

You Ask About Relationships

You Ask About Relationships by Tim Pauls
(Concordia Publishing House, 219 pp., \$9.99)

Reviewed by Alan Todd

This book is authored by Tim Pauls who also authored You Ask About Life reviewed in the March 2008 newsletter. In that previous review, I noted that Rev. Pauls is a conservative, confessional LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Boise, Idaho.

The book is written with teenagers in mind, but many of the sections are useful for any single young adult (Sex and Dating to mention just two of the eight sections that comprise this book). The style, like his previous book, is informal, conversational, and generously laced with humor. I also found this book (a Father's Day gift from daughter Cindy) interesting and informative - primarily as a way to compare how well it matched my experiences as a single, young adult. I certainly did not follow all of the biblically sound advice that Pastor Pauls provides in this book that covers Friends, Sex, Teammates, Parents, Siblings, Enemies and Con Artists, Dating, and Co-Workers. And I confess that I suffered most of the consequences outlined in the book when my actions were not in conformity with God's guidelines. So I can attest to the value of the insights that Pastor Pauls provides and hope that readers will take the advice to heart and avoid the same consequences.

That said, Pastor Pauls never fails to mention, not only in his opening section: "Service, Station, Sin, Solution", but in all subsequent sections as well: "...Sometimes relationships will have you feeling sky-high, and sometimes they'll leave you in the dirt. But, there is one relationship that's perfectly clear. You are one for whom Christ died on the cross; therefore, no matter what else is true, you can be certain God regards you as one redeemed, and uses all things for your good...."

Northwestern Publishing House offers this book for sale as well (catalog number: OL-124993)

#####