

Melva's Corner

POP CULTURE INDEED!

January 29, 2007

(Ephesians 4:1)

Central Truth: It's time to get our church-going backsides off the pews and get our hands dirty doing the work of grace.

We have become a celebrity-obsessed culture. Character, virtue, and value have completely given way to glamour, to image, to street cred, and to personality cultism. Maybe our fascination with the glitzy and the glamorous has always been an obsession. Yet somehow, as we tend to creep toward lives of hyper-reality** rather than authenticity, we seem consumed with a covetous voyeurism toward the rich, the beautiful, the famous, the movie star chic, and the athletic. Life is not even lived on the fringes; it is now lived on the rumor, the potential publicity, and the glitz of the pseudo-world of stardom.

So what do we do? What can we do? Or should we even care?

We must care! When an athlete's overdose gains more attention and focus than the murder of a sixteen year old student gunned down by her fellow classmate or principal's murder by a student, something deep within us has seriously broken.

We must awaken and realize that the show on Sunday isn't God's goal for us. Instead, it must be the motivation for us to be the people of God who daily live redemptive lives in our communities as the recognizable aroma of Jesus. (I'm not bashing relevant and cutting communication and worship, but if we continue the long-time Western trend of going to church as our Christian focus, our impact on our world will continue to be insensitive political rhetoric and not Jesus' work of human redemption.) **To put it in plain English, it's time to get our church-going backsides off the pews and get our hands dirty doing the work of grace.**

We can care! As Jesus seekers, everyday folks committed to carry on the life of Jesus in the world, we can and must serve our

communities. There are a jillion ways from volunteering as foster parents, being a Big Brother or Big Sister, working with Meals on Wheels, volunteering as a school tutor, visiting people in the hospital, finding needy people and anonymously supplying them with groceries in times other than Christmas or Thanksgiving and on and on we can go.

So . . . let's quit whining about our culture "going to hell in a hand basket" and get busy lending our warped world a hand that helps and doesn't hurt! Anything less is simply not worth our time or worthy of our calling.

So here's the deal. I'm interested in what you think about this.

Do you believe we've lost our way in this cult of the personality obsession?

What's something you can do to help bless your community and begin to make a difference?

McClain Ministries is committed to the journey.

Scriptural References:

**"Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God."
(Ephesians 4:1 NLT Ed. 1)**