

A cartoon illustration of a man with dark hair, wearing a blue patterned sweater over a white collared shirt. He has a worried expression, with his hands clasped near his chin. The background behind him is a solid blue.

**IT'S NOT
YOUR
FAULT**

J.T.C.

His name was Bobbie Barns. It's a simple suicide case, Inspector.



It **appears** so, but first I want to interview all the kids living here.

Ralph, I understand you slept in the same room with Bobbie. Do you know why he took his own life?



This little guy is terrified... something's going on here.

Inspector, that foster home, "Happy Halls," has an almost perfect record and it's rated tops in the state.



"Almost perfect?
What happened?"

Well, two years ago, another seven year old committed suicide there.

That's a red flag!

I'm ordering an autopsy as soon as possible.



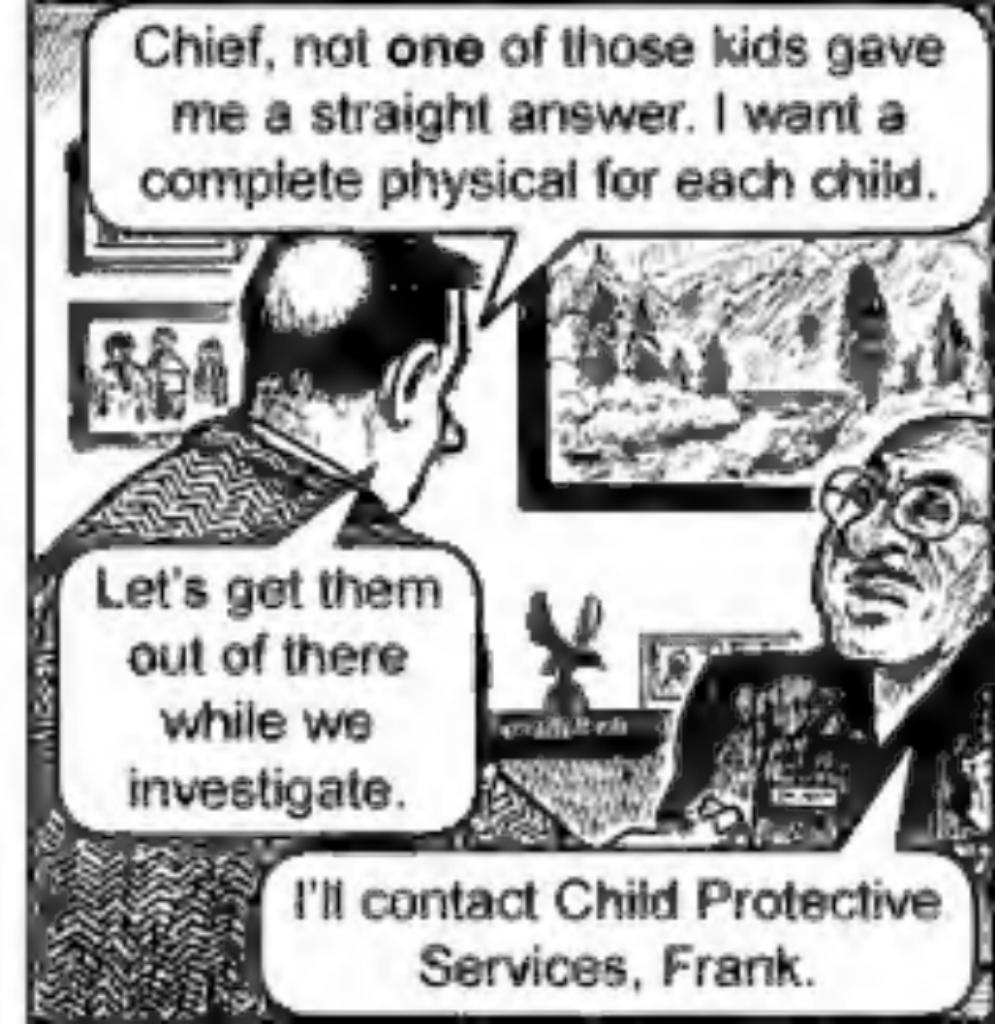
This kid had a tough life, Frank! He had a history of broken bones, fresh bruises and brutal sexual abuse.



What are you going to do, Inspector?

See the Chief!

Chief, not one of those kids gave me a straight answer. I want a complete physical for each child.



Close "Happy Halls"? **Impossible!**
Judge Stone won't allow it.



Think of the children!

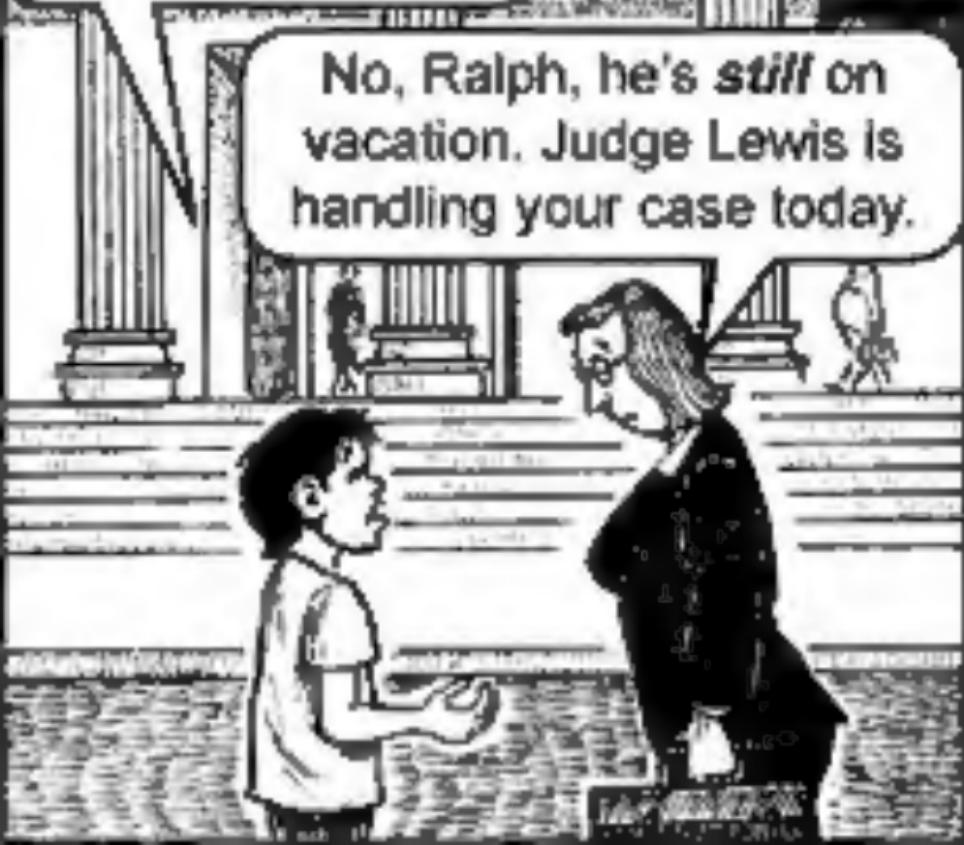
No way! I'm calling Judge Stone! He put them here. He'll put a stop to this outrage!



Stone is on vacation.
Call a lawyer instead! You're gonna *need* one, you creep!

Am I gonna see
Judge Stone again?

No, Ralph, he's *still* on
vacation. Judge Lewis is
handling your case today.



That evening

Mrs. Carpenter, this is Ralph, the
newest member of your family.



The Chief is steaming mad! He wants you in his office — *right now!*



The Mayor yelled at me for 15 minutes! Your suicide case is closed, Frank!



Why does that lady read us her Bible at dinner? Is she crazy?

No, she really loves God, and all of us, too.



So? That sicko, who crawled into my bed at night, used to say that!

3 months later

NOOO! Stop! Get away from me... help... YAAAAA!



Bring him into the kitchen, Ricky.

Ralph's having another nightmare, Mrs. Carpenter.



I keep seeing his face in my dreams. Bobbie recognized him two nights before he died.



I told Bobbie *not* to tell anyone. But he *did!* I know who he is, too, but I play dumb to stay alive.

Who *is* he, Ralph?

It's slimy old Judge Stone!

When I grow up,
I wanna kill him,
Kissler, and
his wife, 'cause
I hate their guts!

Of course. I understand!





I've been there
and thought that!

What? You
wanted to kill
someone, too?

Not just kill, Ralph, but
torture! I had **murder** in my
heart. All I could do was think
about them constantly.



What happened?

My husband and I
were missionaries in
Rwanda, Africa...

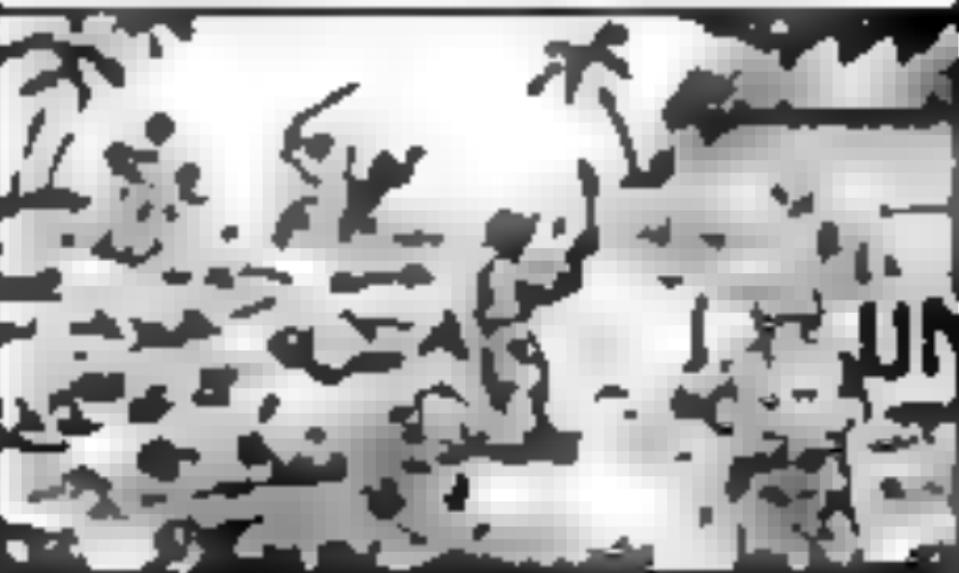
We had a small church and we loved
the people, and they loved us.

Tribal hatred kept building in Rwanda.
The powerful Hutu tribe secretly
armed themselves to destroy the
outnumbered Tutsi tribe.

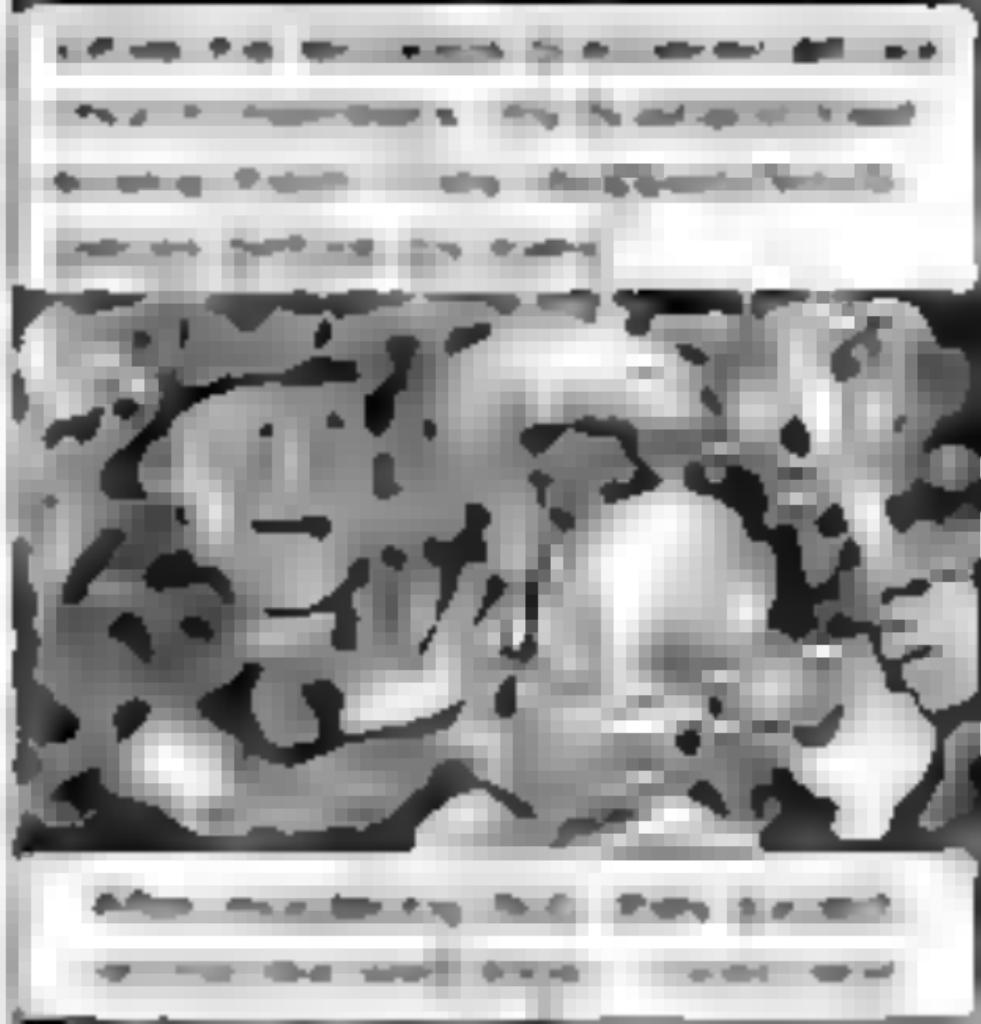


You exploded. The Hutus
attacked with machine guns, killing
every Tutsi they could find. But
we lived with the Tutsi people.

There were United Nations troops
standing by as the aging Hutus
slaughtered the terrified people.

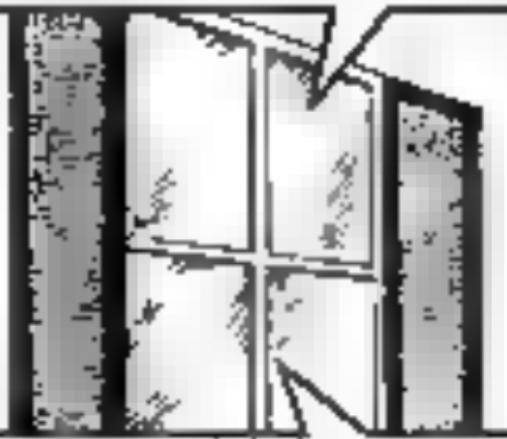


The U.N. troops didn't lift a
finger to stop the bloodbath.
Do you know why?





Uh huh. I keep seeing the Judge coming through the shadows to hurt me again



I's not your fault, Ralph! I prayed for my dreams to stop but they wouldn't.

Then I discovered the reason why!

I was supposed to ask God to bless those men who hurt me!

Instead I wanted them dead and thrown into hell.



I was sinning against God, because I wasn't praying for them.

The Lord tells us to pray for our enemies and bless them, and to forgive them *



When we hate and think evil about them all the time we become tied to them in our minds. They become part of us.

*Matt 5:44

And that # make you sick! Forgiveness breaks that powerful hold and we're set free from them



Oh yes! My nightmares stopped. Ralph

But, what about those guys who hurt us? Are they forgiven?

Not unless they repent. They'll die and stand naked and alone before God.

Each one will be terrified as God casts them into the lake of fire



No, Ralph that's called the Great White Throne Judgment.*

*Revelation 20:11-15

This is for the billions who refused God's forgiveness

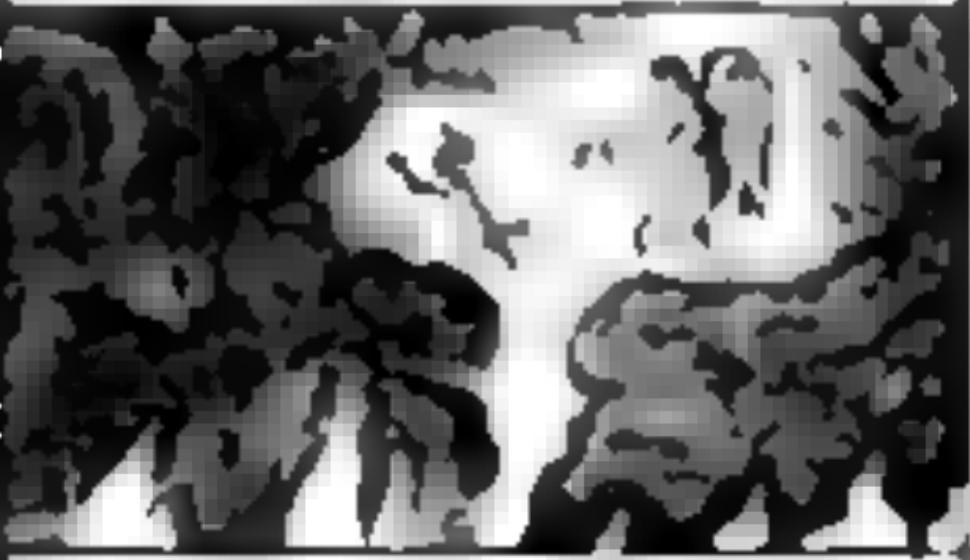
Depart from me
you are cursed *



*Matthew 25:41

They rejected the good news that Jesus died in their place. I hope you'll miss that judgment, Ralph.

"Wow! That really scares me.
Do those people just burn up?"



No! No! No! The little boy says. "It's not like
I'm a sinner! I'm not afraid of fire or smoke
any more!" Because they refused Jesus
24 of eternal life

Rev. 14:11

"Jesus has a gift for me? I don't get it."



Jesus: "It's just a good & orderly suggestion."
Sam: "Is there something you're worried
that we'll believe and that we'll think
He did something very special for you?"

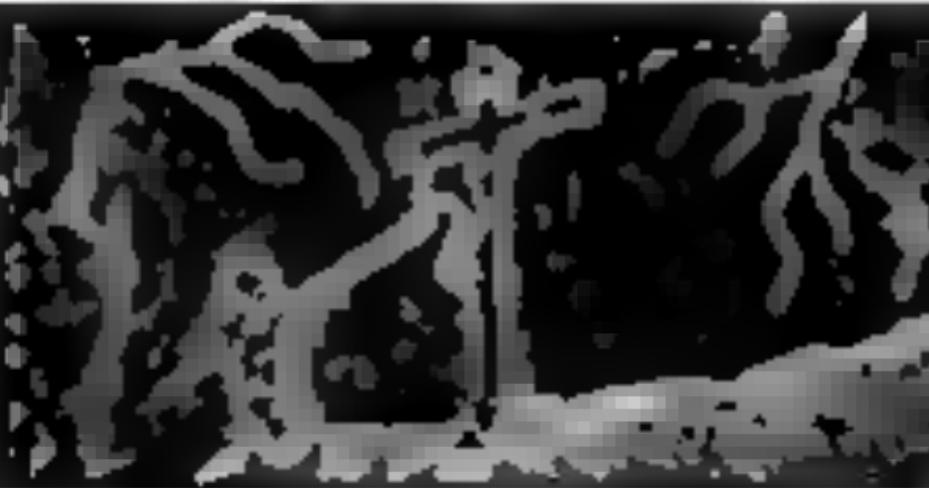
25 of eternal life

He came here from heaven to
save us from going to hell



This is heavy stuff. We all "have sinned" and deserve hell. But Jesus took our punishment on Himself.

The angels stood in shock watching
God's Son die for you. His precious
hand was shed to wash away your sins.



Do you care? You'd better!
At your death Jesus will either
be your Saviour or your enemy.
It's time to choose.

Today the entire world sees Jesus as a nut case. They still hate Him for saying



John 14:6

But Jesus is coming back soon

The world will be horrified when He destroys the world's armies at Armageddon and rules in Jerusalem as Israel's Messiah and King of kings



If you make Him your Saviour now
you'll reign with Him when He returns

Jesus said: "...he that believeth not
is condemned already..."

How about it, Ralph? Do you want
to get saved from going to hell?



Then let's pray.

Ask Jesus to come into your heart.

*John 3:18

I believe You, Jesus. Save me and
come into my heart. Forgive my sins,
and help me forgive Judge Stone.
I give him to You.



Ralph repented and his sins were
forgiven. He became a child of God.

Next morning

Last night, Ralph gave his heart to Jesus.



Hey, Ralph, there's a call for you.

I'm coming.
Who is it?

I don't know.



Ralph, did you hear the news?



Judge Stone dropped dead last night. He had a heart attack.

“...he that troubleth you shall bear his judgment...” Galatians 5:10

Jesus isn't playing games.
He gave His life for you...
then He rose from the dead.

Jesus said,
“He that is not with me
is against me...”

Matthew 12:30

“...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...”

Acts 16:31

THE BIBLE SAYS THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO HEAVEN!

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

NOBODY ELSE CAN SAVE YOU. TRUST JESUS TODAY!

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. 10:9

1. Admit you are a sinner. See Romans 3:10
2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent). See Acts 17:30
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried and rose from the dead. See Rom. 10:9-10
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your heart to become your personal Saviour. See Rom. 10:13

WHAT TO PRAY

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His precious blood and died for my sin. I am willing to turn from sin. I now invite Christ to come into my heart as my personal Saviour.

If you trusted Jesus as your Saviour, you have just begun a wonderful new life with Him. Now:

1. Read your Bible (KJV) every day to get to know Jesus Christ better.
2. Talk to God in prayer every day.
3. Be baptized, worship, fellowship, and serve with other Christians in a church where Christ is preached and the Bible is the final authority.
4. Tell others about Jesus Christ.

Here's help to grow as a new Christian! Read *The Next Step*, available at www.chick.com.

