

found himself in confusion & darkness, having rejected the Word & the way of happiness, after having been so mightily used by the Lord to write such beautiful songs. LHH!

WE TRIED TO CONTACT STEVE WHEN WE WERE IN AUSTRALIA to try & reclaim him for the Lord as we fell in love with his songs, but we couldn't find him. A few weeks later we heard from our Family in Australia that he had gone to be with the Lord!—But had very sadly taken his own life in his car in his garage, leaving a despairing note saying that he believed in God but was so confused & didn't know how to serve Him & so couldn't go on anymore he was so miserable. Poor fellow! He must now see his mistake & be so thankful that we are using his songs! TTL!

"KID POWER"! One very important fact that I want to mention here is that not only has the Lord reclaimed all these for His full-time service, but also their children who are now our "Kid Power" & a very important part of our Ministry, not only locally but for our worldwide spreading of the Good News, as they often appear on MWM & are a Hit! GBT! They have opened many hearts to us & made our Ministry & living here possible, TTL! And also we are so thankful for our mothers, our "queens" who keep them going for Jesus!

MORE VISITORS FROM VERY FAR PLACES: ZACH LIGHTMAN flew in from Zambia just in time to help us film our "Jesus Is Born" video for the Family & friends worldwide. Before going to his home in Norway he spent 1 week with us & was an invaluable help as we learned so much about lighting & videography of our Shows from him.

HE IN TURN SAID IT RE-

MINDED HIM OF WHEN HE FIRST JOINED THE FAMILY in Norway & just walked out of his job as Norwegian TV's best lightman! He said he could feel the Lord calling him again!—This time to help our new Video & hopefully TV Ministry to really get started.

HE WAS GOING TO TRY & GET A LEAVE OF ABSENCE from his job, & last we heard he's miraculously gotten mobile & is coming with his family to MWM in February! What a blessing for us & them!

HO ALSO VISITED FROM HONG KONG for 1 month, living in a tent & learning many lessons which the Lord brought him to be with us at MWM to learn before going back to his important work of pioneering China!

HE GOT TO BE WITH US DURING THE RECORDING OF THE CHRISTMAS OLD FAVOURITES, & he saw how the Lord really broke us & got us all in the right Spirit & helped us to find the original inspiration of these beautifully powerful & full-of-the-Word Carols!

WE HAD ONLY ONE WEEK TO DO IT & GOT TO RUSHING instead of praying to try & finish in time. But it didn't work, so the Lord had to stop us via a message from Dad & Maria, to fast & pray for Sunday Fellowship & not work!

WE ALL LISTENED TO "MO'S MUSIC" TOGETHER, & it brought out so many things we needed to know about recording this type of songs.—& .1 also got us united in heart, mir-

& spirit to really get on the attack & make these Carols sound like we really mean them, loaded with love & spirit & the original inspiration!

WE FOUND WE JUST COULDN'T RECORD THEM THE WAY WE HAD ALWAYS HEARD THEM SUNG in church. We had to learn to sing them, really listening to the words & putting real meaning & heartfelt emotion, & even praise, into them as we recorded them! Also, if these Carols were going to be played by the Family possibly until Jesus comes, we needed to put the real "fighting" spirit into them to keep us in times of hardship & tribulation, as we felt these were the type of songs we'd sing then.

VICTORIOUS IN THE PAST VICTORIOUS YEAR OF MWM

we have recorded in our studios, both the old one & now the new one that our dear singing carpenter built—Tiras Seeds, Chris & John Cloud, whose wives Nadia & Danielle help in provisioning & secretarial work—a grand total of 256 songs!

AFTER HEARING THIS & BEING WONDERFULLY SURPRISED at the amount of work done in one year, Jeremy mentioned that it took them as long to do the last album he did for the system called "Flee", a total of only 12 songs! Wow! It's a musical explosion!

BESIDES THIS, 72 NEW SONGS WERE WRITTEN in this last year, 36 of them by our great & Godly composer Paul Michael! He said that in all his years in the Family (must be nearly 10!) that he had only written a sum total of 15 songs! But since he came to MWM 8 months ago the Lord has already given him more than a double portion with 36 new songs that are heard all over the world!—& are inspiring, & will continue to inspire, millions with the message,



Faithy & Ho in the studio working on the "Christmas Old Favourites"!

including our own precious Family & Friends! Half Such a miracle!

WE HAVE ALSO HAD A GRAND TOTAL OF 25 ARTISTS, including children, who have actually recorded in our MWM studios!—Besides many more who appear on the Show who have sent us good quality tapes which we were able to use! TTL! And we are hoping there will be many more in this new year who will come & record with us at MWM & share their gifts & talents with the whole world, thru' MWM—The Gospel for the World Hallelujah! Perhaps you'll be next! Please write us today!

RECENTLY DAD GOT A BEAUTIFUL LITTLE WORD FROM THE LORD about MWM: "Yes, but I have caused thy voice to echo around the world", while thinking how small we are compared to many multi-million dollar shows!—Also while listening to one of the latest MWM shows at Christmas

time when he was sick he said, "I was sick but you inspired my spirit & lifted my body with your music!" TYJ! "It's the magic that heals their souls & wounded spirits...!"

"MUSIC IS OUR MESSAGE! MUSIC IS OUR MINISTRY! It'll live in their hearts forever—by His Spirit!" Hallelujah! Will you help us? Is the Lord calling you today? Tomorrow may be too late! For "the harvest truly is plentiful but the labourers (Godly musicians, singers & songwriters & salesmen!) are few."

"THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST CALL! If you're not already on board, you'd better get on board! And please pray for us as we continue to pioneer MWM in Local Languages! This year THE WORLD! Hallelujah! And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world, & then shall the Son come! Mt. 24:14. Are you doing your part? Will you be glad or ashamed when you see Him? LHH! Love.—& pray.



MWM's ever growing KID POWER! Last count 20+ kids being mightily used by the Lord on the music & witnessing fronts! Photo by Tiras.



Our "bro!"—Zach Lightman during the filming of "Jesus Is Born"! Now on leave of absence from his job as Norwegian TV's top lightman to devote full-time to the pioneering of MWM's Video Ministry!

Notes To Dad From MWM Minstrels!

Another Prodigal Son Returns!

From Tiras Seeds: Dear Dad & Maria, EVERYONE HERE HAS RECEIVED ME WITH OPEN ARMS, & I feel absolutely no condemnation for being a "prodigal son", just a lot of love & concern for my happiness & welfare here. The sample of love & sharing here is one I never knew before, as we left for the States just after the RNR.

HERE AT THE MWM CAMP SHARING SEEMS TO BE THE OIL that keeps this lamp burning. It's wonderful to be a family, truly having all things common. My sample has been our dear Faithy & Juan, who have shown me the Love of God.

FAITHY & I HAD A REAL LIBERATION IN THE SPIRIT after so many years of being together. I was with her in Amsterdam, England & France. Yet I never had any idea of being so intimate with her. Well, our different nights we've spent together loving one another & sharing the kisses of David, we have truly been freed from the past.

HOW WONDERFUL FAITHY & JUAN HAVE BEEN TO little 'ol me, just as if I was in your home. TYJ! The first night Faithy was with me truly broke my bottle to receive such love so freely, & now after several other nights together, I am being freed to even minister to her also. God bless her, she is the love of God to me, & I am so thankful to know my shepherds in such a close way. I pray I can share just as freely with those around me & show the same love & concern.

THE TAPES YOU SENT, DAD, ARE SUCH AN INSPIRATION to me, & to everyone here,

we love them! I've listened to the first three with everyone here on fast day. I loved the part where you talked about the little people, the nobodies. It made me feel so special because I've always done the menial tasks behind the scenes, the ones that no one else seems to notice sometimes. But Dad, you made me feel like I was someone & needed too! Thank you for having such a big heart. I am home at last & I know I am one of your sons.

I'VE PLAYED SOME OF MY CHILDREN'S SONGS HERE, & the kids love 'em. We will shortly be making a tape for David to which the children here are going to help me with. My songs are simple, & the kids seem to learn them easily.

I SPEND A LOT OF TIME WITH THE CHILDREN, & I'm very impressed with Jeremy & Fiona's children. They are so inspiring & a good sample to the others. I'm teaching Dicon, the oldest boy, carpentry, & he's very interested in tools & wood-working. Little boys sure love to build things & fix & repair, so there's another area where I am being used. TYJ!

IT'S TRUE THAT "A MAN'S GIFT MAKETH ROOM FOR HIM", & I'm so very thankful for the privilege of being a part of the MWM team here, & I pray I can be a blessing wherever & however the Lord chooses to use me.

THANK YOU, DAD & MARIA, for your love & open arms in receiving me back into your house. I know you're here with us in spirit. Hosea has been here a week or so. He's got umph, GBH! I learn a lot from him, he's got a real gift in the practical. I wanted you to know I'm happy now. I'm fight-

ing for the Lord now, & it's great Love & prayers, Tiras Seeds.

Responses to Dad's Tapes

From Topaz, "MWM Ministral": Dearest Dad & Maria, GBYI I LOVE LOVE LOVE YOU SO SO MUCH! Oh my, I just don't even know how to express in words how happy & excited I am to be part of this ministry! It's such an honor, privilege & a great responsibility. Lord help us all. I am absolutely amazed that "He could use a one like I!". But then the verse comes to me how "God hath chosen the foolish things that no flesh should glory in it", TYJ!

TO HEAR YOUR VOICES ON THE TAPES TO US is one of the most wonderful things I've ever experienced.—I think second to my Salvation! I can't even take the credit to say it's "a dream come true", 'cause I never dreamed it or imagined even that I would ever hear your voice say, "Topaz, I love you!"

I JUST "CAME" RIGHT THEN & THERE in the Spirit & in the flesh I felt a warmth go all over me. Oh Dad, I love you too & Maria too. Thank you for your love & mercy & faith. Without you I know I would have been dead long ago.

YOUR LETTERS TAUGHT ME that Jesus is not dead. You taught me how to live & how to love. And like that beautiful song, "You are my life" says, "And if today I am not the same it's all because of you". If I dance or sing or shine or anything, it's all because of you!

WE MOVED INTO THE MWM CAMP almost one week ago. And every day is just beautiful, "Days of Heaven". We feel what it must be like to be in your home as we see Faithy & Juan's love & concern every day for all of us. And Grant & Sue & Nathan & Leah & everyone cheerfully

doing their best to make it all work.

WE JUST HOPE & PRAY EACH DAY THAT WE WILL NOT FAIL the Lord or you or all the precious lost waiting to be found & wooed by the music of the harp of David. I love you both. Maria, your voice is so sexy, smooth & beautiful. God bless you! We're praying for you! Love forever, Topaz.

From Peter: (Topaz' mate) Dearest Dad & Maria,

GBYI I LOVE YOU SO VERY MUCH I won't even try to say how much. I'm thanking the Lord for His & your mercy on all of us prodigal sons. That Scripture is truly fulfilled by you that, "We loved him because he first loved us". And I pray the Scripture is fulfilled in us: "Him that is forgiven much, loveth much". God bless you, Dad.

THIS, OUR FIRST FIVE DAYS IN MWM CAMPING, has been the most beautiful week in our lives in a long long time. Thru' Faith & Juan's influence we can really feel your spirit here & how it must be in your home. There's really nowhere else I'd rather be than here being a small helping hand to this great ministry.

I'M REALLY HAPPY & THANKFUL TO THE LORD THAT TOPAZ CAN BE SUCH A BLESSING & be used so much with MWM. I share your feeling that she really has "it" & she should share it with the world via MWM! Your comments really encouraged her & us so much, & she wants to be used to the full.

BEING ABLE TO LISTEN TO YOU on these tapes is really like sitting at your feet & getting your message for today. What an honor! On tape 5 you mention me a couple of times, about helping out around the camp & about my former selling of rocks. Your comment on the tape about "giving part of my

talents to the Devil" is so true.

LORD FORGIVE ME FOR TIME WASTED! Altho' I wasn't into it for the sake of business (like some others) but rather to help my little family thru' a hard time, it was a lack of faith, I feel, in not trusting the Lord & I was cheating God & souls of my time. It's so inspiring to know that my whole "being" is geared for this important work, even if one of the smaller members, TTL! I love you both a lot. I'm not one for many words, but the feeling is there. Love, Peter.

From Jeremy Spencer: Dear Dad & Maria,

GBAKYBI I'M WRITING THIS NOTE IN RESPONSE to your inspiring comments on the MWM videos. The points that the Lord brought out I think would make an excellent Letter. I especially saw the point about zeroing in on someone whilst singing or giving an interview or covering the show, it makes such a difference & really makes the song or whatever it is come across, alive & personal.

ANOTHER THING THAT WAS A BIT OF A SHOCKER was the suggestion to try recording the music & vocals all at the same time. So I thought about it, prayed about it, slept on it (or should I say stayed awake on it!) & after Faithy discussed it with us the following day, we tried it.

THE RESULTS HAD A CERTAIN "RAW" QUALITY that was quite good. It's going to take some practise as it's definitely not what we're used to! (Altho' I remember that during my first days of recording with Fleetwood Mac, I never considered recording any other way but music & vocals all at the same time.)

I SUPPOSE THAT SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF "MULTI-CHANNEL" RECORD-

ING, artists & performers have become too technical & exacting in their music. And come to think of it, I think some of my most inspired singing has been whilst doing it "live" with the music, such as the little tape I did for my children. Tho' it's usually necessary to go back & add small embellishments musically to sort of "spice" it for listening interest so to speak. I hope that's ok, but anyhow—

OUR FIRST TWO TRIES AT DOING IT THIS WAY SEEMED TO BE QUITE INSPIRED. We did, however, add a chorus on "Ballad of Aquarius" as due to the limitations of our equipment it would have been rather difficult to do it all at the same time, because of limited space, microphone channels on the mixer etc.

I REALLY FEEL, THO', THAT THIS METHOD WILL REVOLUTIONIZE OUR MUSIC, because if a song does not come across "live", I suppose it's not really going to come across with all the technical "patching up"! It's interesting to note that of the top three current listeners' favourites, two of them were recorded in this fashion! So that goes to show that the Lord is not limited by many or by few! (AMEN! GBYI!—Dad)

I'D BETTER CLOSE NOW AS I NEED TO GET BACK TO CAMP. (I'm writing this during my "get out" time.) Thank you again for taking your time to give us all this wise counsel. But of course it just shows how important it is to the Lord right now. We really need your guidance & to follow it. Faithy got the verse, "The king's business requireth haste" (1 Sam. 21:8). so pray that we will do our best to put all your suggestions into effect. "Believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper" (2 Chr. 20:20) is the verse I got on this. Love & prayers in Jesus' Name. Jeremy

From Angelo & Sarah: Dearest Dad & Maria, I TRIED MANY TIMES IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO WRITE TO YOU, but every time I never sent it because when I reread it, it sounded so sad, because it spoke of my trials & errors. Everytime, I got "Let's Talk About Jesus".

LAST FEB. IN A CRITICAL MOMENT IN OUR LIFE OF FAITH, while praying I had a vision of you, that then I could not explain but now I understand more. I was on foot in the dark & saw the headlights of a train coming toward me.

IT STOPPED RIGHT BESIDE ME, & in the only lit compartment, right in front of me, there was someone with their back to me, dressed in regal robes, who seemd to be a woman. After a moment the train left, going up a mountain to a castle, leaving me alone, & as I stood there I felt myself sinking into the ground.

STILL PRAYING, I STARTED TO TELL THE VISION to my wife Sarah, & it started again but this time when the train stopped, the person whom I had thought to be a woman had turned toward me, & it was you, Dad, with royal robes, & you were crying.

I HESITATED A MOMENT & THEN JUMPED ON THE TRAIN. I entered your compartment & you embraced me & I melted in tears & felt my heart breaking for the greatest feeling of love I had ever had in my life! Then the train departed again, but this time I was on board.

THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED IN OUR LIVES—we came back to your loving embrace. Now I can write to you about the wonderful victories here & not all the past crises. Anyhow, you can probably imagine without my innumrating it all.

AFTER A MONTH TRIP OF 3,000 KM. across half of Europe, avoiding Italy where some enemies are looking for me, we arrived in Athens. At first we didn't understand what an explosion was happening here & passed thru several trials to teach us to see more in the Spirit what was happening & to show us how much the Enemy fought our coming & then fought again to try to get us to leave. But thanks to the Lord & the prayers of all the Family here & you, here we are still! TTI!

WE APPRECIATED YOUR TAPES SO MUCH! Not only did they arrive right at the moment when we most needed them, but they also helped us to appreciate in the Spirit the anointings of all the people around us, so we could begin to see our Family around us as prophets of God & not just the old familiar faces.

RECENTLY WE BEGAN TO RECORD OUR SONGS in the MWM studio & have done 13 already. After several years of working in system studios I was happily surprised by the differences that I immediately saw here. Even tho' the equipment may not be as complicated & fancy as in a commercial studio, the result is far superior, thanks to the Spirit & your counsel.

WE REALLY APPRECIATED JEREMY'S WORK. I think I can understand what it means for a musician to renounce shows & even time for writing his own songs to produce others' songs. He works so long & hard with such an anointing that you feel really relaxed, & every problem becomes so easy to resolve. GBH & all the other musicians who are so faithful in their counsel & search for the right & simplest solution!

AT FIRST WHEN WE THOUGHT OF COMING TO MWM, we thought it would simply mean coming to work & play

with other musicians, many whom we already knew. But now that we're here, we see that it's a serious job for the Lord, a worldwide vision for winning souls, & everyone here really forsakes all daily.

LIVING TOGETHER & SHARING EVERYTHING here is really like the Letter "Heavenly Homes"! It really works because of the love & sacrifice of many "little people" who "make it easy to be good". Faithy & Juan are the kindest, most patient & loving parents we have ever known! GBT!

WE WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU ABOUT A PRECIOUS GIFT THE LORD GAVE US. Just after we finished the last note of "L'Ave Maria" for the Christmas tape, Sarah had the first contractions & after 10 hours our little girl was born. A beautiful little child, Mariangela. (I've already written a song for her.) PTL! (We'd love to hear it!-D.)

THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF THINGS WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE with you but don't want to take up your time with a long letter, but we love you very very much & will never forget your loving embrace in the vision! Love, Angelo & Sarah, 2 of your grateful "prodigal sons".

P.S. LINA THE PALESTINIAN GIRL went home to her parents, as unknown to us she had not told them the truth as to her whereabouts & had lied to several people to hide her activities. Her mother came to forcibly take her home. We are praying for her that she will eventually come back to the Lord's work.

(Reply from Dad: PTL! GBY! So glad U've found your work for Him!—glad I got U on that train! Like the ol' Gospel song about the Gospel Train: "Git on board, Li'l Chitun, there's room for plenty a more!" —Welcome Aboard!—Love, Dad.)

Latest From MWM!

Responses to Dad's Latest Love & Counsel!

From Paul & Marianne—at MWM: Dear Dad, Maria & Peter.

HOW CAN WE THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR YOUR WONDERFUL LOVE & faithful shepherding? After several days of storm & even snow, the heaviest Greece has known for years, the wind stopped the day after we called you for prayer. In the evening the sky even cleared up & we went to town to pick up the 4-hour tapes by a road which the day before was blocked with huge puddles of water!

THE LORD IS SO FAITHFUL! The Enemy must have known what those tapes would mean to all of us & to the work here, so he really tried to discourage us, but once again he just can't win! TYJ, & thank you for your prayers—& most of all for all those beautiful words of love & guidance which you took time to record & pass on to us.

YOUR LOVE, DAD, COMES OUT SO CLEAR. We could feel your kisses & hugs & the warmth of your presence. It made us cry & laugh & wish it never stopped—so much concern & wisdom such sweetness & strength!

WE LISTENED TO 3 OF THE TAPES ON THE WAY HOME (Juan & us). In fact we drove really slowly & just flipped out! After the storm & battle it was just like a warm shower from above. It felt like we could have drunk & drunk & drunk of those words of love from our loving father, & never had enough! Dad, Dad, how can we tell you how much we need & love & appreciate you!—And how we need your guidance, counsel & wisdom!xxx

WE LISTENED TO THE 4TH TAPE with your beautiful Christmas message, on Saturday. First Juan & Jeremy listened to



Paul & Marianne, faithful servants & messengers of the King!

it on their way to town, & even Jeremy, who does not shed tears easily, started to cry. It sure made us all feel like undeserving



Mmmm! Look at that huge birthday cake for Mimi! (But it barely makes it for her!)—A Look at all those Scriptures—in front! Patrick, son of Michael & Stefania, Tinas, Sarah, little Emmanuel of Angelo & Sarah, & Maria of Jeremy & Fiona. See who works in the MWM Ministry. © Janet Photography

are so appreciative when you say a few words in their language. And everyone is very much looking forward to your coming here to practise your Greek a little, ha!

WE PARTICULARLY ATE UP EVERY WORD YOU HAD ABOUT VIDEOS & GOING TV & those little tips you passed on. We had to laugh as you even noticed how the mike was not plugged in while Faithy was talking, altho' she held it in her hand! We really hope & pray that we will be able to produce better & better shows, & we really hunger for any suggestions & tips.

WE ALSO LAUGHED AT YOUR COMMENT ON JEREMIAH! We believe it can really change his life to hear it (he has not heard it himself) & guide his singing. You even mention his refusal to leave the club, & it sounds just like the way he came here. GB him, he has been really trying to carry his own weight, going singing to the club every night so he can support his whole family being here.

THE COMMENT ON ANGELO & SARAH WAS JUST BEAUTIFUL, & so true! Even tho' we cannot understand the words, his songs have something really moving, a real spirit. No need to say how they were both so touched by what you got for them, & Angelo was weeping listening to the tapes.

AFTER NEARLY NOT MAKING IT, THEY HELD ON TO THEIR CROWN, & they are both so changed & being a real blessing all around. Angelo has quite a lot of talents, not only as a songwriter & singer, but he does beautiful photographs, has a very artistic eye & a good sense for the video. PTL! What the Lord said about them certainly was touching & such an encouragement.

YOUR LITTLE TALK ON "ALL ABOARD" really spoke

to everyone here, this being like the Lord's last call to get on the train. In a way it was what Jeremiah said he felt. He said that he just knew that his only chance was to come here, he just had to come no matter what. It was really a moving talk. Altho' it was funny & we all had a good laugh, it was a good reminder for all here to hang on to their crown & not miss it as it is coming down, like poor Chronicles. AND HOW TOUCHING & ENCOURAGING YOUR CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO MWM & the Family! What a super boost to know that you are with all here & that you are back into music, your first ministry for the Lord.

EVERYONE GREETED YOU BACK AS THEIR PERSONAL DIRECTOR & producer, inspirator & lead singer! TYJ! What greater blessing & privilege can we expect but your personal oversight & encouragement & appreciation.

WHAT A SIGHT TO SEE EVERYONE HANG ON TO YOUR LIPS to hear what you have to say about them & their work! You should see Fiona blushing when you tell her she is pretty, & Heidi all turned on what you tell her that you would be in love with her if you were her age; Paul Michael modestly looking down but tickled pink when you say you like his songs! They are indeed looking up to every word from their father!

AND HOW EXCITING & CHALLENGING THE IDEA OF GETTING INTO THOSE NEW PROJECTS! Wow! Simon nearly fell out of his chair—He had his "radio routine" so well down! But he got all excited at the idea of doing some of those skits you mentioned. He said that he had once placed a Want Ad asking for scripts & he received about 20 excellent ones which he held on

to for such a day as now, & he is super-inspired by the project HE HAS JUST FINISHED THE "LOVE TAPE", & it's just gorgeous! He is certainly a talented person, & the Lord is really blessing & anointing him for his obedience, PTL! He also has some great ideas for video skits, so there's fun ahead!

WELL, YOUR TAPES HAVE FILLED OUR DAYS & carried us all on a wind of inspiration. On Monday Jeremy, Michael & Joan recorded a beautiful half-instrumental, half-vocal called "God's Only Law Is Love". As they were playing it back they realised that there is one voice on the track that neither of them have sung! It is a high pitched voice harmonising with Joan.—Maybe one of those "Herald Angels" which came down to confirm & fulfill the song you got for MWM!?? The song came out just beautifully with Jeremy playing the Spanish guitar, just Heavenly, & will close the "Love Tape", giving the meaning of it all, "God's Only Law Is Love".

THE PAST 3 DAYS WE HAVE MAINLY BEEN CONCENTRATING ON FINISHING SHOW 18, which kept us busy at the studio most of the days, & we hope you'll like the outcome. We use our breakfasts to spend time with different people, like Jeremiah one morning, & we also got a chance to take Jeremy & Fiona out to the club one night for a change! Things have been going very well, everyone is really inspired, Jeremy happier than we've ever seen him.

WE LOVE LOVE LOVE YOU & wish we could slip ourselves in the envelope to come & show you all we are praying for you in all the decisions & moves you have to make, that the Lord will continue to give you great strength & wisdom. From your little servants & lovers, to our beautiful king & queen of love,—Paul & Marianne.

A Look Into CHINA



From a Family couple in Peking:

IT SEEMS PERFECTLY NATURAL NOW FOR ME TO TAKE MY BICYCLE every morning & be greeted as I come out of the house by the room-servants in their white jackets sweeping the yard, to go past the gate of the apartment complex guarded by 2 soldiers in green uniforms & out into the street to get swallowed up by a sea of hundreds of bicycles that pours down the big road every morning & evening.

IT DOESN'T SURPRISE ME ANYMORE TO SEE OLD MEN ON TRANSPORT BICYCLES bringing huge loads of vegetables to the market, or to see somebody carrying a whole pig or a desk right across his bike.

CITY BUSES GO BY blowing their horns constantly at donkey carts, cyclists, farm vehicles. They're so crowded, arms & heads are almost squeezed out the windows! At each bus stop a bitter fight begins as to who will get in & who will have to wait.

IT IS ONLY 2 MONTHS SINCE WE ARRIVED & besides slowly getting accustomed to our daily life here, we feel that we are slowly learning a little how people really feel & think. China as we are experiencing it in our daily contact with its people differs quite a bit from the

picture we had formed in our minds thru' our imagination, the media, books & brochures. In a way, we still thought of the Chinese as a huge mass of uniformed, hard working blue ants with only socialism or some political slogans in their heads.

WELL, LET ME TELL YOU, THE CHINESE ARE HUMAN BEINGS just like you & me, & what somebody once wrote about the heart of man being the same the world over & about man's universal desire for happiness & peace & love is certainly true for China. In fact, building a home & family & leading a happy life rate higher than any ideological goal with most Chinese today, who are very disillusioned by politics due to the confusion & power-abuses of the Mao era.

ANOTHER THING IS THAT CHINA IS A THIRD WORLD COUNTRY, & as such, a very poor country. Of course you don't realise it if you are on the broad avenues in the center of the city & stick to visiting temples & museums.

BUT IF YOU TAKE YOUR BICYCLE, the main means of transport here, & go thru' the narrow lanes & suburbs & villages, you see how many people live on mud roads in mud houses without canalisation (waste water is poured down the street), one water faucet & one public toilet for the whole street, & to see old people digging thru' garbage is not a rare sight. Yet we

have not seen any diseases or things like that. MANY PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT, friends told us, & live mainly on maize & millet because they can't afford the "better class" cereals like wheat & rice.

WHEN WE WERE INVITED BY A MIDDLE CLASS FAMILY to their home, we were rather surprised to see them living in a 2x4-metre room—wife, husband & 8-yr.-old son. Besides that they have a tiny kitchen & that's it. At least they were lucky enough to have a gas cooker. Many people in the old parts of town still cook on little coal stoves outside of their houses in the street.

IT ALSO BEGAN TO DAWN ON US THAT WE WERE LIVING IN THE ORIENT where things go slow, people take their lunch-time nap & whenever there is an opportunity, they go to lunch break in my office people sleep on desks & chairs using dictionaries as pillows. To us who are used to hard work, the working pace seems very slow here. But the lack of proteins & vitamins may account partly for their readiness to sleep anywhere.

BUT I THINK THE GREAT SURPRISE was to find a young generation so open & hungry for Western language & culture. A student friend told us, "Before when you had a problem people told you, 'Believe in the Revolution & everything will work out', but now they say, 'I can only believe in myself & be the master of my fate'."

MAO & HIS "GOSPEL" ARE HARDLY MORE THAN AN IDOL SMASHED INTO a thousand pieces for most of them. The professor told us: "The disappointment in their parents & leaders left in the young people a great spiritual emptiness. They have no vision, no goals, no ideals." When there is political