

RELIGION

New Life Community Choir Featuring Rev. John P. Kee

In this day and age, it is not unusual to find young adults topping the charts and gaining fame in the music industry. It is rare, however, to find those who opt to solely use their talents in the field of gospel music. New Life Community Choir is a group of individuals who fit the latter category. They are young people dedicated to making a positive impact on society through the anointed ministry of song.

Reverend John P. Kee, the choir's founder, believes that Show Up!, New Life's first Verity Records release will be a message of hope and encouragement to their listeners. "We want to touch the masses. We don't want people to just say 'You did a good project'. We want to touch people and make a difference in their lives."

According to Kee, the central message of Show Up! can be found in one of his favorite cuts, "I Surrender." "The emphasis is on surrendering totally. All we need to do is live and serve the Lord. This song is very personal to me, because I wrote it as a message to a loved one who loves my music, but remembers my past."

The past that Kee speaks of, is his former life as a cocaine dealer and addict. Many members of the choir share similar and equally powerful testimonies of deliverance. It is their liberation from what could be termed as "impossible" situations which causes them to minister with



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sincerity and conviction. "People appreciate realism" Kee says. "We don't try to impress people. We are free from other's opinions and that enable us to really minister. It's what makes New Life so special."

The choir, which consists of over 30 members, was formed in 1981. Their initial years were spent lending their vocal talents to projects for well-known gospel artists. In 1987, New Life recorded their first album,

entitled Yes Lord on Tyscot Records. While response to the album was favorable, nothing could have prepared them for the tremendous popularity of their 1989 release, Wait On Him. This album, propelled the choir into the forefront of the industry and attracted the type of following usually enjoyed by secular performers. Wash Me and We Walk By Faith, their following releases were received by critics and fans alike with an equal,

if not heightened sense of enthusiasm and excitement.

Despite their commercial success and widespread respect among industry peers, New Life's members still find their greatest satisfaction in watching the effect their lives, testimonies and music have on people across America. For many of these young people, the choir has been a family, encouraging them to pursue and realize their dreams. Individuals

who were once labeled as "products of their environment" are now hairdressers, songwriters, recording engineers and managers of businesses. Their vision is to help others break free from the chains of poverty, addiction and oppression which once enslaved them.

New Life and Kee's commitment to effecting change is not only seen in their music ministry. It is also evident in the businesses and social programs they have started in order to raise the standard of living of those in the Charlotte area and round the country. They are investing in others the same faith and support Kee invested in them. They believe it is not enough to say that Jesus Christ can change a life, Christians must also help to provide the avenues that will assist others in improving their lives.

Maintaining contact with their audience is very important to New Life. "You can't save them if you don't know them," Kee states. "You have to be in touch with society and know what's going on. We believe in becoming all things to win souls." Reverend Kee's 'By any means necessary approach' to evangelism, has been wholeheartedly adopted by the choir. Whether it be through street ministry, feeding the homeless, or challenging inner-city youths to a game of basketball, they are determined to find a door that will open the opportunity for them to introduce others to the God who changed their

lives. In fact, Kee consistently states that the choir's music which thrills audiences in both America and Europe is merely an "attention-getter" that enables them to go across the country spreading the good news of Jesus Christ.

The music certainly accomplishes its purpose and Show Up! is guaranteed to broaden their appeal. This recording has something for everyone. Selections such as "Show Up!" and "Made Up Mind" which have been exciting concert goers for the past six months, are sure to please the contemporary lover. While, foot-stomping cuts like "He'll Welcome Me" and "God Has Been So Good" are sure to take listeners back to the ole' days when the anointing fell so strong that it felt like the air conditioner blew hot air. Rounding it out are a few soulful ballads, which are guaranteed to inspire refreshing praises and worship.

This album is more than just catchy lyrics, accentuated by innovative music. It is more than a collection of songs which can be learned for choir rehearsal. It's an invitation to share the vision of over 30 young people who have made up their minds to proclaim to others the deliverance and joy they have found in Jesus Christ. Regardless of what the gospel listener is looking for, it is guaranteed to Show Up! on New Life's latest release.

On Marriage

BY L. RON HUBBARD

Communication is the root of marital success from which a strong union can grow, and non communication is the rock on which the ship will bash out her keel.

In the first place, men and women aren't too careful "on whom they up and marry". In the absence of any basic training about neurosis, psychosis, or how to judge a good cook or a good wage earner, that tricky, treacherous and not always easy-to-identify thing, called "love," is the sole guiding factor in the selection of mates. It is too much to expect of a society above the level of ants to be entirely practical about an institution as basically impractical as marriage. Thus, it is not amazing that the misselection of partners goes on with such abandon.

There are ways, however, not only to select a marriage partner, but also to guarantee the continuation of that marriage; and these ways are simple. They depend uniformly on communication.

There should be some parity of intellect and sanity between a husband and wife for them to have a successful marriage. In Western culture, it is expected that the women shall have some command of the humanities and sciences. It is easy to establish the educational background

of a potential marriage partner; it is not so easy to gauge their capability regarding sex, family or children, or their sanity.

In the past, efforts were made to establish sanity with inkblots, square blocks and tests with marbles to find out if anybody had lost any. The resulting figures had to be personally interpreted with a crystal ball and then reinterpreted for application.

In Scientology, there is a test for sanity and comparative sanity which is so simple that anyone can apply it. What is the "communication lag" of the individual? When asked a question, how long does it take him to answer? When a remark is addressed to him, how long does it take for him to register and return?

The fast answer tells of the fast mind and the sane mind, providing the answer is sequitur; the slow answer tells of downscale (into a state of decreased awareness; into the lower level emotions, such as apathy, anger, etc.) Marital partners who have the same communication lag get along; where one partner is fast and one is slow, the situation will become unbearable to the fast partner and miserable to the slow one.

...The subject of marriage could not be covered in many chapters, but here is given the basic clue to a successful marriage -- Communicate!

ALTERNATIVES

Spiritual Bankruptcy: What Heritage Have We When Our Children Go Astray?

BY M. ISAACS

Most people know there are several types of profanity and several methods of profanity of which we become occasionally aware during our daily activities, and it never fails to shock and distress us.

I found myself, after several years, riding a number 10 bus to North Portland. It was a trying and shameful experience, for I found myself bombarded with vile, profane language and observed coarse, loud, obnoxious behavior issuing from a group of teen age boys and girls. From the moment they boarded the bus at Lloyd Center and at 33rd near Broadway, peace and tranquility were destroyed. There was no consideration for the bus driver (who happened to be a woman) nor for other passengers on the bus. Teenage girls were calling each other "bitches"; boys were fondling themselves openly and making remarks about which "whore" they would "get it on with"

that night. The descriptive language used should not be included in adult vocabulary; and these were school children. What shocked me the most was, some adults sat and smiled at this behavior. It makes you wonder if these kids have any adults responsible for them; or if anyone love them at all, especially enough to teach them that this behavior is not acceptable anywhere.

Even if there is no religious upbringing in the home, some sort of guidance on behavioral traits should be evident by the time children reach their teens. Are these the soon to be adults who will be giving birth to children of their own, and what kind of human beings will they rear?

There are just no alternatives better to instill in children than those expounded in the Word of God, for rearing concerned, sober controlled human beings. "There is no wisdom nor understanding nor council against the Lord". (Prov. 21:30. Unless adults fortify their beliefs in God, they la-

bor in vain to rear their children or the children for whom they are responsible. All efforts to place foster children in homes are in vain if the adults in that home do not believe and teach godly ways.

The behavior seen on this bus cannot be purged without the teachings of Christ being instilled in the children. Without honor and respect a man is nothing but a fool laying open his folly. It is an unhealthy opinion that says these children should not be disciplined; an opinion that will lead these children to death or behind bars, in adulthood. The Bible says "spare the rod and lose the child".

God has said, "Honor thy Father and Mother that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee". (Exod. 20:12). "All the children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children." (Isa. 54:13).

Schools, Children's Agencies,

parents, foster parents and others have, it seems, tried every alternative in caring for children, except the instructions as laid down in the Bible. The incident mentioned is one among many, that makes it apparent that all such efforts have failed. We must stop rearing "fools" who despise instructions and bring shame on us and their parents. The love of God must be taught and reproof must be given, in order for any child to be "swift to hear", "slow to speak", and "slow to wrath". Children must be taught to be wise in deportment and conduct. "Better is a poor and wise child than an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished". (Eccles. 4:13). In Order For Children To Be Embraced In The Covenant Of Grace, They Must Be Brought To God. "For the promise (of grace) is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call". (Acts 2:39).

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 Evangelistic Service 7:00pm

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 And I Will Give You Rest. Take My Yoke Upon You
 And Learn Of Me." Matt. 11:28-29
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Ms Collins Recuperating

Ms Evelyn Collins founder of the Grace Collins Memorial Center and better known as Miss Collins is presently recuperating from a skin graft to her leg.

We would like to solicit your prayers for this long-time community activist.

All questions may be directed to 281-6930, ask for Irma or LaRan.

Fashion Statement
 By Elsie

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