



CMA Youth Movement YM 'ZINE JANUARY 2009

"...and, lo, I am with you always,
even unto the end of the world.
Amen."

— Matthew 28:20b

Reflections

'more than'

by Amy Nickerson

Feeling blue today
Screaming inadequate
Reminded again
As I fall on my face
That life is more

More than a grade
Scribbled on a paper
More than a reputation
Attached to a name
More than a body
Clothed with a style
More than a human
Sinful and broken

The Cross was given
For days like this
Days when perfection
Seems far out of reach

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"So the last shall be first, and the first last:
for many be called, but few chosen."

— St. Matthew 20:16 KJV

Tunnel Ears? Nose Ring? Christian?



Friend Mike Sick with CMA Member Andy Dunning

Andy, you have stretched ears to 1 & 7/8", an ear bar piercing and a nose ring. For your 18th birthday you designed a chest tattoo and had it inked on. You wear skinny jeans, t-shirts, wrist bands, buzzed your long hair and love bmx riding. How do you get received in church nowadays, not to mention visiting Great Grandma and the fam?

I get received as if I'm into bad things, which for some reason is a stereotyped association with piercings and tattoos. The whole "if he has piercings and ink then he **MUST** party" thing really distorts people's first impressions of me; of who I am and what my interests are.

I'm actually straightedge, a pledge I've made to myself to **not**

drink or do drugs (cigarette smoking included). People are baffled that it's of no interest to me to drink or get high. I don't participate in the usual things associated with tattooed and pierced people, which these days is really a narrow concept to assume that they go hand in hand. Basically, I feel I'm just received as a

burn out or low-life, as if I'm going nowhere and have no plans, or haven't thought about a career or something.

What it all boils down to is me and my beliefs. I know where I'm at in life; I know what I want from life; I know what I choose to do and choose to follow. Everyone's perception of life is different; some are more mainstream than others, being more comfortable in society, being accepted for how they look, hobbies, etc. I guess the path I've fallen in true love with is the path of being happy with myself and doing what I like, wearing what I like, believing in what I feel is spiritually correct for me to follow in my life at this time.

But yeah, I'm definitely received as a nobody in church and

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"Fear less, hope more; eat less, chew more; whine less, breathe more; talk less, say more; hate less, love more; and all good things are yours."

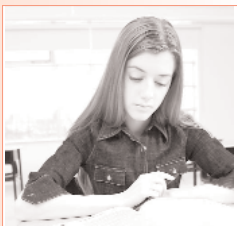
~ Lord Fisher

BIG THINGS; SMALL THINGS HARD THINGS; EASY THINGS

What you can do today to serve the World!

1. Give some clothes away.

If you got new clothes for Christmas, what about the stuff you don't wear anymore? Sort thru them, run them thru the wash or dry cleaner, then donate them to Goodwill, Salvation Army or your church clothing closet.



2. Make time for someone else.

Volunteer at a local humane society, nursing home, hospital gift shop, or food bank.

3. Pound the Pavement

By walking or running you can help raise money for a good cause like Crisis Pregnancy centers, breast cancer, Salvation Army; check the community calendar in your local newspaper for upcoming fundraiser events.

4. Support others who are out to change the world...

...Like Zach Hunter, age 15 launched "Loose Change to Loosen Chains", a program to rescue victims of slavery. Kendall Clesmier, age 15 founded "Kids Caring 4 Kids" to raise \$1 million to go to kids in Africa who have been impacted by AIDS.

Follow their example to make a difference in your own way!

5. Do small things and be a blessing

Wash dishes, vacuum your bedroom, shovel snow, help your younger brother or sister with homework, babysit for the youth pastor's kids for free.

SEE the need. ACT. BE transformed.

**If you want to see your friends in Heaven,
invite them. If you don't want to see your
friends in Heaven, don't invite them.**

— from *One Thing You Can't Do in Heaven*
by Mark Cahill



Remember
the last
time you
were in a

hopeless situation with no way out and it suddenly turned around?

That was God in His love and mercy providing a protective hand over your life. Did you consider it good luck or it did you recognize His work? Give Him thanks now for all of the good things He has done and continues to do in your life everyday!



Seasons of Refreshing

"...Train Yourself to be Godly"

from I Timothy 4:7B (NIV).

This year's Seasons of Refreshing will focus on training for ministry so if you haven't yet been able to complete your Youth Movement and earn your colors, this is the perfect time to get it done! Beyond that, Momma D will have some zanie games, bible devo time, funnie video clips and just relax with some hang-out time.



Bring ideas for Youth Movement Run for the Son challenges, get some inside thoughts on upcoming State rally.

Youth Movement LIVE!

**© CMA Seasons of Refreshing
March 20 & 21, 2009**



When life keeps knocking you down, don't forget you're:

☺ A winner in Christ = Romans 8:14 ^{NLT}

☺ God's very own possession = 1 Peter 2:9 ^{NLT}

☺ A whole new creation = 2 Corinthians 5:17 ^{NIV}

☺ God's incredible work of art = Ephesians 2:10 ^{NLT} (i.e. our group painting at the State rally)

☺ A greatly loved child of God = 1 John 3:1 ^{NIV}

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN...

Call, text, email me anytime 24/7 with questions, insight, suggestions, prayer requests, whatever?

☺ Momma D.

cell phone for calls or text messaging = 585-746-0022
email = nyscmaym@frontiernet.net

God At Work

This type of evangelism may be something you can do with your youth group

Member Katheryn from Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, tells you about it in the story she posted to the Pocket League website recently.

My friends and I go out on the streets of Halifax every Friday night to tell people about salvation through Jesus Christ.

My Dad received salvation after reading the Gospel of John in his youth, so it means a lot to me to be able to hand these out to people on Friday nights.

So much has happened since I joined in on this work. It's amazing how much God does in you once you give Him just a little bit of yourself.

We've had people shout at us, swear at us, mock us. Also, we've had people ask us for more infor-

mation, ask us for Bibles, start crying and telling us about their lives.

There have been really good moments and some really brutal ones, but they're all miracle moments when you get to see God at work.

I encourage everyone to get out there and talk to people around you. Time is short. The Lord is going to call us home soon one way or another, so let's make the little time we have left here count. And let's not allow people to go to hell because we're too afraid they won't like us if we speak to them. True love will brave rejection in order for salvation to come.

YM CHALLENGE...

Lord,
Make me an instrument of Your peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master, grant that I may
not so much seek to be consoled
as to console; to be understood
as to understand; to be loved, as to love:
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

—St. Francis of Assisi



'He was wounded and crushed because of our sins; by taking our punishment, he made us completely well'

— Isaiah 53:5 ^{CEV}

Tunnel Ears? Nose Ring? Christian? Continued from page 1

at my Great Grandma's family gatherings. This is okay; to each their own. I know what I like and what I'm comfortable with. I like the saying ***"The ones who matter in life won't care (i.e.: looks, interests etc). The ones who care (about all that stuff) don't matter"***.

As far as fellowship with the Lord and all the details that go along with that topic, like, where I am in my personal walk and such, as of now, it's been hazy because of what "the church" has become today. The same problems exist today as they did years and years ago back in the period of time when Jesus was on earth. False claims, hypocrisy, divided "unions", separated churches, people who just talk, etc., not being accepted if I don't have on khaki pants and a nice shirt.

Anyway, I'm able to influence people who aren't saved by simply being myself with the solid beliefs I was raised with – including much kudos to my CMA Youth Movement involvement. What matters is just being there for friends, not jumping on them every chance about being saved, being open to their beliefs, suggestions and point-of-views, and being able to offer explanations to questions they ask me.

The bottom line for me is this: God doesn't love me for what I am on the outside and because I don't always participate in my church's youth group or go to Bible camp every summer, or because I missed church for a Sunday. That's not someone or something I want to put my love and effort into and hail and worship as my God, Lord and Savior. But I know He DOES love me just as I am, regardless of what everyone else's opinions are. My personal relationship with Him is exactly that; my personal relationship.

So now that you're 18, where will you fit in with CMA?



I'm not totally sure just yet. This summer I'd like to attend NY and PA rallies, the Eastern National rally and it'd be way cool to go to Arkansas again. I'll get to hook up with teens I've met over the years who live in different states and some that I went with on the YM Missions trip to Ecuador. A few of my riding friends and I are thinkin' of offering to put on a bmx & skate demo for YM. I don't have my own street bike yet – maybe after I sell one of my dirt bikes as I'm outta the mainstream motocross racing for awhile.

Thanks for being so real with us

Andy. Teen years have definite ups and downs, mysteries and confusions, searches and discoveries. Sounds like you appreciate having a Christian family and CMA friends. Best wishes and God bless everything you set your mind to do for Him.

One last thought: We all have to respect one another. Our appearance isn't as important as our personal relationship with Christ, but you don't want to be a distraction or give off the wrong impression with your look.

Let Christ turn your life right side up!



Let's not separate from the lost, but take our light into the darkness and watch the Lord work in amazing ways.

— from *One Thing You Can't Do in Heaven*
Mark Cahill

The Fast Lane

is a network within CMA that focuses primarily on ministry to sport bikers, dual sport riders, and quad sport riders. Our goals are to see the lost saved and to build a base of ministry from the CMA membership. As a single person we cannot accomplish as much we would if we were to train up 10 people to also minister.

The Fast Lane is what you make it. We have members across the country doing different things to be active in ministry. Some are attending races, some are holding Fast Lane rides, and others are meeting with local clubs and web forum members and attending their events. They are the leaders of the Fast Lane in their areas, striking out to do what they can and working to get others that are interested in ministry to this segment of riders enthused about doing the work also.

www.cmausa.org

Brain Food

A highly recommended book for every Christian to read is *Organic Church: Growing Faith Where Life Happens* by Neil Cole. It makes many points that some have felt for awhile and runs parallel to Christian Motorcyclists Association evangelism efforts. Here is one point from the introduction as a topic to think about.

'Instead of bringing people to church so that we can then bring them to Christ, let's bring Christ to people where they live—What will happen if we plant the seed of the Kingdom of God in the places where life happens and where society is formed? Is this not what Jesus intended for His Church.'

Each of us needs to think not how to grow our church service attendance but how do we bring Christ to the people around us in our daily lives. It is a life-long challenge for us. Not just to be raised as children who are to be church-goers but to know Christ. Not just to invite neighbors to church but that they see Christ in you. Not just to ask your classmates and friends what they believe but to introduce them to Jesus.

Go – show God's light in a dark world – it is what you were made for.



CONTEST:

Name this Newsletter! CMA Youth Movement newsletter needs a name.

Submit your ideas and win a mystery gift card! Deadline is FEBRUARY 20th.

Text or email your entry. Enter as many times as you like.

Submissions Wanted: Build fellowship and share your testimony, faith walk, poetry and photos with others!

BIBLE TRIVIA

Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

Noah: he was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

Pharaoh's daughter: she went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

What kind of man was Boaz before he got married?

Ruthless.

Who was the first drug addict in the Bible?

Nabuchadnezzar: he was on grass seven years.

What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Honda... because the apostles were all in one Accord. 2 Corinthians 4:8 describes going out in service in a Volkswagon Beetle: "We are pressed in every way, but not cramped beyond movement."

Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

Sampson: He brought the house down.

Where is the first baseball game in the Bible?

In the big inning,

Eve stole first, Adam stole second. Cain struck out Abel. The Giants and the Angels were rained out of Eden.

Bible Verses About The Future

Check out what the Bible says about the future. The following verses are really awesome when you get what it says!

When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider: God has made the one as well as the other. Therefore, you cannot discover anything about your future.

— Ecclesiastes 7:14

Since no one knows the future, who can say what is to come?

— Ecclesiastes 8:7

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm

you, plans to give you hope and a future."

— Jeremiah 29:11

Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

— Matthew 6:27

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

— Romans 8:38-39

It's so awesome that we can learn some fantastic things in these verses, stuff about how we should approach thinking about the future. These Scriptures are pretty much saying, "Don't worry about the future: God has great plans for you, and God will be with you. The future can't separate you from God!"

For amazing details get a copy of the #1 all times best seller and God's little instruction book for life — The Bible.

*Taken from "My Future" by Scott Rubin & Mark Oestreicher, © 2008 Youth specialties / Zondervan. Used by permission.

Survey Questions

Results will be announced in our next issue.

1. How do you feel about Christians with tattoos and/or body piercings?

- a) Approve
- b) Disapprove
- c) Indifferent

2. Do you know what God's word says on this topic? Yes _____ No _____

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise."

— 1 Corinthians 3:16

3. Define the word Christian.

Send your survey answers to Momma D - Verizon Text # 585-746-0022 or email to: nyscmaym@frontiernet.net

THE HISTORY

Evidence of tattooing the body for purely ornamental purposes can be traced back to ancient Egypt (2000 B.C.). Tattooing has social and religious significance among certain tribes of Africa and the Pacific Islands.

Scarification, most common among dark-skinned peoples, is accomplished by slashing the skin and introducing irritants into the wounds, which, on healing, consequently leave pronounced scars. Early methods of decorating the surface of the body is done by puncturing the skin with a sharp instrument. In more recent times an electric needle is used.

The coloring of wounds apparently originated among the light-skinned peoples. Practiced by many African tribes, scarification establishes tribal affiliation and personal rank and is also a sign of mourning among the primitive tribes. Later in history tattooing was used to identify slaves, and the practice was adopted by prisoners and pirates.

Body art such as tattoos and piercing is often times a controversial topic - even amongst believers! Most often we either assume or reject the instruction of our parents and elders without prayer and learning about it.

Take some time to study, investigate and to refresh on this challenging topic. Check out the interesting history aspect of body art and see what all comes up! Discuss the topic with your parents, peers and pastors to get an overview of opinions. Then to sift through it and pray about what you've learned.

Be Blessed!
diane