

# Issue 6 **Christ For Youth**

N e w s l e t t e r

Issue VI

May/June 1988

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

## Greetings from Reverend Hicks . . . . .

I am sorry this issue is late, but May and June have been very busy months for me. As most of you probably know, I've been very ill with a staph infection. I appreciate your prayers. I am feeling better. Now I have an infection caused from taking too many antibiotics, so I'm depending on your prayers to lift me up and help me to recover completely.

I am excited over what the LORD is doing for the young people of this organization. Although the enemy is fighting our young people as never before, I'm still seeing a nucleus of them who are making personal choices for Jesus and standing tall as soldiers for Christ. I admonish you to use the strength and energy that you have in your youth for Jesus.

Make your choice now, and then determine in your heart to be an example for other young people. The testimony that you sow by being an example will take root in someone's heart, whether you sow a seed of a good example or a bad example.

\*\*\*\*\*



From the desk of . . . . .

**REV. B. R. HICKS**

In this issue of our Youth Newsletter we want to focus our attention upon Jesus Christ, Who is the Way. The Greek word for way means a road, by implication a progress (the route, act or distance); figuratively, a mode or means; journey, highway, way.

Young people, when we are born into this world, we start out on a spiritual journey. The fact that it is spiritual and, therefore, not visible to man's natural eyesight does not mean that it is not a literal journey or that the way is not literal. If we take God's Way as we go through this life, we will end up in God's house where we will enjoy His abundant life and peace eternally. However, if we refuse to take God's Way, if we chose to walk in the ways of sinners, then at the end of that way we will find Satan standing there waiting at the gates of hell to welcome us into his death and destruction.

In this study we will see that Jesus Christ declared that he is the Way.

We will see from Scripture that the Way is guarded, that it is straight, and that it is narrow. We also will see that it is a way of peace and a way of escape.

### Jesus Christ is the Way

After Jesus had discarded Judas, the betrayer, from the midst of His disciples, He revealed Himself to the remaining disciples as the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Later, we may learn how Jesus is the Truth and the Life, but in this issue we want to talk about Jesus as the Way.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (John 14:6).

God gave His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to be the Way that leads to life. In order for us to walk in the Way, we cannot follow our human senses. We must follow in the precious, nail-scarred footprints which Jesus Christ left here in this world.

### Christ's Way is Guarded

When Adam male and female sinned against the Way to the Tree of Life, by refusing to take it, God set cherubims with flaming swords to guard the Way.

Consequently, man cannot find Jesus, the Way, unless the Father draws him to the Way.

So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life (Genesis 3:24).

God set man outside of Paradise because man obeyed his own senses and passions. God allowed man to find out through his sufferings and separations from God the necessity of God's guidance. Therefore, if man desires to find the Way again, he must accept God's guidance back to the Way. Thus, the way is guarded.

### Christ's Way is Straight

Since Jesus Christ is the Way, and since His Way is straight, God sent John the Baptist to prepare straight paths before Him.

For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying. The Voice of one crying in the wilderness, saying, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight (Matthew 3:3).

John caused the people to see their mountains of insolence and haughty arrogance and the insufficiency of their own righteousness so they could repent and make straight paths for Jesus Christ's coming.

The way of sin is crooked, but the Way of Christ is straight. The LORD Jesus Christ will not walk on the crooked way of sin. Therefore, we must ask God to help us make straight paths for Christ's straight Way by repenting of our sins, just as the people did in John's day.

### Christ's Way is Narrow

The gate is so straight and the Way so narrow that it is not surprising that few find it and chose it.

Because straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it (Matthew 7:14).

Many pass by the straight gate and the narrow Way through ignorance, others through carelessness; still others shun it because they do not want to give up the lust and passions of their flesh. They do not want to be either limited or restrained in their desires.



The way we take is important because the ultimate destination of each way is different. The narrow Way that Jesus Christ walked leads to heaven; the broad way that the Devil offers leads to death and hell.

Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us (Hebrews 9:12).

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death (Proverbs 14:12).

Jesus is the Way. He is our Way, and by His precious blood we can enter into God's Holy Place of light, strength, and sweet communion with God.

Satan has many "ways" that lead to death, as compared to the one straight Way that leads to life—the desired goal of success and happiness.

Christ's Way is a Way of Peace

Christ's Way is a Way of Escape

When the Apostle Paul described the wicked sinners, he declared that they had not known the Way of peace.

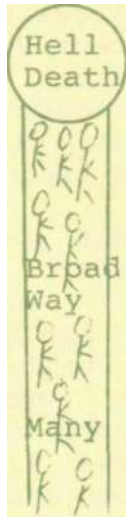
Those who chose Christ's Way when they are young are wise because they escape many pitfalls that others who walk in the Devil's broad way fall into, sooner or later.

And the way of peace have they not known: (Romans 3:17).

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it (I Corinthians 10:13).

Christ's Way is a Way of peace. But the way of wicked sinners is full of misery, and at the end of that way one finds destruction and death.

No temptation hath yet taken you, young people, but such as is common to man, common to all human beings. God is faithful to break the Devil's chains of deceit. Christ is able to crucify your flesh, regardless of how strong it may seem to be.



Christ's narrow Way leads to heaven and life. The Devil's broad way leads to hell and death. Only a fool would choose the Devil's way.

The eternal bliss and comfort of God and the life of Christ make the difficulties and inconveniences of the narrow, uphill road seem as nothing. Christ's Way is filled with His own precious blood which leads us into the Holy Place.

People who walk on the broad way do not know how to obtain peace for themselves nor how to preserve peace with others. They are strangers to true peace. However, in spite of all the unrest they feel within, they believe that their way is the right way.

Therefore, your strength and security is in Christ, not in yourself. Christ never disappoints His children. He will see to it that we are not overcome by the world, the flesh and the Devil-if we rely upon Him. He will make a way of escape if we put our trust in Him. He is the Way. If we walk in His way, it will lead us first to the Cross, and then to resurrection morning, and then to the right hand of God. Hallelujah! There is no valley so dark but what the light of His Cross will make a Way through it. If we will just walk with Him in His Way, He can overrule all things and give us the victory!

Young people, the LORD is coming soon. I know that, and my heart is burdened because many of you are not ready. Please pray, confess your sins, repent, and let Jesus make you ready for His soon coming. Otherwise, you will be left behind for the tribulation period. I beg and plead with you to turn to Christ Jesus now, while there is still time and hope.

\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*

**RESPECT**

by Pernilla Lindgren

To respect and honour the people God has commanded us to respect can be some of the hardest principles to keep sometimes. In Revelation 4:11, God commands us to honour Him because He has created us all. One of the ten commandments found in Exodus 20:12 tells children to honour their parents. Also, in Deuteronomy 5:16 God tells us that if we honour our father and mother then our days will be long upon the earth.

Not only does God command us to respect Him and our parents, but we are also commanded to love our neighbours. In Leviticus 19:18, God tells us that we are not to hold grudges against our friends but to love them as we love ourselves.

Even though we can get angry at our parents and friends and sometimes even God, we can remember that God has given us the Word to follow, and we will come out better if we follow God's commands!



**WE LIKE HEARING FROM YOU - WRITE TO US!!!**

We received the following letter recently, and it blessed our staff tremendously. We trust it will bless you too.

"Dear Newsletter Staff:

"I really would like to tell you how much the newsletter has helped me. There were times I would sit at home and cry because, since I didn't go out, I thought everything was boring. Then I began receiving your newsletter, and now I have something to look forward to. The newsletter is wonderful. I can see or read the hard work and the quality of the newsletter. I really appreciate it.

"I give a special thank you to Sister Hicks for providing us with the newsletter and the Message.

"Sister Hicks, you are the GREATEST. I would be lost without this Message. Thank you and three Japanese bows.

Love, T.M."

**DISTRICT THREE**  
**YOUTH CAMP**

by Greta Lindgren

On Saturday, the 18th of June, we closed the greatest youth camp we have ever had. Camp started on Monday, but I was not able to go until Wednesday. My parents took my cousin, my sister, and me to the Circle J Ranch located just outside of Selvin, Indiana, on Wednesday morning. We arrived just as they were getting ready to serve lunch.

There were revival services every night. Rev. Gerald Huntington ministered to us. On Friday night, Bro. Mike Kidd ministered in song and in the Word. Many young people and youth leaders from our churches who were not able to spend the entire week at camp joined us for this final service. We had a great time shouting and praising the LORD, and we were all blessed by Bro. Kidd's sermon.

It was fun to mingle with young people from some of our churches that we seldom get to fellowship with. We all made new friends that we want to keep in contact with through the year.

My life was changed during this youth camp, and I have heard other people that were there say the same. I appreciate Bro. and Sis. Don Townsend for all they did to organize and oversee the camp. THANK YOU!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

**SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION**

by Monica Lindgren

**Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.**

**Psalm 119:11**

After memorizing vocabulary words, dates in history, and chemical equations, the thought of memorizing scriptures seems like a chore. I guess it is because we don't see the purpose. Isn't reading our Bibles daily enough? Not really. You can't very well carry a Bible with you wherever you go! Oftentimes you need the Word the most when you are at school or with a group of friends. You may be tempted, hurt, discouraged or whatever, and if you have the Word (which is the answer), you won't be as likely to fall.

For example, if you get a low grade on a test that you really worked hard on and studied for, instead of giving into your flesh and getting a bad attitude, you just think of Romans 8:28: **"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."** Sure, reading your Bible is great, but it takes memorizing and applying the Word to grow up in moral development!

\*\*\*\*\*



**DEAR AUNT BEA \_\_\_\_\_**

I am crazy about this certain girl and am determined to have her no matter what. Please help me.  
**Signed: Upset**

Dear Upset:

Your "no matter what" scares me. I hope you do not mean if you backslide, go deep in sin, etc. With this attitude, you are taking a RISK!



**HAVE YOU READ YOUR BIBLE & PRAYED TODAY???**

We do reap what we sow. You have lost the game before you start unless you humble yourself and surrender to His will. Read Matthew 7:7-11. You can trust your God even with a NO! He wants to give you the GOOD THINGS, mentioned in Matthew, chapter seven, verse eleven. Don't be afraid to repent and ask if this girl is for you.

God bless you.  
Signed: Aunt Bea

**Dear Aunt Bea:**

Can I stay away from church and still be a good Christian at home?  
Signed: Unhappy

Dear Unhappy:

No! That is His house, and He has His special reasons to meet with us in His house. The Bible tells us in Hebrews 10:25 to not forsake the assembling of ourselves together and even more so as we get closer to the coming of the LORD.

There is strength and beauty in His sanctuary. You will be blessed!  
Signed: Aunt Bea

**Dear Aunt Bea:**

I love to argue! Is that wrong?  
Signed: Bothered

Dear Bothered:

Arguing probably makes you feel superior and right. No one is always right except God. You don't need to feel important by arguing, You are important to God, and that is what counts. Reading Proverbs 15:1 will encourage you. Learn to be submissive, and God will give you peace.

People enjoy being around someone with a quiet spirit.  
Signed: Aunt Bea

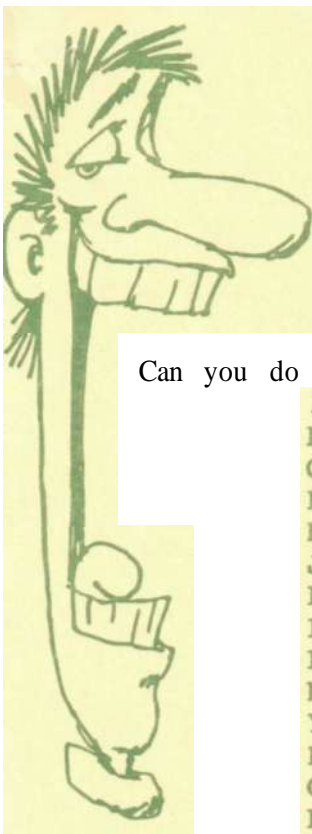
\*\*\*\*\*



SEE YOU AT THE YOUTH CONVENTION - AUGUST 11, 12 & 13, 1988 IN JEFFERSONVILLE!!!



YOUTH CONVENTION HERE. WE COME!!!



WORD PUZZLE  
by Anders Lindgren

Can you do this?

Sure I can!



Words to Find:

- |           |       |         |         |          |
|-----------|-------|---------|---------|----------|
| Shewbread | Blue  | Flowers | Scarlet | Shaft    |
| Church    | Moses | Silver  | Stones  | Branches |
| Oil       | Bowls | Staves  | Skins   | Woods    |
| Linen     | Knops | Purple  | Table   | Mercy    |
| Gold      | Brass |         |         |          |

Don't forget to send  
in your change of  
addresses!

Our young  
people are the  
greatest!!!



Let us know if you'd like to have a pen-pal.  
We want to hear from you!