

Christian Living Today - with Luke Warm.

Stage: 2 'directors' chairs with a coffee table in front. Two coffee cups (which both characters sip during the interview) are on the table with a small floral arrangement or plant. A 'splash screen' of "Christian Living Today" could be shown with video projection.

Setting: A typical talk show setting - slightly 'cheesy' in appearance.

Characters: A typical, smiling, agreeable talk show host 'Richard Smithson', and a slightly indifferent interviewee 'Luke Warm' who gives the slight impression that he's not too interested in being there!

(short instrumental introduction, typical of talk shows.)

Smithson: Good morning and welcome to Christian Living Today - I'm Richard Smithson. With me in the studio is our special guest and author - Luke Warm (audience may clap - Luke gives a half-appreciative nod). Luke, first of all, congratulations on the new book....(hold up book) "Apathy and indifference in the church - It doesn't really bother me that much". Luke is this your first attempt at writing a doctrinal handbook.

Luke: Actually ah... no, ah... Richard my first attempt was titled "The un-finished work of the Church"

Smithson: Oh.... I haven't read that one...

Luke: No,... that's because I never actually.... finished it..... but... ahhh..... it.... started really well.

Smithson: I see, ... well getting back to your new... and finishedbook (looks at title again) - uh... do you mind if I just refer to it as "Apathy and indifference"?...

Luke: (shrugs) Yeah, sure, whatever.

Smithson: Ok,well in chapter 2 of "Apathy and indifference" you talk about introducing the church to a new and less convicting style of Hymns - what do you mean by that.

Luke: well,.. Richard..... look I'm all for retaining the melody and style of the old hymn writers, I just feel that we need to alter some of the lyrics to better reflect the ideals and lifestyle of the 21st Century Church.

Smithson: Could you give us some examples.

Luke: Sure... Uh... I make a few suggestions on page 27 (turns to a page in the book and reads) The idea is that we simply change some hymns **slightly** - such as : Oh, How I **Like** Jesus, He's **Quite a Bit** to Me, I Love to **Talk About** Telling the Story, **I'm Fairly Certain that** My Redeemer Lives,....Sweet **Five Minutes** of Prayer,and ... I Surrender **Some**.

Smithson: I see.... Well what about **prayer** ? - I noticed that you've devoted a **number** of chapters in your book to the topic of prayer.

Luke: Yes, that's right Richard. I'm a firm believer that you can't learn enough about prayer. I've been able to study prayer in-depth myself, and ah.... well,in chapter five (opens book again) I've listed a number of things which I believe every Christian should be doing in relation to prayer. For example: **Seminars** on how to pray, **Bible studies** on prayer, Watching a good **Video series** on prayer, **Sermons**.... and I'm talking five, six, seven part sermons on prayer, ... and what about **singing songs** about prayer?..... I don't think that we could ever do enough of these things.

Smithson: Right...(pauses to think) ... what about.... **actually... praying?**

Luke: Well.... if you think that you're going to have enough time to do that AS WELL as all those other things, then you go right ahead! I find that I usually run short of time for that myself!

Smithson: OK.... well,..... um... you mentioned **Bible study** earlier, Do you think it's important for Christians to read the Bible regularly these days?

Luke: Oh absolutely - I have no problem with that.... I do, however, believe that **BALANCE** is important. Christians need to read other books... as well as the Bible. If I can read one of my quotes from page 87... (turns in book again).... *"I have always strongly believed, and would go so far as to say, that it is sometimes **better**, and usually easier, for Christians to read what **someone else** thinks that the Bible says, **rather than reading it for yourself**. That way instead of having to develop **your own** convictions, you can borrow, and share about **someone else's** convictions!"* (stops and thinks for a few seconds).... actually..... that **WAS someone else's** conviction!

Smithson: Luke,.... one last questions before we go.... - The Great Commission, **reaching the lost**. Surely you agree that this is **the** most important things for Christians to be doing today?

Luke: Well, Richard... I'd argue the point,... I'd argue the point,.... that is, if I had the inclination to, I'd argue the point.

Smithson: So.... you **don't believe** that reaching the lost is important today?

Luke: Look, I've got nothing **against** witnessing, Heaven knows I've **tried** it,... - back in '87 - ... but Richard, ... It's just not me - I'm not cut out for it , and I would suggest that a many other Christians today feel exactly the same way..... Leave witnessing to the **paid professionals**.... the Missionaries, the Pastors - that's what I always say,... the average Christian is just too busy for witnessing these days.

Smithson: Well..... ah..... that's all...we have time for today, (to audience) could you please thank author of (holds up book) "Apathy and indifference in the church - It doesn't really bother me that much" - Mr Luke warm, for being our special guest in the studio today.

(applause as Smithson get up from their chairs and shake hands)

Luke: (as applause dies down, takes a sip of coffee and screws up face) - You know Richard, you should really do something about the coffee you serve here,.... it's not **hot**, but it's not **cold**.... it's....it's... just **awful!**