

Christian Observations

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The Legal Stuff

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FRAGMENT
PUBLISHING

Somewhere in South Central PA

Christians are square. This book is square. Tread carefully.

The church has been neutered and left with the same
lack of potency as social media.

Nº 1

Nº 2

To pontificate about the abhorrent behavior
of others is to join them at their own game.

Rhetoric is the hiding place for those
who are scared \$#!+less.

Nº 3

Nº 4

As a minister of the Kingdom of God...
who happens to fundraise...
I dip my hand into the offering plate
when they pass it to me.

The American Church is a hibernating bear
while the kingdom of darkness sings a lullaby
of self importance.

Nº 5

Nº 6

And Jesus said unto them, “go into all the World
Wide Web and network in the name of the followers,
the speaking engagements, and the holy royalties.
And lo, you can probably do all of it without Me.”

You've missed it entirely if you go
to the secret place to get oil for the public place.

Nº 7

Nº 8

Romanticizing the past is just as dangerous
as judging the present.

If the fruit of your six month adventure with God
is anger at his bride you sadly had an affair
with an experience.

Nº 9

Nº 10

Why take three years at a ministry school, paying thousands of dollars, when I can get you to hate the church for free with a few well-placed gossips?

Missions gets to see “that” world changed.
The Local Church gets to see “this” world changed.
Neither are perfect.

Nº 11

Nº 12

God loves well.

Love Him well.

Love others well... unless they offend you.

To claim you're not worthy of
love or attention or grace
is to be at odds with God.

Nº 13

Nº 14

“Everyone can be forgiven”

“But not me!”

“Definitely not them!”

Are you calling God a liar?

To actually find forgiveness, love and acceptance
from heaven you have to give up the belief systems
that contradict what Jesus says about you.

Nº 15

Nº 16

Either God loves me and I'm the one
who can't believe it...
or He's spilling the tea with satan
while they have a laugh.

When you have to share what you do
you're proving you don't know who you are.

Nº 17

Nº 18

Spiritual maturity is childlikeness.
Quick to love. Quick to forgive. Quick to connect.

The incessant babble of self promotion
is indeed a flaw of the flesh.

N° 19

Nº 20

Being busy is the most obvious
hiding place for the broken.

Activity is no substitute for identity.

Nº 21

Nº 22

American Christianity, boiled down, is this:
look at me while I look at someone else. We've
co-opted the scriptures, the secret place and the
Spirit for personal advancement... when we should
press deeper into relationship with God. Our desire
for spiritual fame has reduced us to prostitutes...
we're just selling our souls instead of our bodies.

Perhaps those addicted to substances are just pining
to be back suckling at their mother's breast... hoping
to gain some notion of nurturing from a bottle,
needle or pill in a time where peace can't be found.

Nº 23

Nº 24

Self absorbed Christians are on the rise. They think that my ministry is right and that yours is wrong.

Distraction is the plot of the enemy
to keep the Christian impotent.

Nº 25

Nº 26

Ministry was never meant to be a performance for
man... but a partnership with God to call sons and
daughters back home.

If my eyes check to see who's following me
in ministry I've taken my eyes off of the
One I supposedly love.

Nº 27

Nº 28

We don't have a worship problem in the church.
We don't have worship at all. What we have is a
man problem. Worship leaders don't show up
unless they're leading. Pastors don't care for
people unless it's from a stage. Elders don't tend
to hearts unless it's in a crowded room.

The only presence our ministers care about is their own. The presence of God, however, causes them to run for the hills. His presence offends theirs.

Nº 29

Nº 30

Churches are a lot like boys playing with blocks. Each boy takes what blocks he needs to build his own tower and then asks the other boys to “look at mine!” Having forgotten that what he built was actually raised by the same blocks they stole from their “friends”.

We've lost the art of lingering.

Nº 31

Nº 32

Judgement is a contradiction to the Gospel.

The Odyssey: the bride is asked to be
faithful while the husband is not.
Christianity: the Husband is faithful
even when the bride is not.

Nº 33

(Written before Christopher Nolan redid it.)

Nº 34

Being a visionary means seeing solutions before the problems are ever recognized. It's frustrating for those without eyes to see what's coming. It's even more frustrating for the "visionary" to be sidelined and forgotten... only to watch those same problems "mysteriously return" years later.

If your preparation for the stage is based off of
how you'll look on the playback...
you're not worshipping God...
you're worshipping yourself.

Nº 35

Nº 36

It's hysterical that those who live in stained glass
houses throw rocks from within the walls.

Typically the Christians who love straight talk and direct styles of communication resent you for giving them what they love.

Nº 37

Nº 38

We so quickly look for rules rather than the Ruler.
For precepts instead of His perceptions.
Quibbling over truth instead of sitting
at the feet of Truth Himself.

We've opted out of power and presence and traded
them in for control and self centered proclamation.

Nº 39

Nº 40

We stand at the buffet line of
His goodness and say “is this it?”

We say we're holy, yet we:

- Hit the snooze.
- Pray for 30 minutes instead of 31.
- Put pineapple on pizza.
- And ketchup on eggs.
- We're angry when the sermon is too long.
- We're upset the sermon was too short.
- The worship wasn't to my liking.
- I judge that the worship was great today.
- "Oh... you don't clean your car?"
- Complain about undercooked fish.
- Send back overcooked chicken.
- Pray and ask God "when's it my turn?"
- Get jealous when someone else is chosen.
- Confess for not reading enough scripture.
- Are mad someone took our seat at church.
- Wonder what the church is doing with our tithe.
- Make lists about how unholy we are.

Nº 42

Are we spiritually mature enough to let
someone walk through their own process
without any intrusion?

Everything we're supposed to be in Christ
is more about a posture than a position.

Nº 43

Nº 44

I sit alone by fires I've made for others.

Fire needs oxygen, material and connection.
Fellowship is no different, whether with God or man.

Nº 45

Nº 46

I don't talk to the devil so I won't speak for him.

I do, however, converse with the Almighty regularly.

“Oh, what's that Father? Ok, I'll tell them...”

We either do something for Jesus or from Jesus.

One is a burden.

The other is light.

Nº 47

Nº 48

When you're young the world seems
an awfully big place to get lost in.
When you're older you just seem lost.

The term spiritual father is offensive to the orphan...
however the orphan ends up making a better father
figure for they know what they missed out on and
haven't the time for entitlement.

Nº 49

N° 50

In terms of authentic moments...
inefficiency happens to be a gift.

If you take everything in this book seriously...
seriously, get some help.



FRAGMENT PUBLISHING

Truth told in broken lines

Somewhere in South Central PA

Fragment Publishing is a forming of broken pieces.

Bonded together through truth. Valued for our vulnerability. We forge stories through pain, knowing that even the breaks can make something beautiful. Our mission is to create literature that mends hearts, uplifts the soul and glorifies Love through the written word.

Fifty observations about Christians, Christianity, and the ridiculous ways we complicate following Jesus.

Some are theological. Some are sarcastic.
Some are uncomfortable. Some might tick you off.

The problem is figuring out which ones.



About the Author

C.J.Kuenzli is an author who's exploring the intersection of faith, art, and the analog world. He lives and works among people, ink, and the slow rhythm of the authentic. Life is messy. So is theology.



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