

Are You in the Right Relationship with Your Creator?

Steps To Salvation

1. You Must Repent

You must repent of your sin and admit to God that you are a sinner. The Bible says: "... that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance." (Acts 26:20)

2. You Must Believe

You must believe with all your heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that He died on the cross to save you and was resurrected. "...While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

3. You Must Ask

You must pray and ask our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive your sins and save you from an eternity in hell. "...With the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (Romans 10:10)

4. You Must Receive

You must pray and tell the Lord that you wish to receive the wonderful gift of eternal life. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

5. Turn in faith to Jesus Christ

Turn in faith to Jesus Christ by praying a prayer like this:

"My Heavenly Father, I come to You admitting that I am a sinner. I ask your forgiveness. I believe that Your Son, Jesus died for my sins and was resurrected on the third day. I repent in my sins and give my life to Jesus. I receive Jesus as my Savior and ask you to give me eternal life. I am saved in Jesus' name. Amen."

"New Life for Girls" Takes The Stage At Impact Theatre

By Deb Dominguez

Frank Irace, founder of Impact Theatre, saw the girls from Dover, Pennsylvania last year at church and knew then he had to book them; there was not a dry eye in the house. Frank books a year in advance for Impact. He has his own troupe and mostly his own writers and actors. He considers it a ministry outreach by presenting the Gospel through drama and song. Frank sits on the stage and answers questions as staff members file into the Palmyra Town Hall. He says, "Today some Christian venues are entertaining people and people walk out entertained, but not with the Gospel." Frank offers repentance at the end of each show; grace balanced with truth.

He was born and raised in New York City. His friend's father painted for the theaters and he used to give Frank and his friends tickets. He recalls showing up among the gown and tux crowd, clad in his jeans and t-shirt. He saw *Grease*, *A Chorus Line*, *Cats*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*, and *The Little Shop of Horrors*. His favorite shows were *Gays and Dolls* and *West Side Story*; both gang-related. Frank stated that he grew up in Harlem and gangs were big there. Frank's first job offer was from the local mob family; to run numbers. They told him, "Frank, don't worry, you'll get busted every week but we get you out." Frank said he liked the offer of \$250 a week, good money for a 14-year-old, but declined because he didn't want a rap sheet the length of Manhattan.

Frank says his vision is to raise the bar for Christians. He believes there is a lot of error out there today. His first sketch depicted errors in Christian books that claim to speak for The Holy Scriptures, such as *The Message Bible*. He mentions Rick Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life*, which he says makes Jesus sound



Frank Irace



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co-dependent. He cites the novel *The Shack*, which on page 110 says, "I am the best way to the Father." He clarifies, "Jesus doesn't give us options to mess with his Gospel and interpret it as we please." His last example is the seeker-friendly movement, which only presents the pabulum of the Gospel. He knows of one men's cell group whose idea of fellowship was to get together, watch "Survivor", and then close in prayer; no accountability.

Carmelina Phipps said she drove from Rochester for the show. "It makes you think, it leaves you with food for thought." The skit begins with the husband tinkering with a robot. He is telling his exasperated wife "I know I can make it work, it used to entertain the children's Sunday school class." He sticks the Bible on CD in it and they get Bible verses mixed with nursery rhymes. However the robot saves itself from the recycle box. He tells the wife, "I like your hair-do," and asks, "Can I help with the dishes?"

Dover House in Dover, Pennsylvania is one of the female Teen Challenge sites. The women usually stay 12-18 months. First they go into one of the introduction centers and many graduate and stay as staff. Iris, a pretty Hispanic girl, said she came in at the Fresno, California center. She said, "It changed the way I look at life." The Dean of Women, a professional-looking middle-aged black woman, got up to introduce the Dover House girls. She let the audience know, "God is the same yesterday as today." If you knew where I came from, you'd know God is alive."

Jesus, seeking to reprove the Pharisees for their religious pride, lets them know who will enter the Kingdom first. A woman named Mary told the story of growing up in a religious household with a verbally abusive father who was her pastor. She didn't know how God could allow the pain. She didn't know he was using it. Iris told how her husband sold drugs and while he was at work, she began her addiction. A woman in her fifties, who was now on staff, told how she lived the motorcycle club life.

Marquetta, a graduate of New Life for Girls, gave her testimony. She grew up in Baltimore, Maryland in a dysfunctional home with crack addiction, prostitution, and a mom who was HIV-positive. She knew her way of life was different but she followed suit. The Lord ministered to her while she was at Dover and told her, "This is not who you are or are going to be." She realized that her plans will never work and that God has so much more for her to do. The song "Yes" began to play in the background. She spoke over the music, "Worship is extreme obedience, an God still wants a yes." She began her dance with arms moving in a way that a Joffrey ballet scout might have admired. Her feet were bare, her arms open, as the song lyrics asked, "If I told you what I really need, would you still say yes?" Marquetta's long black skirt swayed as she stepped forward, in a yes.

Impact Theater is located at 1180 Canandaigua Road in Palmyra at the Town Hall. It is free but donations are accepted.

For information visit www.impactdrama.com or call 315-597-3553.

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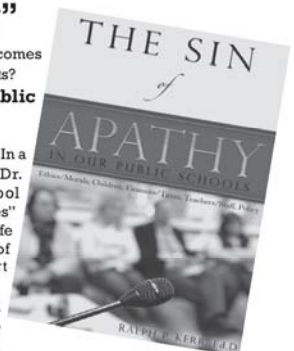
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