

# Issue 12 Christ For Youth Newsletter

Issue XII

May/June 1989

Greetings from  
Reverend Hicks,

Time seems to be racing along these days even faster than it usually does. I find it hard to believe it is time for summer vacation.

Young people, believe me; you will look back in a few years, if the LORD tarries, and you will wonder where your youth went. That is why I feel constrained to keep reminding you that you have just a short time to do whatever you are going to do for Christ. Even the seventy years God promises us is short when one looks back on it.

The lesson I am going to share with you today is one the LORD taught me many years ago. It is a simple lesson, on one side of the scales. But on the other side of the scales, it is a tremendously powerful one. I can tell you from personal experience that your life will be forever changed—for the good—when you learn to implement the principle of confessing the Truth with your mouth.

God bless you. I love every single one of you. And that is the Truth!

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

We become what we speak! "Death and life are in the power of the tongue. . ." (Proverbs 18:21). Whenever we speak words of defeat, we become defeated. For example, the ten spies who brought back an evil report of Canaan's Land said: "We be not able to go up" (Numbers 13:30). Not a one of the ten was able to go up and possess the land. Thus, they became what they confessed.

But not all the men who went up to spy out the land came back with an evil report. Caleb said, "Let us go up at once, and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it" (Numbers 13:30). Caleb did possess Canaan's Land, and he did overcome the enemies. So Caleb became what he confessed—an overcomer.

People who speak words of discouragement and impossibility are speaking forth death. Those who live in the cold, clammy clutches of death, because they fail to "speak right," become repulsive to others.

Words are full of creative power. God Himself used words to create the world in which we live. "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light" (Genesis 1:3). Every time God said, "Let there be,"

then whatever He said came into being in the visible world.

We certainly are not God, although we sometimes try to play His part. Yet our words have creative power. With our own words, we create the "world" in which we live. If we speak Truth, we will live in a world of Truth, a world of constant life and victory.

The Apostle Paul knew the power of confessing the Truth.

**But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach: That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation (Romans 10:8-10).**

\*\*\*\*\*

A key principle is presented in these few verses! The word confess means to speak, preach, acknowledge, covenant, promise, assent, give thanks. Salvation began the day we accepted Jesus as our Saviour, and it continues to full stature (Hebrews 7:25).

What was the formula to our initial salvation experience? We first confessed with our mouth the Lord Jesus; we confessed that He died on the Cross for our sins. Then we believed in our heart that He was raised from the dead. And as simple as that was to do—we became a child of God!

### Confess With Mouth



### Believe in Heart

Salvation began when we confessed the Truth with our mouth, and salvation continues in the same manner.

In the past (when you were ignorant of this Truth), you may have said, "Well, I'm not going to be a hypocrite; I won't speak the Truth until I believe and understand it." You may even have thought your attitude was a very noble and humble one!

But the thrilling Truth is this: **We do not need to believe the Truth in order to speak it and confess it with our mouth!** If we simply

confess the Truth with our mouth, that Truth will sink down into our heart, and then we will believe it in our heart.

The human will resides in the heart, and when we speak the Truth, we find a change taking place in our will, which is the shaft of the wheel of our entire being.

Adam's female was given a perfect opportunity to confess the Truth when the Serpent presented his subtle question, asking, "Yea, hath God said?" She stood there with an empty will—with neither Truth nor deceit flowing down the center of it. The Truth which God had spoken concerning the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil had not been quickened to her heart. But if she had just quoted or confessed the Truth that God had said, then that very Truth would have flowed into her will.

When the Apostle John was in exile on the Isle of Patmos, he saw a vision of the New City coming down out of heaven; and from under the throne of God and the Lamb, he saw the Truth flowing out in the form of a mighty River of Life.

**And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of**

**the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits and yielded her fruits every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations (Revelation 22:1,2).**

The River of Truth produces the Tree of Life. Confessing the Truth brings life, young people. It is a great day when we learn to confess the Name or nature of the LORD Jesus Christ! The greatest Truth we can confess is the Truth of His divine headship in our life.

When we find ourselves in the midst of suffering, in the heat of the battle, our humanity is prone to say, "It's not fair; I'm worthy of better than this." Soon after we speak these words, death, with its chilly claws, reaches out to grip us. We feel dead—dead toward God and His Word, and dead to prayer and seeking His face.

And dead will be our exact condition until we begin to speak the Truth by confessing His headship. When our mouth first confesses the Truth, saying, "He is the Head over all things," it may seem as though we are shouting into an empty barrel because our voice comes back into our ears as an echo, empty and dead. That would be most discouraging if it were not

for a beautiful principle found in the Book of Ephesians.

**And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; (Ephesians 5:18,19).**

The reason we need to speak to ourself is that the words are for our benefit first rather than for God's benefit. When we speak to ourself in Psalms, saying, "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want," we are confessing that His is our Shepherd. This Truth then stirs up our heart; and as the Truth goes down into our heart, we start believing it—not just in our head—but also in our heart. Then and only then can we truly sing and make melody in our heart to the LORD.

The fact that God will not accept mere lip worship does not absolve us of our responsibility to speak the Truth, regardless of how we feel.

Actually, it is our "lips of confession" that set the Truth in motion, and this Truth goes straight down into our heart, before it ever goes up to God. Only after the heart is involved

are we able to sing and make a melody in our heart that will please and satisfy the LORD. This is how "confession is made unto salvation." This is the recipe we can use—should use, must use—daily in order to be continually saved from our attitudes and dispositions that are unlike Jesus Christ.

Drinking of the River of Truth not only saves us from our unChrist-like ways, but it also produces a Tree of Life that bears twelve fruits: sincerity, surrender and obedience, love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, and mercy.

The fruits which are not mentioned in Galatians 5:22,23 are pictured in the Song of Solomon where we see them growing in the garden of the Bride's heart. The fruit of sincerity is like the fig tree. Surrender and obedience are portrayed by the grape vine (Song of Solomon 2:13). The fruit of mercy or sharing is typed by the nuts in Song of Solomon 6:11. (If you are interested in learning more about these fruits of the Spirit, you will find them discussed at length in my book The Song of Love . . . from the Song of Solomon.)

Confessing the Truth is the key to being sincere, young people. Confessing the Truth enables us to surrender to God's will and

obey His command. Confessing the Truth also enables us to experience new love, joy, and peace.

The beauty of this principle is that you can begin to practice it right now. You do not have to be fully grown spiritually in order for this principle to work in your life. Remember that you had no stature whatsoever the day you confessed with your mouth the Lord Jesus and entered into salvation.

Since confessing a simple Truth translated us from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light, just think what confessing more Truth will do for us now!

God has put great power at our disposal. Our tongue is a fire, either for good or for evil (James 3:5). If we speak the Truth of God's Word, our tongue will be a fire to lick up the wood, hay, and stubble of our flesh, a fire to burn up the chaff, a fire to convert everything it touches. Hallelujah!

Remember this: we become what we speak. Since you now have this marvelous key of knowledge, I trust you will start using it daily. If you will be faithful to practice speaking the Truth every day, you soon will see the Truth bringing forth new life and producing new, living fruit.

\*\*\*\*\*



**LET'S HEAR SOME TESTIMONIES!!!**

"Thank you all for the wonderful newsletters I have received. They've been a true blessing to me. One of the recent newsletters really touched me. It was the message we received on procrastination. The LORD had really put a burden on me to write and express my gratitude for all the work you all put into this letter for a long time. It really is an inspiration in my life to read it.

The messages taught from Sister Hicks seem to always be that little extra that I have need of. It makes or renews the desire in me to know that she and all of you take the time to write and deliver to me messages that really change my life. I cannot thank all of you enough.

God bless you all,  
S.Z.

Harrisonburg, Virginia"

**another testimony.....**

"I've really enjoyed the newsletters. They have been so powerful and real and I appreciate your love that has gone into them.

Well, you don't know me but I know you. I'm in the Jacob's Warrior prayer group in South Africa. I've heard all about you from Geoffrey, who is our leader.

Anyway, a little about myself. I'm 17 years old and I'm in my last year at High School. Next year I will be going to college and will major in mathematics. I love children and I've worked with children in a number of camps and at school. I'm looking forward to my future teaching career. I also play guitar and love singing. As sports go, I enjoy running mainly, although I've played other sports as well.

I have been brought up in a Christian home and we've been in the Crucified Way for ten years. I'm so grateful to Jesus that He has kept me out of the world and given me parents who also want to be in the Bride. It makes me cry when I think I have the opportunity of being in the New City with Jesus, that I still have strength to really serve Him and that through this wonderful humility message, I can be joined to Him. I can also thank Jesus for a wonderful mother, Sister Hicks. **Jesus is good!**

There is a lady in our church that writes poems. I thought perhaps this poem would be good for the Youth Newsletter.

When nothing is right,  
Everything has gone wrong,  
You can't raise a smile,  
Nor even a song.

When you pull down the blinds,  
Of self-pity and pride,  
You're going in circles,  
You're tempted and tried.

Turn to the mirror,  
God's Book of Life,  
He is the Cause,  
Of your trouble and strife.

He'll break you,  
remake you.  
Whenever you stray,  
For He is the Potter  
And you are the clay.

So, look in God's mirror,  
When things have gone wrong,  
He'll replace your smile,  
And give a new song.

God bless and  
love in Jesus,  
J. P.

Pretoria, South Africa

**and still another  
testimony....(send us  
yours!)**



"I would like to thank all that labor with the newsletter. Different articles in the newsletter have blessed my soul.

I'll start off with the word of God. I thank God for Sister Hicks. Even though she's busy with the workload at the Jeffersonville church, she still takes the time to write about the Word of God. I thank God for a spiritual grandmother that loves me enough to share what she has so that I may grow spiritually and be in the Bride.

Next, I'll thank the newsletter staff for the article on "**Teenage Money Matters**". God knows I needed that information. It's a blessing to know how to handle and account for the money that God has made us stewards over. So many times I've just watched my money disappear and not known where it went. That is a frustrating feeling. I thank God for the answer. I want to be a good steward over my money. Also, that part about the impulsive shoppers. That fits me. So many times, for example, I've bought food (junk food) when I really didn't need it. When I would arrive home I would ask myself, "Why in the world did I buy this? I don't need it." This article will save me so much money.

The last thing I would like to thank the newsletter staff for is the article written by Rev. Gloria Jones, "**Bible Kuizzer's Korner.**" The information she wrote about is so helpful. In my years of quizzing, 1986-88, especially my first one, I used to say my quotes over and over and I found that the more I said them, the easier it became for me to quote them. Not only did I do this for quotes but also for the other reference questions. I tell you it works! It really does.

Once again, I thank God for the newsletter staff and all the work they have done to make this newsletter successful.

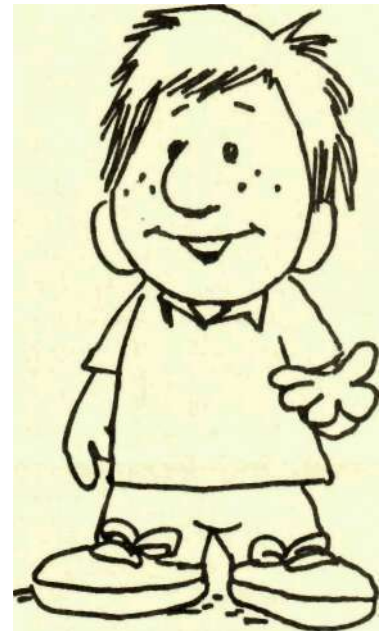
May the LORD bless,  
M.W.

Pinellas Park, Florida

P.S. Hopefully I'll get to meet the staff of this newsletter at the youth convention.

**YOUTH CONVENTION**  
**AUGUST 10, 11 & 12**

Make plans now to attend the **1989 YOUTH CONVENTION.** Your life will be changed!!!!



Are you memorizing the Word like you should? Get you a package of 3x5 cards and write a scripture on three of them once a week. You will have the same scripture on a card to put in your pocket, your car and in your room. Keep

it where you will see it often and that way you will have it memorized by the end of the week.





**WEDDING NEWS**



A member of the newsletter staff is getting married! Monica Lindgren of Jeffersonville, Indiana, and Matthew Brown of Wichita Falls, Texas, will be married on Saturday, the 22nd of July, 1989.

**CONGRATULATIONS  
MONI & MATT!**

\*\*\*\*\*



**A GROOMING TIP  
FROM REV. HICKS**

Girls, if you want your hair to grow long and be healthy and shiny looking, try this. Before you wash your hair, warm some corn oil and apply it to your scalp with a cotton ball. Massage the corn oil into your scalp and hair. Wrap your hair in a warm towel and leave on for thirty minutes, then wash. Do this at least once a week and you will see a big improvement in your hair.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Aunt Bea:

Recently I bought a Christian music tape. It sort of made me uneasy. Can you tell me how to tell whether or not tapes like that have subliminal messages on them or not? Thanks for your help.

Signed: Wondering

Dear Wondering:

You must pray and follow the checkings of the Spirit of God. Anything contrary to the Word of God should be discarded. Good music always will exalt your Saviour. Search the scriptures for we are taught many things in the Word concerning music.

Signed: Aunt Bea

\*\*\*\*\*

If you have questions or things that have concerned you, write to Aunt Bea. You don't have to give your name. Your letters can even be answered personally instead of in the newsletter if you would like. Please write to us!

\*\*\*\*\*



Hurry and write to us. Let us know what your youth group is doing! We need your letters!



THE 1989 YOUTH CONVENTION!!!

RECIPES



ARE YOU LONELY?

LIME JELLO SALAD

Vicki Lindgren

When I was a teenager, a friend of mine invited me to her house and she had made this salad. We sat down and ate the whole bowl between us! I'm sure you will like it too.

Ingredients

- 1 lrg. box lime jello
- 1 cup of mayonnaise
- 1 small can evaporated milk
- 1 lrg. carton cottage cheese
- 1 cup pecans

Directions: Mix jello according to package instructions. When it is partially jelled, add the remaining ingredients, mixing well. Refrigerate until set. This is delicious as a salad alone, before a meal, or as a dessert. It looks very nice cut in squares on a lettuce leaf with a dollop of sour cream mixed with mayonnaise and a cherry on top!

\*\*\*\*\*

Many times as a teenager we feel like we have no real "friends." Oh, we go get something to eat with a group but there is no one to call on the phone, go shopping with, sit with in church, etc. Sometimes it gets a little discouraging and some people feel so lonely they make a choice to join the world where they feel they will have more friends. If you feel this way too, stop right where you are and listen to my testimony. I've been there too.

When I was 13 years old I looked older than my age and a 16 year old boy started liking me. I was flattered by his attention and that of his friends too. I had just moved to Jeffersonville and was feeling lonely and it felt good to have someone look me up at church, youth meetings, etc.

My mother wouldn't allow me to date this boy because I wasn't 16 yet, but we would sit together in church, he would come to my house, etc. Then his "true colors" started coming out and I found that he wasn't the kind of guy he was pretending to be.

I discovered that he was continually getting in trouble with the police, etc. My mother forbid me to have anything to do with him then, but he refused to leave me alone. He wanted me to sneak and meet him places and if I refused, he would yell at me, torment me and a few times, he even hit me.

I'm so grateful for the Bride's Message and a mother who lives in the prayer closet. The LORD showed my mother what was going on and she contacted the juvenile authorities. She made an appointment for me to see the officer overseeing all juvenile authorities. Mother felt that if I wouldn't listen to her and Sister Hicks when they told me the route my life would take if I continued down the wrong path by fellowshiping with the wrong people, maybe I would listen to the juvenile authorities.

To this date I can still remember the feeling in the pit of my stomach as I walked down that long corridor in the court house, to the office we'd been directed to. As each click of our heels reverberated on the floor of the court house floor, I felt like I was walking closer and closer to my doom.

I sat in the chair on the opposite side of that big desk where the officer sat and behind her on the wall was a big picture of a woodshed and a little boy laying over his father's lap, getting a spanking. Under the picture it said, "When woodsheds were in use, juvenile officers were not needed."

The officer began talking to me in a firm voice, telling me the consequences of getting mixed up with the wrong crowd, even in church. She relayed to me things that my boyfriend had been involved in that I had had no idea about. As she talked I made a choice, then and there, that no matter what it took, I was going to get on the right track and either mix only with the right people or have no friends at all.

The boy refused to leave me alone, even when I made it clear I never wanted to see him or hear from him again. The only time he would stay away was if I was with someone else, therefore for over two years, I made sure that no matter where I went, and even when I stayed at home, that I was never alone. If mother sent me to the store, I made sure one of my sisters went with me. When the boy would throw rocks at my window late at night, I refused to answer. I had made a choice.

I can remember getting down beside my bed on my knees after coming home from the court house, crying my heart out and promising God that I would be without friends for the rest of my life if that is what it took. All I needed was Him. He was and still is my best Friend. I got a job, took up other interests and eventually began enjoying doing things by myself, sitting alone in church, etc.

At 37 years of age I look back now and see why God brought me the route that He did. Now I try to relay to my own daughters how important it is as teenagers to make a choice to stand alone and not to rely on people. All my life I've battled extreme shyness and I've always felt like everyone is watching me, especially when I'm alone. I know how difficult it is as a teenager to sit in church alone, go to your car alone or with your parents after church, when everyone else is standing in groups talking and making plans to go out, etc. But remember, if you are wanting someone to notice you, don't be one of those that always joins the crowd. The one that is noticed is the one that chooses to be different and stand alone.

Through what I went through as a teenager, I learned the importance of keeping to myself.

Jesus is my best Friend! He will never hurt me. He will always listen and I don't have to worry about being betrayed. I always feel better when I talk to Him. I need no one else but Him. With Jesus as my Friend, I am never lonely!

G.S.



When you move, be sure to let us know so we can forward your Christ For Youth Newsletters to you.

Also, watch the date that appears below your address on the envelope your newsletters are mailed in. That is the date your subscription will expire. Be sure to send in your renewal in time so you don't miss an issue.

Subscriptions cost only \$1.00 per year for six great issues!