



TEACHER'S TIPS

Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness.

1 Timothy 4:7

One piece of advice I tell many of the parents of my students is to set up a clear routine at home. Children thrive on knowing what is expected of them and how things are supposed to go. When they come home after school there should be a designated spot for backpacks and papers. Some kids do better with having a snack first, playing and then doing homework. Others need to get their homework done first then have the evenings free. Ultimately, whatever you decide to do just be consistent. It is also helpful to have a clear morning routine so homework and backpacks don't get left behind. Helping your child be organized at home can lend itself to a less stressful school year! This early discipline can also help them later in life.

Have you been struggling with time for devotions? Serving? Paying bills?

Try setting up a routine for yourself!

-Melissa Pierre

FROM THE HEART

Foster Care and Adoption is a ministry on the hearts of many at Roosevelt Community Church. God has called His people to care for orphans, and- in modern day terms- children who are in the Foster care system and are ready for adoption *are* orphans. Through Christian Family Care Agency, Christian families are provided an opportunity to share the unconditional love of Jesus Christ with children they may bring into their homes, tutor, or mentor as well as sharing the gospel with the biological family of the child.

God has used adoptees throughout history as instruments in His glorification and the working out of His plans. Some examples are Moses, Joseph, Samuel, Esther and of course, our Savior Jesus Christ. "Whoever receives one little child like this in my name, receives Me." Matthew 18:5.

There is much fear associated with the thought of changing one's family dynamic in any way, fear of our own sufficiency in order to care for someone else, as I am sure parents have this feeling of their biological children as well. But brothers and sisters, please find comfort in Philippians 4:19 "My God shall supply all you need according to His riches in glory, by Christ Jesus."

1 John 3:16-17 "By this we know love that He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoever has the world's goods and sees his brother in need and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in Him?"

-Sammi Nsubuga

THE "DR." IS IN

From the Docs at home to the Docs in the office, we are calling for your *biblical* medical advice.

Please submit to [realtysnyder@msn.com!!](mailto:realtysnyder@msn.com)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

1 Corinthians 13:13- For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. "...We are still in the "water" of our world. And the current continues to fight against us, trying to drag us away back underneath the water."

Colossians 3:3- For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. "We can move towards the shores of heaven where God is... Going in this new direction will require continuous and ongoing effort. We must "keep thinking" about things above as opposed to earthly things. You might say that before Christ the best we could do was compete to see who could sink the slowest in the ocean of a broken world enslaved to sin and Satan. But God sends us Christ, and in Christ we've gained the ability to swim!"

- Pastor V

www.runhardrunwell.blogspot.com

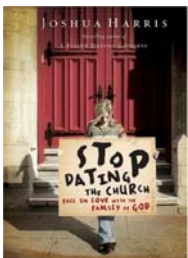
Although we see now "in a mirror dimly", our ability to see *at all*, is due to Jesus.

Calling for submissions....

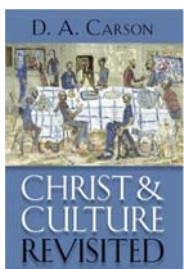
questions, comments, articles, art, responses, recipes...

Please send your work to realtysnyder@msn.com.

ROOSEVELT READ[ER]S



Joshua Harris has written a short & important book addressing the current tendency in our generation to casually "date" a church, or several churches, but never actually commit to a particular local church. This book is very readable & makes its point clearly. Chpt. 5, which talks about what to look for when choosing a church, is especially helpful. This is an essential and highly recommended book, especially for people who are disillusioned by and highly critical of the church.



It's true that I have a general rule with D.A. Carson – if he writes something, I'm going to try awfully hard to read it. So far my rule hasn't let me down. *Christ & Culture Revisited* is a careful and thoughtful examination of the always thorny issue of how Christians should both live within our culture and at the same apart from our culture. Be warned, this book is highly intellectual in many sections and will require slow and patient reading. You'll need to put your baby spoon away and break out the knife and fork to cut into this deep book.

-Pastor V

PRAYER LIST

- Lakartinya, Kenya
- Grant Park Outreach
- _____
- _____



CD REVIEW

CLOSER: WORSHIP THROUGH ART

"A New Creation"

Read:

Colossians 2: 6-23
Colossians 3: 1-17
Galatians 6: 14-15
Romans 12: 2
2 Corinthians 5: 17

Respond:

Ask Yourself...

-What does "A New Creation" mean to me and how should/do I respond?
-What does "A New Creation" mean to the world and how should/do I/we respond?
-What does "A New Creation" mean to Roosevelt and how should/do I/we respond?
-Now...what do those responses or meanings look like? Can you think of a way to describe them through a photograph or other art form? Find the metaphor in picture to describe what God has taught you about being "A New Creation". There is no wrong or right picture/art!

Rules:

- No religious images!
- Submit your work for the next Roose!
- Describe the meaning behind your piece/s.

Sojourn's *Before the Throne* is the latest collection of worship music performed by the musicians of Sojourn Community Church in Louisville, Kentucky. If you've been attending Roosevelt over the last few months, you have already been exposed to some of the songs from this CD during our Sunday morning worship. Like Roosevelt Community Church, Sojourn is a new church plant in an urban environment. It is a church that has thrived by reaching out to the unchurched and over-churched. By being in an urban center, they have developed a strong community of extremely talented artists. They describe their ministry as:

"There's nothing sacred about the arts. We've often said that if we were a community of carpenters and plumbers, we'd have a building and renovating ministry. But, as a community of creative people, we learn to worship and serve with the gifts God has given us. Though the arts are as fallen and sinful

as anything else man puts his hands on; they're also as capable of renewal

through the Gospel.

That is our hope; that the glory of Christ would be known in our community as we create together, observe together and

see His glory in our lives."



This insight into worship music is like a breath of fresh air. Too often we are plagued by Christian music that only seems to skim the surface of true worship. This is music by people who mean it. These aren't shallow songs of praise. These aren't generic love songs where it seems the writer simply replaced the word "baby" with "Jesus". These aren't clichéd pop tunes with predictable forms and sounds. And this isn't worship music that makes a futile effort to cop popular styles to sound "relevant".

What this is, is music performed by talented artists who have walked their own path, who have chosen the trappings of the world and have come close to death's door, only to realize God's awesome grace and realize how much they need Him. These are songs of sinners crying out to the true God for forgiveness.

There are healthy doses of acoustic instruments, sampled beats and haunting vocal harmonies. I'm personally partial to the great guitar solo on "We are Listening". All of these creative elements produce a CD that's sound reflects.

The sound and instrumentation of the album are truly unique. Not too many Christian CD's have a sound like *Before the Throne*. Despite contributions by several singers and songwriters, the CD has a uniformly haunting, ethereal quality. Many songs have a southern bluegrass, folksy sound, but one also hears tinges of Gospel, Jazz and Rock. The band experiments with unique

instrumentation, such as soprano saxophone on "I'm Coming Back", an upright bass solo on "There is a Peace" and plenty of pedal steel on "Before the Throne" and "Go in Peace". Throughout the record brokenness and true repentance, as well as relevance to an urban, southern environment that is just now waking up to the Good News.

A major theme in most of the songs is the idea of living life far apart from God, following a path that has led to brokenness and death, and now realizing that you need God and asking Him to come into your life. "I'm Coming Back" and "Lead Us Back" speak well to this theme.

Discovering the music on this CD helped me to realize that here is an obvious difference between *singing praise* to the Lord and *crying out* to the Lord. Most importantly, that they both have their merit in worship. However, during typical worship services, we seldom have the opportunity to "cry out". It seems that most worship music expects us to have a "happy fuzzy" feeling about Jesus. We are supposed to have perfect lives and now that we have Jesus everything is going to be great! But in reality, if we are truly wrestling with the Word, if we are truly repentant of our sins, if we have truly come to the realization of how much our sin has angered our Lord and that we are finding it exceedingly difficult to change our sinful ways for His sake, then we might not have such a "happy fuzzy" feeling. Sometimes we have to cry. Sometimes we have to get angry. Sometimes we have to struggle with the very difficult struggle of turning from our old ways to the righteous path of God. Very little 21st Century Christian music addresses this better than *Before the Throne*.

Overall, Sojourn's *Before the Throne* is a hauntingly beautiful collection of worshipful music for sinners, by sinners; that addresses our sinful nature, our desperate need for a savior and God's unending grace.

-Alden Powers



Neither Monday nor Tuesday

Oil on panel, 24x20, 2008

"An exploration into men's total inability to understand women."

-KJ Jaramillo