young person in this organization should be cold for lack of a coat, or hungry for lack of food. We are one big spiritual family, and we work together to help each other.

Young people, don't ever make fun of someone who is without nice clothes, shoes, etc., whether they are in your school, church, or in your neighborhood.



**SOMEONE
NEEDS
YOU**

I have been that person, and I know how they feel. Your look of scorn or cutting words can cause deep hurt in that individual that they may never overcome. Jesus loves us all the same, whether we have the latest label in our clothes or not. If we want to be like Him, we should treat everyone as He would. Be a true Christian and minister in kindness and compassion to everyone you meet!

**LETTERS - WE LOVE
LETTERS!!!**

We have received some really neat letters from some of you, stating that you enjoy the **Christ For Youth Newsletters**. Please continue to write to us. We would like to receive your testimony, recipes you enjoy, news about what your youth group is doing, etc. **LET US HEAR FROM YOU!!!**



SEEN A GOOD RECIPE LATELY?

SEND IN YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY RECIPE SO WE CAN SHARE IT IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!

MAKE YOUR COAL

J * E * S * U * S

Thanks a lot - we enjoy your letters. **KEEP WRITING!**





Does your countenance look like it hurts to be a Christian - or can people see by looking at you the joy you've found in serving Him?!