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CONTEND FOR OUR TEENS!--THE STORY OF TEEN

JAMES!--By Isaac Numbers & Sara

PART 1

--Intro by Sara, 3/88

Recently, thirteen-year-old James, along with his mother & five brothers & sisters, went from Japan to the P.I. childcare Jumbo Home on a visa trip. It was actually the Lord who brought them there in a very special way, as Grandpa had been praying for Becky, James' mother, when feeling very burdened about her difficult situation in Japan. There she had lost her housing, had recently given birth to a stillborn baby (dead at birth) & was simply not able to cope with the pressures of leadership in that important field. The Folks felt it best that Becky & her children remain at the Philippine Jumbo to get some needed rest & Word time, as well as help & training for both Bec & her son, James, who had always been known for being rather odd, & in fact, prided himself in being so.

When the Jumbo leadership saw the extent of James' problems, they immediately sought counsel via reports to the Folks. He obviously had a very bitter, resentful attitude. He showed repeated signs of obstinance & resentfulness against adults, refusing to reply to most people who spoke to him, refusing to pray, rarely smiling & refusing to communicate on his Open Heart reports, as all Home members are required to do. He had no desire or hunger for the Word, & the leadership was very concerned that James, being one of the older teens at the Jumbo, would have a bad effect on all the other children who'd be looking up to him as an example.

In fact, James did try to "poison" the other 3 teen boys at the Jumbo with lies & hatred against the adults, as they made the grave mistake of putting them together on the adult staff.

The Jumbo leadership tried lots of love & firmness right from the start with James,

giving him the vision of how the Lord had miraculously brought him there not only for Bec's sake but also for James', in order to get help, & that the Folks were very interested in his progress & victories.—That James should be thankful how the Lord & the Folks virtually rescued him from the bad situation he was in before in Japan, & were now really praying & expecting him to pull through as an obedient & submitted older teen & sample there to the other children.

Because of his lack of hunger for the Word, the Shepherds suspected that he might not even be saved. Although James felt that he was saved, they again had a good salvation prayer with him, as well as a prayer for deliverance against any hindering spirits. We counselled the Jumbo to have some competent adult teacher read the "Last State" GN with James to throw some fear of God into him & show him where he was headed. We were hoping that all this love & counselling would give him an incentive to want to change & grow & do his best. Although James did straighten up a bit when seeing he was so closely overseen, there still was *not the breakthrough in the Spirit* that was so needed. The Shepherds kept him on a good pertinent reading list & had someone read with him aloud for at least an hour or hour-&-a-half daily, & to make sure he was listening, participating in, absorbing & enjoying the Word.

They considered the possibility of sending him to Ho's Teen Farm where he would be one of the youngest teens & wouldn't be a Mr. Know-It-All, but meanwhile continued to work on him with lots of prayer & firm discipline, hoping at the same time that he would not rot the whole Jumbo barrel of children there. It was an all-out attack on this special problem case!

The people who had been caring for James for some time were asked to do a full report on him, & found that in the past James had always seemed to act very

strangely. He had a very soured & negative attitude towards sex & in his relations to people, & always acted rather holy & self-righteous, like a young intellectual, always putting on some sort of show or act, & even doing weird things to get attention. He had a strange fascination for System videos, & it was about the only kind of deprivation that would provoke him to good works.—He would do anything in order to not miss his weekend video. This craving for System videos, coupled with his lack of desire for the Word or communicating with people, further indicated his serious problems.

He got about the most Demerits of any teen when he attended the Philippine YES, but the consistency of the discipline there really helped him to stop his weird behaviour, like making strange sounds & reading so super-fast that no one could understand etc. James knows so much Word he can easily & readily quote it, but would do so in such a meaningless way it was almost a mockery. He not only would talk, but read so extremely fast that it seemed crazy!

Several people noted that James was only really happy & well-behaved when he was kept very, very busy & occupied. James even said he was very bored with his life in the Family & it was obvious that he was spending far too much time on his own. (Lesson: What an awful shame to hear our teens could be bored with our Family life! Our teens shouldn't feel suppressed or bored! Of course, in this case, people were probably trying to keep James busy & out of trouble, but he was so disobedient & bitter he wouldn't cooperate!

(But this feeling bored could be a check for us if we adults are really doing our best to keep our teens happy, challenged & inspired. Do they know the joy of serving Jesus & helping others with personal witnessing, winning souls, seeing God supply & miracles happen, & just plain ol' having real fun? Teens need action, excitement & to burn free just as we did when we were new disciples & babes! One reason why teens profited so much from TTCs was because they felt real unity & Spirit from enjoying classes & activities & serving the Lord together with other teens. It was a time of learning, but also exciting & fun as one big happy Family!)

During James' stay in Japan, his prob-

lems began getting more serious & he was really unhappy. It was apparent that his relationship with the Lord & the Word was very weak. He would give a negative response to just about everything & would say he disagreed with Dad on this & that, that he didn't like the Word, & was obviously entertaining doubts & negative attitudes.

James never responded well to correction, but people just didn't seem to know what to do with him because he just didn't have any fear of God at all. He didn't like to witness & said he always would prefer to be back with his father doing computer work rather than be on the field. His overseers admitted that he had too much time to himself. He also had an odd fascination for collecting all sorts of strange things. James once improved a bit when around one well-behaved teen who was a good bellwether for him, & who James really liked.

However, in southern Japan, he then was linked up with another problem teen, Luke, who was sent to their Home since his parents didn't know what to do with him. The adult overseers now admit that they should not have taken in this other problem teen with James already on their hands, but people were writing in at the time asking for help, because there were a lot of cases where people did not know how to handle their teens, or were afraid of not handling them properly, as they felt they didn't know how to relate to them, so they wanted to send them to some Home where the adults had more experience with teens. But once Luke & James got together, they both really went downhill. They'd get together & talk about blowing things up & had a fascination for violence & evil that apparently went unchecked for months. It is interesting to note that this boy, Luke, had also been in James' Home years prior to this, & even at that time was very mischievous & misbehaved, but did not receive the discipline he needed from the adults.

James continued to lose his hunger for the Word & became more rebellious against adults. The more discipline he got the harder he'd become. He'd only had corporal punishment on two occasions over a two-year period of time, & was meanwhile refusing to witness, memorise or do reports. He was more of a problem than anyone could handle.

In looking back into James' full life history, his father, Isaac, reports that he had been weird from the start & was cared for by a former professing witch for the first year of his life in the Family. (Of course his parents didn't realise this childcare helper had been an actual witch until later.) James' mother, Becky, was too soft on disciplining her children, so he seldom really got the consistent & firm hand that he needed, as his father was quite busy & unavailable to care for him much of the time. People often mentioned that the mother should be taking better care of him as he was always quite dirty, neglected & undisciplined. He was also very sickly as a child & manifested lots of strange mannerisms & resentfulness but was never prayed over for deliverance.

"Nothing is more important than God's children & their care, for they are His Kingdom! What are you doing to make them a sample of His Heaven on Earth, little angels of His Love & mercy? Or have they become little devils of destruction & more like the children of the Enemy & his present kingdom of Hell on Earth & their children?" ("What Is That In Thine Hand?"--ML 315)

He was always considered to be a very brilliant boy, with a sharp, quick mind. He lived in WS Units a few years ago until his parents' separation. Although James used the excuse of his parents' separation & missing his father as a reason to be bitter or bad, his father says they were never really close at all, but James had, in fact, always resented his father for disciplining him.

All this to say that when James came to the Jumbo, the adults were not quite sure how to handle him & sought counsel from the Folks.

What helped to expose the seriousness of the problem was when a letter was intercepted that James had written to his cohort, teen Luke, in Japan. It explained that he was "forced by his leadership" to confess about their agreement together to "be waterproof to all adult correction." He wrote, "Please don't blame me because I tried to protest that I had promised not to tell, but they made me tell them your name & your parents & the Home that you're in. I'm really sorry. Please still be my friend. They

are sending word to your Shepherds to talk to you about it. Please don't do anything rash like..." & proceeded to code the rest of his letter in terms meaning suicide, murder, backslide & run away! This code was deciphered from a corresponding code written in the back of his diary along with other weird & obscene writings, including a "grudge list" against all adults who'd corrected him. James had also sent two other similar letters to some teens at Ho's Farm in Macau, which were also intercepted there, TTL.

James also sent to Grandpa & Maria a list of video titles, saying he & other teens had agreed that these 60 or so movies should be approved for teen viewing, titles such as "Dreamscape", "Cain & Abel", "Killing Fields", "Dead Zone", "Medusa Touch", "The Day After", "Escape from Alcatraz", "Brainstorm" etc. — quite some violent & fearsome movies, even for adults. These two teens were also into writing weird sci-fi stories of people returning from space being tortured, & sick — really ugly & violent stories.

When this was discovered, James was then isolated with men overseers & talked with, but showed no desire to change, didn't want prayer or to pray himself, & said he was "hoping" to the Devil to help him not to yield. He was resentful of all help. They found in his belongings a variety of weird sharp objects & matches, as well as a long written list in which James & his other teens cohorts had adopted obscene & violent names such as Arnie Arsonist, Able Axeman, Michael Murder, Frankenstein Fear & so on.

Those who were isolated with James also witnessed to how confused his mind would be at times, & how he'd try to hold a hard, cold stare into the adults' eyes when they'd talk. In isolation, Dutch Ben tried to talk with James about these problems but just couldn't get anywhere with him, as James was just determined not to "tell on his friends". He has since had to learn that our loyalties lie with the Lord, the Family & Dad, & not to any "friends" & especially not with mischievous trouble-makers who are following the Enemy! Trying to talk with James was quite frustrating, & just as Ben was about to give up, the Lord then laid on Ben's heart to really pray. He then says he put himself in James' father's shoes, & also

thought what if James' friend, Luke, was his own son. Ben thought, "Wait a minute! This could be my own son!" And Ben, who is the father of four teen boys himself, then gained renewed conviction to find out all he could about these boys' problems & do his best to really help them, thinking, "If these were my sons, I sure would want someone to do all they could to help them!" Ben explained to James that he is like his own son, because we're all one Family in the Lord, & it was then that James finally confessed this conspiracy he had with Luke against all adults, & all the other devilry & foolishness they & other teens in Japan were into.

What a beautiful testimony of Ben living the "One Wife" Family vision. — If each of us would treat every problem teen as our very own, we might have less problems! Like Dad says, we've gotta be willing to not only fuck & bear babies, but we must all be willing to take care of them too!

It finally came out pretty clear that both boys had had a bad influence on each other. Luke boasted of attempts to commit suicide, had run away from home, & many evils & mischief which fascinated James & caused him to want to be like him. It was obvious that they both were harbouring lots of bad spirits, such as foolishness, anger, violence, ugliness, dirtiness, lying, perversion & introvertedness. James seemed to know exactly how to act "right" or "good" when questioned by adult overseers, but was obviously schizophrenic in his behaviour.

The Word only seemed to make James even more stubborn while he was in isolation & whenever praying or singing, he was not willing to say the name of Jesus. When his overseers, Ricky & Ben, began to get firm with him & finally gave him a good whack to wake him up, he began to sit up & listen & then began to show some signs of progress, as he saw they meant business! Thank God most of our teens don't need corporal punishment, but these tough cases seem to have not had enough!

When these antics were reported to the Folks, they sent this message for James' father, Isaac, to go to the Philippines to deal with the situation: "We don't think that James should go to Ho's at this time, as he would just infect the other teens. We feel it would be wise for you, Isaac, to go there immediately.

"Having to deal with your own child is always difficult, but don't let the Devil in him deceive you that his problems are your fault or that it's because you & Becky aren't together. He can't blame that condition on you or your separation, because he had serious problems long before that. He probably picked up some weird spirits from the witch that took care of him when he was a child. He may try to blame the problems on your separation in order to make you & everyone else feel bad, but it's just like the Devil to blame his problems on everybody else.

"You'll have to threaten James that if he doesn't straighten up & have a real deliverance, that you're going to have to take him to his home country & put him in a mental institution. We don't think you should mention the possibility of going to his grandparents, because he might think that's wonderful & feel that he could stir up trouble there. Just threaten him with an institution & tell him that if he won't get the victory or try to get delivered from these evil spirits, that that's the only alternative. He can't stay in the nest & cause problems, & unless he changes, he certainly can't remain where he is or go to Ho's farm or any other place. Just tell him that he's going to have to get the victory or get out. Point out that the Devil's trying to destroy him & an institution is going to be his fate if he doesn't get rid of those devils.

"Perhaps if he has an immediate change & seems to be doing much better, we could consider the possibility of sending him to Ho's where he could at least work in the fields & do manual labour, then we could see how he does there. But that won't be possible unless he has an immediate radical change of heart, as we certainly don't think he can go to Ho's in the condition that he's in. We're all saying desperate prayers that he will get delivered & have a major victory. We know the Lord never fails & all things are possible with Him. PTL! WLYSM & are praying for you & the situation. Please keep your eyes on the Lord & know that no matter what happens, the Lord is in control. GB&KY!"

PART 2

By Isaac Numbers with lesson notes by Sara Dearest Folks,

Thank you so very much for all your

prayers during this assignment here dealing with my son, teen James, at the Jumbo in the PI. This whole experience has been a very sobering one for me & I think a very good one, as it helps me to see the real priorities in our life for the Lord & also to see the real warfare in the Spirit, TTL. I was so very thankful to have recently condoed so many of those Letters that deal with problem cases & affairs of the Spirit World, as I really learned a lot from the Word. It was a real challenge being here, & I especially enjoyed working with the "Jumbo Four" leadership (called the "EC" or Executive Council in this article) — that's Phillip (Zadok), Marc, Bigheart (Caleb) & Serena (Lydia). It was a real blessing to be able to work in real teamwork with them handling this situation & I know the Lord really blessed our counselling & praying together each step of the way. I knew it was something I couldn't do & never really had much experience along these lines before, so I knew it really had to be Him & He had to give the strength & the answers, &, TTL, He never failed.

The Jumbo leadership were a very big blessing, very sweet & were a big help as real prayer warriors when we prayed for James yesterday. In our final prayer of deliverance they seemed to have a good connection with the Lord & a real anointing, power & faith to their prayers, so they were a big strength & help to me. I felt that Bigheart (whose teen terror son backslid a couple of years ago) was really contending with me for James. He seemed to have a real shepherd's heart for James & real faith in him & for him to get a victory! Like that quote says, "Fighting the Devil takes a lot out of you, but the Lord puts a lot back in", & I must say that that's true. I really felt the Lord's strength & anointing, & even though we were fasting for three days, I felt really great & just really knew the Lord was in control & was answering all of your prayers, & I just had to obey what I was told to do & follow step-by-step, so, TTL, He never failed us when we did that.

The first night I had a little pow-wow with my three oldest kids & asked them about the situation with James, how much they knew, & then explained to them what was happening in terms that they could receive, to get them sobered & prayerful. Then I talked with Becky to get her attitude about

things. I saw that she was quite sorry for what had happened, but seemed quite weak, so right away we gave her a Word reading list to study, pray over & react on, right from the start.

THE ULTIMATUM!

The next morning I had prayer with the EC (Executive Council) & just before I went in to see James, I had real desperate prayer & laying on of hands for the Lord's anointing. He didn't know I was there, so it was a real surprise to him when I walked in the room with a big plastic cane, a "rod" to sock it to him with, if need be. I first let him have it with the ultimatum for about two hours. Ricky had been isolated with James, so we had explained to Ricky in advance what was going to happen, so he was aware of what I was going to share with James. I gave James a real full message, the full warning & the Lord really socked it to him. At the beginning he was just kind of sullen & I had to almost demand that he get up to give me a hug. This is something that has now changed, he is much more spontaneously affectionate than he was before his deliverance.

When I first came in & was praying for him, the Lord punched through in the power of the Spirit & really rebuked the Enemy forcefully & loudly. This really made James sit up & take notice! He really sensed that God was very angry, & he felt the force & power of God's Spirit, so he was in his right mind when we talked, & he listened. We knew that the Enemy had left, as James was able to meekly receive & to tune in & didn't contradict anything. I made him repeat back what I was saying to him & he listened up & was indeed paying attention! A few times I poked him in the chest with the rod when emphasising a point, or I took a good swing at him with the stick. I didn't actually hit him, but I came right up next to him with it, or I slammed it down hard on either side of him on the bed where he was sitting at different times to make my point & let him know that I would use it on him. I asked him if he believed I would, & he said "Oh, yes!" I told him that if we had any more bad reports at all or one word of complaint about him from any of the people that were taking care of him, that the rod was what he was going to get automatically, & it seemed like James

really straightened out right away. I warned him that he had 3 days to fast & pray before his major prayer for deliverance, & if he didn't choose to get rid of that devil, it was commitment to a mental institution for him! He was pretty sobered with the fear of the Lord!

Later the EC & I had a pow-wow with the other 3 or 4 teens there, as well as their teachers. We explained to them about the situation with James & warned them about not playing footsie with the Enemy. We encouraged them to confess anything they wanted prayer for, against any hindering spirits & anything that they had heard from James or other teens that was negative that they wanted to get delivered of, & we had really good prayer for them as well.

DEALING WITH A COMPROMISING SPIRIT

The next morning I went in & talked with James & got him to share from his heart more of what he'd been going through & to confess the different things that he had been into. He quite honestly & readily gave whatever information we asked for. That afternoon I, along with Serena, talked to Becky about all the different signs of her weaknesses. In the morning meeting with James, I'd found out that he had given Becky this weird letter full of murmuring that I had seen when I was in Macau that James had sent to a few of the teens there. I asked James how he mailed it to Macau & he said, "Well, all my letters are always sent through Mommy. I gave that letter to Mommy to mail". So I knew that something was pretty seriously wrong, that Becky had let that awful letter get through!

We used this as a point of reference to explain to her how she'd been so dull & insensitive in the Spirit to the battles of what was happening & how she was allowing the Enemy to have control of her children by her pacifistic spirit. We really pointed out how this has been a problem with Becky all along, that she hardly would take action on anything, or get stirred up or moved at all, to the detriment of the children, & the Work & everything. We felt strongly that she's been hindered throughout her life by a spirit of fear & pacifism & has thus compromised with the Enemy on many occasions.

Apparently a couple of times in the late stages of Becky's last pregnancy, James had mentioned he didn't really want the baby so much because I wasn't the daddy, but Becky hadn't done anything about it, she hadn't explained or corrected him. She just told him to go read some Word on it but never even checked to see that he did read the Word. — This baby was stillborn, & went to be with the Lord.

We just really socked it to Becky how she had failed to really contend for the baby & for the baby's life, which was so similar to the case with Natalie, our last baby we had when she was with me. She didn't contend for her fifth baby's life at birth either & was real wishy-washy. I had to get in there & desperately make decisions as to what to do & to really pray through the delivery, as Becky had seemed to just give up fighting. Also in baby Natalie's first few months, she was very whiny, weak & sickly, & Becky kept saying everything was okay, in spite of other people's concern, but just wasn't going on the attack.

I used all these situations to show her how all this time when she withstood my giving the kids discipline & thought I was too hard & she would never discipline them herself or let other people discipline the kids, how she was really just compromising! Her spirit was so weak she could hardly talk out loud so people could understand what she said. When she joined the Family she could hardly talk at all, she just whispered in this spirit of fear & bondage that she was into. Her super meekness & mildness & never getting upset or riled up in the Spirit was compromising with the Enemy. She'd almost refused to face or admit there was ever a problem, & has had difficulty receiving correction herself, which has been reflected in James' attitude. She's always been quite dirty & unclean too, which many people pointed out to her over the years, but she just preferred to live with it. When we talked about all this, we got the verse, "Through fear of death all their lifetime were subject to bondage". (Heb.2:15) So we had real desperate prayer for her & really rebuked the spirit. At first she was kind of namby-pamby in her prayers & then we told her it was really up to her, that the Lord was relying on her to really get desperate with Him before James was going to be able to be

delivered & saved. Then Becky finally really punched through in the Spirit & rebuked the Enemy with real forcefulness. She was a changed person, really on the attack & it was a big blessing to see her finally fight & get desperate, & get delivered from that horrible, compromising milk-toasty spirit. It was a true breakthrough in the spirit!

Her eyes were kind of opened in the Spirit & she then admitted to a lot of things that she hadn't seen before. She remembered when she was about two years old that her parents in Australia had taken her to a carnival where they shoved her up close to this demonic aborigine warrior "death mask". She remembers being terrified of it, so that's where we believe she picked up that spirit of fear & fear of death. So TTL for a real victory over that!

I then had parent time again with my other kids that evening, & we let Becky talk with James (Phillip was there at the time), & she really delivered her soul & gave a real whole-hearted plea to James to really get the victory. That was the only time we let Becky be around James, as we felt that she wasn't strong enough in spirit to be around him during this time of deliverance, & we also didn't want the emotional pull to distract from what we were doing in fighting the battle.

I was able to get a lot of good sleep each night, & also took naps throughout the day, so I had a little rest after each major session, which really helped me to keep up my strength. I'm very glad I was able to go at a good, slow pace like that, because there was such a big effort in the spirit with these battles with the Enemy.

The next morning I met with the EC for our morning prayer & discussion of our battle plan & then spent two hours with James. I found that the two-hour time period with him was the most that I could handle & get a lot accomplished. Anyway, I discussed & read the Word with him on fighting the Devil & exorcism in preparation for fighting the battle of deliverance. I also asked him more questions about things he wanted to confess & come clean about.

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE!

We had people taking rotating prayer vigils throughout the day for James, & then

at 4 p.m. the adults & teens & some of the pre-teens got together & had prayer for James at the same time that myself & Big-heart, Marc & Phillip went to pray over James. At the main meeting, Ricky gave a little summary of what had happened so far with James, then Becky shared a public confession about how her compromising & weaknesses had caused a lot of these problems. This was really a good, sobering warning to a lot of the other parents there who apparently also had some problems with being too easy on their kids. Then Serena led the meeting & they read some Word together & began praying together. By this time, we had pretty much finished our main prayer of deliverance over James.

We talked to James first & read him some real good verses & promises that people had received during their prayers for him earlier. We told him we were going to pray for him & that we expected him to pray as well, & then spent about an hour praying for James. We prayed & rebuked any spirits that would be binding him & then proceeded to rebuke a long list of spirits & problems that we had come up with that I had gone over first with James, many of which he volunteered himself, including a fascination for violence, rebelliousness, deceitfulness & a lying spirit.

We also prayed against Oplexicon, HK Goolagong, any bad Australian spirits & the spirit from that witch that took care of him. We also cursed any bad influences from our relatives. We prayed against covetousness, his habit of collecting junk & idols, against his nervousness, self-righteousness & fascination for evil, & also against any bad influences from teen Luke. He later also asked for prayer against this very negative attitude he had where he didn't like girls & sex, & we prayed against any perversion or any bad spirit that was causing that. So it was quite a full list.

We also prayed for James to get filled with the Holy Spirit & the fruits & gifts of the Spirit—of love, faith, trust & the gift of tongues—& had James pray in tongues right there on the spot, which was his first time ever to really praise the Lord & get out of himself. His countenance was much better. It started off quite dark, but each day his countenance improved, each day it was twice as good as the day before, & after our

prayer for him again this last day, his countenance is much better. It was like the Lord was really delivering him from delusion.

James is quite weak now, but he's not at all rebellious, but rather very submissive & is really hungry for the Word. They're spending a lot of time feeding & strengthening him from the Word, which is what he needs most right now to build those new good circuits to his mind & heart & spirit. — Rom.12:2. PTL! Victory! Hallelujah!

PART 3

Lessons Learned--For All to Heed!

TEEN VIDEOS

I asked James about this Teen Video List that he mailed in to WS, of 60 adult & violent or war-type videos that he suggested the teens be able to watch. I asked him where he got that list & he said that some of them he had watched, some of them he had heard about from adults who had talked about those movies, & others he had heard about from other teens who had been allowed to watch those movies. In other words, he & his teen friends compiled that list from all the movies that different teens had either seen or heard about, & he put that list together. I told him that there are some good movies on his list, yet an awful lot of them are very violent, & that teens need adult help to know which videos are going to have the best fruit for them. Even the adults who watch those movies have to resist the Enemy afterward, they resist the evil in those movies. I told him that all that System stuff obviously wasn't good for him, & he readily understood that.

It seems like loose talk about videos is something that the teens pick up on right away. It seems to be an area that they really want to imitate & crave for of "the adult life". We need to fill our teens & children with the motivation & appetite for good, meaningful videos that will be feeding & positive.

(Lesson: — System video movies seem to be one of the main worldly temptations & interests of our Family teens, because it's their only "approved" mode or channel to the System. One major problem is that adults don't seem to obey the policy of choosing, explaining & discussing edifying

videos with the teens, being sure to pray before & after the movie. The main purpose of teens seeing videos is for good wholesome edifying activity that we can draw good lessons out of, & "open the floor" to discuss the lessons in full, & expose the wrong or sin etc., using the Word as our Guide!

(Also, the teens see that most adults are very interested & into System videos & talk & rave about them openly, but when teens want to see or hear about it, it's "not good for them". Hopefully these teens' problems described here will motivate more adults to dedicate themselves to being good Shepherds of our teens, people who will be faithful to feed & train them in every area, be it videos, the Word, witnessing, the pitfalls or deceptions of the World & just everything!)

POOR SUPERVISION

Teen Luke, & James together came up with the idea about not listening to adults' counsel, & they made an agreement between the two of them. They also shared it with two other teen girls there in Japan. It seems like the adults in Japan banned James & Luke from talking to each other because of their bad influence on each other, but they were able to work out secret hiding places in the house where they were able to pass notes back & forth to each other. Obviously they must have been allowed to be on their own long enough that they were able to spend time writing & reading these notes when they were sneaking around. James mentioned that he had also written to teens at the MBH (Japan School), so they may have some things that they need to confess or get cleared up.

James mentioned that in the Home there in Osaka they had a synthesiser that was used for Meaningful Meetings. He said, "I didn't really know how to play the piano, but I knew how to program it & I could make it come out with all this heavy rock music, heavy metal music, so we kind of got into that & the teens got into listening to me do that." I asked, "Well, how come you guys were allowed to do that? Weren't you being supervised at the time?" And he said, "Yes, we were watched by some adults, but they were in a different room doing something else at the time." It seems like a lot of the

things that these teens were able to get into was because they were left alone, they were not overseen. Of course, the decision to be interested in these things was up to the teens, but giving them time for these problems to fester & grow & multiply seemed to get worse when they were allowed time on their own due to poor supervision. "An idle mind is the Devil's workshop!"

While talking with James, & my daughter, Ruthie, it seems there is a teen in Japan, named Lily, about 16, who writes a lot of stories about spiritual warfare, & claims that she can mind-link with other people. Ruthie said this girl was really into pretending, she'd pretend she was sick or she'd pretend she was demon-possessed. At different times the teens tried to have levitations. James & a Japanese adult brother were there at the time when they tried this levitation. It didn't work & some of the kids thought it was silly, I guess because they weren't really into it & it didn't work, but it looks like it would be something to really check into. This girl seems like she's quite talented & a lot of the other teens look up to her & try to copy her, & I think James wrote some weird story too after he saw the stories that she was writing. It seems that a lot of the things that he was into were things that he had seen older teens do, & he was kind of trying to copy & emulate them to get in on the good side with them, to be in on the "cool" side of things. Then he also came up with a few ideas of his own to try to be respected by the younger teens.

I want to put in a plea that teens & children aren't just left alone on their own, but that we find ways of taking the teens with us as buddies, even to help with the physical projects, so we can have a constant, positive spiritual influence on them & not leave them to their own devices. — "A child left to himself bringeth his mother (& father) to shame." — Pro.29:15b

TEEN MAIL & WRITINGS

James said he had a list of teens he writes to, overseas & different places, & he knows about a lot of other teens. It seems to be the "in" thing with teens to write letters back & forth to each other, sharing news etc. I shared with him how that isn't so good, that unless you're sharing very positive & edify-

ing lessons in writing, it's best not to write about your own situation & fun & chit-chat. Maybe you have a nice yard or a nice pool in your situation, but then if you write to other teens who don't, they're just going to feel jealous. For example, if Ho's teens write about how they have horses etc., & all to some teen who's living in an apartment, it would only make them feel bad about that. It's best not to make a practice of writing all your friends about your own situation, but just be thankful & content to be in the place & with the people you live immediately with. (Lesson: Teens do enjoy writing to each other, but they should learn to write about Word lessons, victories, witnessing experiences & miracles etc.—not gossip or their battles etc. "Profane & vain babblings increase unto more ungodliness." — 2Tim.2:16)

I think this is something we discussed at the time of the persecution problems in HK, how the adults were into writing these gossip letters to each other. It only caused a lot of unnecessary, but potentially dangerous information to fall into the hands of the Enemy, which was bad for security. It seems that teens are also into writing this type of gossip letters, & that many of the letters maybe aren't read before they're mailed, & that the teens are not instructed & guided as to how to write good, edifying letters. Therefore it probably would be best, in cases like that, that they don't write letters to other teens, rather than to just have a negative influence on each other through their letters, or cause a breach of security from the information that they pass on. I told James that he shouldn't write the teens any more & he definitely agreed to that. He asked that if he goes away, can he write to us, his parents, & I said yes, he can do that.

As for the list of violent names that they found in James' possession, like Michael Murder & Able Axeman & all this garbage, it seems that he & Luke were getting into writing these fictional stories about the Spirit World & monsters & armies etc. Luke & James had come up with these names that they were calling themselves or other characters in the story that they were writing each other about. So we just exposed how stupid that was & dwelling on the negative is only going to lead to full demon-possession if not checked.

It seems that the longer kids are allowed to persist in these habits & their fascination for evil, that eventually it becomes so strong they can't control it any more. I think in James' case we caught it at an early enough stage, TTL, & it was quite easy for him to give it up. But it's something it seems our parents need to be warned about more, that these bad inclinations & bad habits are not just personality quirks of teenagers, but they're direct attacks of the Enemy to try to destroy our teens, & that we need to teach them to realise the seriousness of it & to really fight it! This is what we talked to Becky about, how her pacifistic spirit was just letting the Devil have full sway over both her & the children.

I asked him why they got into writing stories. He said that rumour or stories or opinion had been going around among some of the teens that the "Heaven's Girl" series had been written several years ago, so that by now "Heaven's Girl" was probably at an adult age & therefore it no longer applied to them, so they had to make up their own stories! I explained to him simply that Heaven's Girl was meant to be a role model of what any teen or anyone can be at any age who gets desperate with the Lord, puts the Lord first & seeks the Lord earnestly for His Will, & it has nothing to do with age or sex or anything. When he had that simple explanation, it really helped him & he could really see that it wasn't right at all! (Lesson: From these lessons it appears that whatever is not carefully explained to teens (or children) can be easily misinterpreted. If they feel they can't freely ask adults, they'll lean to their own understanding or believe the Devil's lies very easily.)

SPIRIT OF STEALING & MATERIALISM

James also mentioned that some of the teens in Japan talked quite freely about shop-lifting. Teen Luke apparently had done some shop-lifting, where he stole free samples that come along with different products that you get as a promotional item, & before the TTC, teen Stephen stole some expensive microphones that were on display. Some of the teens would tell the different teens that came from the PI about how easy it is to steal things in Japan because people are so trusting & honest (not realising that

you can be jailed or possibly deported for such crimes!). So that spirit of materialism & idolatry is something also to strongly resist & rebuke & fight against, to show the teens how wicked & horrible it is, & how we had all those things in the System, but it was killing us spiritually & it even drove many of us to seek the Truth & Jesus! But some of these teens have come either from poor Homes or poor countries & are suddenly immersed in this wealth of things in Japan, it's a very big temptation for them, as it has been for the adults. It's probably going to be something we have to definitely militantly fight against, to show the teens how evil it is, that it's not good & wonderful that all these "idols" are available, but it's just poison. (Lesson: Teens! — Read Matthew 4 how the Devil tempted Jesus in the wilderness with power & materialism & what He did to fight it. — Also Genesis 3 with verses 1 John 2:15-17, & Revelation 17 & 18 on the Whore of Capitalism & Mammon! — See MLs 1192 & 1193)

INTEREST IN VIOLENCE & EVIL

From talking with James & to the other teens & adults as well, it seems like something to really be on-guard against is a spirit of violence. It seems like the System kids in Japan are really into that violent System spirit. — It's in all their comic books, plus they're into karate & judo etc. It seems like children that have had no previous experience with problems like that suddenly manifest this kind of fascination for violence & evil when they get to Japan, that beneath all of that polite & "together" exterior, there's a very horrible, dark spirit there that is very militant & very evil. It may be something perhaps to be more aware of & actively resist & fight against in the Spirit. Maybe it's something we parents need to have a real watchful & vigilant spirit against.

I noticed it manifesting itself in little System kids that I saw different places when I was around town, just fantasizing that they were killing people with swords & different things like that.

Even within the Family, I saw little toddlers & little two & three-year-olds going around pretending to give karate chops to people on the leg, or different things like that, or kind of getting into these different

military stances. It's almost like a spirit that gives them an anointing to be able to do that. It doesn't seem normal that a little child would have that much coordination to be able to do that on his own. So that was something I felt that we should pray & be vigilant against. (Lesson: And not only in Japan, but in any case where a child or teen shows symptoms of, or an interest in, violence or evil, parents or adults should teach & warn them of the dangers of this, the Bible & Letters being their Standard of Truth! "The fear of the Lord is to hate evil!" — Pro.8:13)

I asked James more about where he started hearing about this violent stuff. He said there is a teen from the U.S. who is about 14 or 15 who lives at the Service Center who'd talk about all the things he did before he joined the Family, how he was into gang wars & making homemade bazookas. James said this was the first time he'd ever heard much about any kind of violence & it was such a new thing, he was really interested in it & started getting into it as well. Because James wasn't really motivated with a real hunger for the Lord & for the Word & for souls, he sought other ways of fulfilling his energies & desires.

He said that one time teens practised making molotov cocktails & putting them together & taking them apart again. I asked him how he learned how to make them & he said that they read about the molotov cocktails in one of the MO Letters. They asked the adults about it & then the adults explained to them how to make one! (--Not too wise on the adults' part!) Whenever teens ask any questions about anything that's brought up in the Letters, or about the Devil, or about war or negative aspects of life, the adults need to explain it fully & expose the evil in it & not just answer their surface questions, which only seems to arouse more of an appetite. The adults need to say, "Yes, this is so, but it's horrible & it's wicked" & really testify against it so that the teens will have no further interest in that subject.

In other words, to really explain it to them fully so that they won't have to go digging around on their own, trying to experiment. It's like when I was a teen, my parents never explained anything to me about sex & it just really caused me to want to learn all I could on my own, because I wasn't satisfied

with their explanations about sex, or just about anything for that matter, because they never shared with me or spoke up with any conviction of what was right or wrong or why, so I went on my own to look for it.

One thing that James said had really shaken him up was when teen Luke came up to him & said, "I saw Uncle ___" (a brother there in the Home) "come up with a big knife behind you & he was about to stab it into your back, but then he changed his mind at the last minute." James said he was really scared by that & he said, "I was afraid to go up & ask the brother about it, because I didn't know if it was true, & if it wasn't true, he'd think I was crazy." So James said he asked teen Lily & teen Lisa what they felt was the truth, & they said they didn't think it was true & that it was nonsense, but it seemed like it was still bothering him.

The Enemy was really lying to James, plus he felt like he didn't have any adults around that he could confide in for helpful spiritual counsel.—He'd been "poisoned" against the adults! Teen Luke apparently talked quite a lot about wanting to run away from Home & he threatened James with karate, saying he was really good at karate & could kill people. One day he told James, "I need to kill a Japanese brother, ___, because he's just really giving me trouble & I don't like him" & James tried to tell him, "No, that isn't good to do", but apparently Luke was really into karate, or at least boasting that he was. (Lesson: This idle talk, chit-chat & story-telling easily gives place to the Devil with all sort of lies & deception. We adults need to supervise our children & not be ignorant of his devices! — 2Cor.2:11; Jn.8:44.)

I remember that both Luke & James when they were younger children were quite a bit weaker physically than average boys, & kind of quiet, meek & shy. It seems that maybe as an over-compensation for feeling inferior to others, the Enemy offered them a way that they could get above that with this violence & evil. In both of these cases teens who were below average as far as physical strength or development goes fell prey to the Enemy's temptations for greater power.

This might be something that we have to watch out for with teens that do have handicaps or weaknesses, that we need to really show them the Lord's alternatives & superlative power so they're not looking to the

Enemy for their source of power or attention or "fun". (Lesson: It's interesting to note that the Enemy also tempted Mene with "power" & "glory" due to her pride, vanity, self-righteousness & self-exaltation, so she actually felt superior to others, as a contrast to these boys feeling inferior. However, her problems were not manifested until she became jealous of the other teen girls who came to visit. It was when she had faced "competition" with others her age that she turned to the Enemy for power & attention.)

Just like we condemn the churches for having no spiritual power & therefore their teens & their children go off looking for the answer in drugs, witchcraft & Satanism, the same could happen in our Family if our teens don't see the real power of the Spirit in our Family! If our Family is just struggling to eke out a living, 9 to 5, trying to sell tapes & Posters for money, & they aren't showing their children the real manifestation of the Spirit, real desperate prayer & seeing the Lord work miracles & answer prayer, & if parents aren't real warriors in the Spirit, then the teens aren't going to see & be convinced of the power of the Lord's Spirit, & therefore they could become interested in the Enemy's power. He'll show them evil power, & it's up to us to show them the true sample of the mighty power of God & the Truth, so that our children don't hunger for & go looking for the counterpart of it to satisfy their curiosity.

Some of the Letters we gave James to read with his overseer that dealt with this problem of dabbling in (to lightly experiment or play with) & being fascinated with evil & what it led to, & which might be good for some of the other teens to have their overseers read with them, are "Alice in the Magic Garden", "Oplexicon", "Bewitched", "The Dark Kingdom", "You Are What You Read" & "Spiritual Pests & Problems".

CONFRONTING PROBLEMS WITH A MILITANT STAND

Becky shared a good lesson. — She said, like in gardening, it's not enough to love the flowers, you have to hate the weeds, & re-told the story about the church elder who for years & years prayed, "Oh Lord, sweep the cobwebs out of our hearts" until one guy jumped up & said, "No, Lord, don't do that!

Just kill the spider!" Ha! Well, that's what we talked to Becky about. We got the verse for her, "Ye that love the Lord hate evil" (Psa.97:10), that she needed to take a real militant stance against any evil that would come up with different things, like with the children. Maybe that's something that would apply to others as well, that when their children manifest any ugly behaviour, rebelliousness or murmuring, rather than just say, "Oh, that's not nice", to go on the attack & really deal with it in the Spirit & confront it right then & there & have a real good Word study on it—to help & love them through to full victory & pray over them & have them really repent & learn the lesson. — Not just kind of shoo the fly away, but to really pursue it until it's been killed & eliminate the evil completely. (Lesson: It took days for people to talk with James & encourage him to open up—real perseverance, time, patience & prayer, as well as firmness & the authority of the Holy Spirit to get to the root of the problem, which brought final victory! PTL!)

She's letting the Devil in some way, in her discontent somehow, something she's murmuring about in her own heart, & it just grows & grows & grows & begins to cover everything. I'll tell you, I learned long ago to catch it at the very beginning, & root it out! They either get straightened out or we get rid of them, one or the other, before the leaven poisons the whole lump!" ("God Hates Murmuring", ML#1879)

The problem teen, Luke, who'd so adversely affected James & others, was in the same Home with James & already hadn't been getting along with adults, he'd run away from one other Home & that's why he was now in this next Home. This is the boy for whom Becky had this special burden years before. She felt she had real love & mercy for him, so she kind of took him under her wing & schooled him along with our kids. This was something we confronted Becky about, saying, "Look at these two teens that are causing these big problems, both people that you supposedly had 'special' care & consideration for. Look at the fruits of the kind of training you give to

children, the way you console & co-habitate with problem cases. That's not the answer. The answer is to really rebuke the Devil out of problem people!"

BATTLES WITH PARENTS' SEPARATION

One of the things that James had gotten bitter about & seemed to trigger this recent slide downhill was that he read all the JLC (Japanese Leadership Conference) notes. Apparently the teens in Japan got copies of that on their own & read it by themselves, which I don't think was very wise, & which we warned against on the first page of these notes, that they were to be read in a united meeting, because there's a lot of material in there that really needed explanation. James read the part which explained why Becky & I had our separation, & apparently that hit him pretty hard, as he hadn't really felt that it was a permanent thing. It really got him worrying & questioning, because nobody fully explained the situation to him with enough Word, or conviction. So he just dwelt on the negative of what he had "lost", rather than the positive side of things.

As Dad has said, it's the parents & the parents' spirit & attitude that really affects where their children end up. An example of this happened at the Jumbo just the other day, where the kids of a certain mom were really whiny & crying & throwing tantrums at bedtime. The leadership dealt with the mother about her problem of a real lack of conviction, so she had prayer. The very next day when one of her boys started whining, she slapped him & he stopped & snapped right out of it. She really had her eyes opened & thought, "Where have I been all this time?" A lot of our mummies need to really take a real stand in the Spirit for their children & not just think it's being patient or motherly to let kids whine & fuss & murmur & then nag the kids & not tune in to the kids' true spiritual condition. They need to deal with it in real love, faith & the Word & also really attack & see the problem through to victory!

The Jumbo parents & childcare helpers learned a lot through this problem with James & had their eyes opened to the seriousness of their responsibility as parents to confront & attack evil & sin! (Lesson: In

general, the Family seems to have backed off from confronting disciplinary problems. Ever since our many needed lessons on having more love & mercy, it seems people are afraid to be thought too harsh, unloving or unmerciful if they confront or deal with problem cases, like unruly pre-teens or teens. While it is true that we needed a better balance of love & mercy, & prefer to guide & train our teens with the Word & prayer & counsel, the Biblical "rod of correction" is still very effective for those who do not respond immediately to other forms of child training!)

It seems that the Enemy has found that attacking us from the outside does not work any more, & now he's shifted his attention to try to destroy our "secret weapon", which is our greatest threat to his kingdom in the future — our teens, who are going to reach this last generation! The Enemy is launching an all-out inside, fullscale attack against our teens & we need to really fight for them & contend for their lives!

We should treat them with the same care, protection & close shepherding that we gave our new disciples & babes in the early days, when we never left two babes alone to talk together. We always had a babe with an older brother, lest they get into vain babbling & trouble! We need to treat our teens & new nationals the same, we can't allow them to be out on their own & expect them to pull each other up. They need a good, concerned older brother with them as much as possible to help them not to fall into the Enemy's pit! That's what I told James, I said, "You two teens trying to find the truth by yourself is like the blind leading the blind, & you both fell into the ditch. — Mat.15:14. That's why you do need your adult overseers!"

LESSONS: THE "TEAM CHALLENGE!" — by Sara

(It's been proven once again that our pre-teens & teens definitely need good close shepherding, as do new babes & national disciples! The problem is that the mothers & fathers aren't always able to closely oversee their teens because they're so busy caring for all the younger children & raising support etc. It's a tough job especially for our many single mothers, or those sepa-

rated from their mates, to look after their older kids when they've got so many others to clean, feed, teach, support, discipline etc., etc. fulltime!! Many teens don't feel they can really open up to their very busy parents anyway.

(So the key is to pray that the Lord raises up a good adult Babes & Teen Shepherd in each Home! Perhaps each teen & babe or young national disciple can buddy-up with one good overseer (the adult could even take on one teen & one national) who will dedicate himself to these babes at mealtimes, Get-Out & Word classtime daily! They could share lessons & hearts & the Word together, witness & pray & memorise & review together & really grow in the Lord! Such close, edifying fellowship & training would surely benefit & keep them on the straight & narrow. Maybe the teens could switch overseers after 3 months. This may not be possible or even necessary in every Home, but would be a help to those teens & babes who've been unsupervised or really need guidance if our adults would be willing to take up this "Team Challenge!" Even if you're the parent of pre-teens or teens yourself, you'd probably learn a lot by closely shepherding others for 3 months while another adult shepherds yours! Teens need an adult companion & shepherd they feel close to, who loves them & has a rapport with them.

(If we're truly stirred up to prevent our teens from being so attacked & lured by the World & the Enemy, we'll have to make some sacrifices & commit ourselves to help & strengthen them all we can! There must be lots of good Bible teachers & witnesses & shepherding adults who'd be a real strength & blessing to our needy teens everywhere! Are you one? There is truly a need to help our teens grow strong in the Lord & be the Endtime witnesses He wants them to be, & it's up to each & every one of us adults to make it work & do our best! Will you? Let's start today! PTL!)

PART 4

THE "JUVENILE DETENTION HOME"— by Isaac

Because I was assigned to next go visit Ho's "Teen Farm", I got to take James there with me, as he was to be part of the new sep-

arate "Juvenile Detention Home". (This would be separate from the current Home.) This is where real serious problem teens are isolated from the others to do hard manual labour, working in silence, as well as major on the Word daily!

So we packed up to go & I had a little time with the children before we left. I asked James if he wanted to say anything to the children & he said to them, "Well, you know how I've been acting lately & I'm sorry for how I've been bad & getting into this violent & foolish stuff & it's wrong." So that was good that he made his confession to the children.

For the two nights I was there, James stayed in the bunk of the same room where I was sleeping, where I kept a close eye on him. I think it made it easier for him to make the transition. It was his first time away from Becky & the children, & he was mentioning how that was a big thing for him. I explained to him how it was a good thing for him & what he needed, to not only gain a fear of the Lord, but to get closer to the Lord.

(Lesson: We suggested that James learn some beautiful hymns & songs or poems about loving & serving Jesus as brand new memory work that would draw him much closer to Jesus & break his heart in repentance. Some of our teens have become so "familiar" with the Word they aren't usually intrigued by it unless they're super desperate, as they've grown up with it all their lives. So teens may not respond well to reading & memory projects unless challenged & turned-on to a new way to love & know Jesus, ie. learning Dad's "Songs of Service" & other heart-searching hymns & poems etc., hopefully that they can learn & review out loud with a partner!

(It was very important for Isaac to direct James to the Word, & once he was delivered, to really turn him on to the Word.—To open the Bible & show him the Word & show him how to find answers from the Word for himself, & be a sample of getting real turned on when finding good, meaty verses & answers in the Word. He wasn't going to be with his parents any more, but he was going to have to have his own link with the Lord, & that would take some time to establish. The most lasting & important sample that Isaac could leave with James was one of real love for the Lord & His Word & prayer.)

Another thing the Lord did that was really sweet & special & really helped him,

was when we arrived at the Combo, there were a lot of the kids & different people outside, & they all came running up to us. The little kids came up & jumped up on me, giving me big hugs & kisses & said, "Uncle Isaac!" They were real happy to see me, & it was like I'd come "home" again, & we had that real love & affection for each other. James could see that & I think it helped him to see a bit more about our overall "One Wife" Family & how that's where his loyalty needs to be, & not to any small little unit that he was hanging on to with his personal family. TTL!

Sunday evening the teen girls put on a little Valentine show for the teen boys & overseers & Esther, Ho & me. They did a little dance number with pretty sarongs & red hearts. It was real cute & quite sexy too. They're real lively girls, God bless them! And they baked a little cake in the shape of a heart for each of the teen boys & for their teen overseers & gave them a little card &

little flowers. It was a real sweet time. I talked to James about it afterwards, & he said, "Well, that's the first time I've enjoyed that!" So thank the Lord, the Lord's going to rewire him so he can have a good healthy appetite, thank the Lord!

I guess James saw a good sample of all the blessings that are available to him at the Combo if he just yields. I gave him the Folks' message that he's going to need to be in isolation again & now suffer for his crimes until he proves that he's really going to be trustworthy. (See Mat.3:8 & Acts 26:20 on "works meet for repentance".) We had a good talk with him, & Ho & Esther really showed him that they really loved him. They were both really sweet to him & very motherly & fatherly, & I feel that he's in very good hands. I know they have a real heart for their people & I think James will make good progress in that environment. PTL!

FROM THE MOTHER OF TEEN JAMES

"I Feel So Desperate To Share My Lessons With Other Parents!"

From Becky, SEA
Dear Ones,

I am very desperate now for the Lord to bring out as much as He can to teach me. The whole situation has really shaken me out of the spiritual lethargy that I have been in for so long. As Dad explained in "Afflicted Parents" & "Delinquent Parents": "Delinquent children or problem children are the result of problem parents." I really want to say that this is true & I have been more the one that is at fault & the Lord exposed this through my son. I am so thankful for the Lord's love & mercy & forgiveness in bringing these points to a head in James' life & also for the miraculous prayer & deliverance for him, saving him from being lost to the Lord & to the Lord's service.

One of the things that shocked me, is how it could all come from little things--little things that I let slip by without really following through to a complete victory.--That I wasn't enough of a shepherdess with my own teen to really fight tooth & nail in the power of the Spirit & to have a real militant spirit against the attacks of the Enemy on the teens.

Even if I did see some problems & tried to do something about them, it was such a weak effort. I just hoped that he would grow out of it, or it would pass.--And of course it

didn't! In fact, my leaving it made the problems get much worse, & so it became a situation like in "Breakdown".--Because I didn't obey, I became hardened to that voice of conviction & I learnt to live with it in putting up with these things in my teen.--So that even in a position of great responsibility, I was tolerating such wickedness & evil & letting it develop. That showed up to be a much more serious problem with my own teen & the teens in my Home than in any other Home in the area I was responsible for.

I have had to have some real desperate prayer for deliverance myself & I believe the Lord has delivered me! But now I need to really go on the attack to ask the Lord to completely change me, to wake me up in the Spirit, to make me see the seriousness of the spiritual warfare that we face. I think when I finally had a real prayer of deliverance to get delivered from my problems & pests, it was such a shock for me to see the extent of the damage & the serious situation that James was in. That I was now just surrendering James to the Enemy without much of a fight, shocked me to see how serious this was.

Now it makes me want to fight & even share these lessons with others so they can see from my own serious mistakes the consequences of my not really disciplining my

children properly, not really having conviction from the Word, not really having a militant spirit to fight against the Enemy's attacks on him, as soon as myself or others could see them.

When I realised I had a real weakness in the area of disciplining my children, I thought more along the lines of, "Well, I know I have this weakness, I'll depend on others. Someone else can do that for me." I trusted in my mate to do it, or my helpers or teachers. But what I realise is that the Lord wanted me to get the victory. He wanted me to learn to fight.

As Dad describes so clearly in "Delinquent Parents", everybody else may have been trying to discipline James & my other children, but if my children came to me even just for a short time, even for the few minutes that they were with me & they didn't see I was agreeing with that same standard of discipline by enforcing the same discipline myself, then in effect it undermined everything that others were trying to teach them.

After I separated from Isaac & came to the field with the children, I didn't enforce the same firm discipline that Isaac did when we were together, & this is when the problems that had existed in James' life came to fruition, unchecked by me. I underestimated how serious the warfare was, how much the Enemy was fighting to destroy the children & their usefulness, especially our teens. The Lord had to give me some extremely big spankings to wake me up to how serious it was & now I am really thankful! Now I want the Lord to really shake me out of this & teach me how to really fight in the Spirit.--Fight for the children & be a real shepherdess.

If I can just share this lesson with other parents! I desperately want to show how that little bit of compromise year after year can be so dangerous, not really attacking, not really getting to the root of the problem, not dealing with my children in the Spirit, nor using the Word to really root out those problems & seeing them through to a real victory.--My not disciplining them consistently & constantly led to extremely serious consequences in the lives of my children, & in James' life.

I feel seriously responsible to the other families & parents. I was even working a lot with the teens in Japan, trying to help them, but I turned out to be such a poor sample & I really apologise for not being what the

Lord wanted me to be.

One thing I learned from my work with the teens is that the weaknesses in my life led to a weakness in the whole area. We were trying so many things--to set up little programs, teen exchanges, teen witnessing attacks, to really help the teens, but again, while these things are good & needed, in themselves, it wasn't getting to the root of the problem. We were just pacifying the problem or pushing it to the side or hoping that this teen Home would have all the magic answers, when the answer was in the Word!--Just the Word!

A lot of the problems with the teens in Japan were just put off, they weren't really attacked, they weren't solved & I am very responsible for this. I have really claimed the Lord's forgiveness & deliverance from my serious problems of self-righteousness, spiritual pride, complacency, lukewarmness & not having a real militant spirit to attack in the Spirit. I was always so frantically busy trying this & trying that, but it was all on the surface & it wasn't attacking the problem at the root, LHM!

I had to face the fact that by not really fighting the Enemy's attacks in the lives of my children, but by just standing back & letting it happen, I was being a hireling. I wasn't being a shepherd to really fight for them even if it cost my whole life, LHM! I was so pacifistic, from this namby-pamby "no absolutes" type of spirit that I had learned from my childhood & socialistic upbringing, I never really saw the need to take a real stand or the need for that firm discipline. I would be hurt at Isaac's disciplining of the children during his time with them, but I should have been grateful! I just didn't see the seriousness of the fight.

James has always been quite clever, quite intellectual, but I didn't realise that this was such a problem. He has a lot of natural ability that turned out to be a very great handicap, as many of the basic lessons of love, love for others, concern & consideration, loving the Lord & the Word, were the areas that he didn't learn in & I didn't emphasise either. LHM! He was clever & knew how to conceal the wickedness in his heart, so it wasn't dealt with. When other people would try to point out these things, often I couldn't believe that it could be so serious & I tended to cover up for him & not let others have the full sway of disciplining him & dealing with him on these problems.

Another lesson I learned was that in

Japan I became so busy with what I thought were "more important" responsibilities I just didn't oversee like I should have. I am sure the Lord gave me checks, because the Lord is faithful, but I wasn't desperate because I underestimated the seriousness of the attacks.

When I became pregnant again with our 7th child & this baby was not the fruit of Isaac, James became very resentful & made comments that he couldn't accept the baby. I did realise that this wasn't right & talked to James, gave him Word studies, but I didn't fight & carry this right through to a full victory! I should have sat down with him & made him read these Letters with me & really explained to him so he would understand from the Word & even ask for prayer against that resentment & bitterness.

Another problem where I just simply underestimated the Enemy's devices was in James' letter-writing. I began checking his letters & from time to time there were some that I knew weren't in the right spirit & I didn't send them, I destroyed them & I explained about this & why. However, again I can see I didn't really attack it in the spirit & help James to see how much the Enemy was trying to use this as a device to cause trouble in his life. I chipped away at the symptom or tried to sweep away that cobweb by having him edit his letters, but yet I didn't get to the root of why he was writing such letters.

I am seeing more & more that the Lord is requiring me to learn how to deal with problems & get victories in my own life for the sake of my children. There are not enough words I can say to try to warn other parents to really wake up & not be ignorant of the Enemy's devices, to see that the answers are already right there in the Word & to really take them & apply them & desperately fight for the teens & for our children.--Not to take it lying down!--Not to hope for some magic answer from someone else or some other situation, but to really attack it right there, right on the spot, right now!--Not to let it go, even for an instant!

I am really thankful for the Folks' love & concern for me & their faith the Lord could really take & change me! If James' story can help others through my dandy bad example, I hope they can see that the Enemy can't win as long as we keep fighting! To see that the Enemy isn't just joking, he's in it for keeps--that's how we need to view things! I am really praying for the Lord to change me &

make me a true shepherdess willing to do anything to fight the Enemy to save His sheep. TYL!

MORE PERSONAL LESSONS & REACTIONS FROM BECKY

Dear Ones,

I am just so thankful for everything the Lord's done! Some of the biggest things I have been learning to fight against are discouragement & self-pity.--To really fight them as being a real attack of the Enemy, because the minute I start yielding to them, then boom, almost right away, I don't get any more lessons. I have really been seeing that I need to fight against that because that is one area the Enemy has been hitting a lot. The more I fight it, then the more lessons I feel the Lord really comes through with!

My Word study led to reading about humility & pride & I think the Lord finally got through to me on just how much pride I have & how serious pride & self-righteousness really are & how much it has hindered my life.

So I can see how He let me fail. Dad says: "You can never be a truly great leader until you've been broken & humbled & made some terrible mistakes". I feel that has certainly been the case with me, that the Lord has had to do that. I couldn't possibly be in any situation where I am even a parent or a shepherdess of any kind, until the Lord was able to break me & humble me & show me that I can't do it. Even feeling so bad & discouraged, even that is a sign of pride as Dad pointed out.

By God's grace I feel that though the Word has been exposing so much more, I feel so much happier & actually more excited than I have for a long time. I feel so much freer, just coming out & being honest about my problems & getting prayer for them & my weaknesses & really fighting!

I feel that now the Lord is making me see that I just need to fall in love with Jesus. He's going to take care of everything else, even teaching me & making me what He wants me to be. So I am actually really excited! The Word has been really exciting & I've been able to get close to the Lord in a way that I never have before!

REACTION FROM READING "THE STORY OF JAMES"

Dear Ones,

GBY! ILYSSM! TYSSM for the privilege of reading "The Story of James". I want to say at the start that I do wholeheartedly agree & I'd like to see it pubbed. I really want the Lord to bring out all the details, so it can serve as a warning lesson to others--even as it is to me for the sake of my other five children! LHM!

At first reading, I have to admit it hit me pretty hard, especially all the points Isaac brought out about me & my weaknesses, but it's really true, LHM! Like when he said that I've always been very dirty & unclean, I guess I was really hit with it, that in spite of prayer & really working on this area, maybe I'm not making any progress. But one thing I really see is how much he loves the Lord & us to bring it all out. I feel like if there's hope for me & James, then the Lord can do it for anyone.

So I do feel the whole thing will be a real blessing. In the "lessons learned" at the end

of this article, it was really a help to me to see the point brought out about the "One Wife" vision with our teens & that their training needs to be a "Team Challenge". Also, the point about how often the mothers & fathers, or a mother on her own can't closely oversee the teens as much as they would like, so we need to really pray for good adult teen shepherds. It was a beautiful lesson that made me cry, seeing how much the Lord has done that here at the Jumbo! It's just been a beautiful thing for me to see, a real answer to prayer for me, as I know I so desperately need the help of my Family even in teaching & training my kids.

It helped me fight discouragement to just recall & hold on to these beautiful lessons you have shared about forgetting & forsaking the past, that the Lord has forgiven all that. Also, the lessons on negative thinking, to remember that in spite of what I was like in the past, that Jesus still loves me & how much He's shown it over & over, by my being here & getting help & training, & me learning so many life-changing lessons, TYJ!

Love, Becky

EXPLAINING VIDEOS TO TEENS!

By WS Staff

We have said it is imperative that an adult always preview a movie before teens see it, & also be present to view it with the teens to explain & comment on it. By this we mean that even if you have seen the movie before, even a few months prior to showing it to the teens, the adult should preview the movie again to be sure to glean all the good spiritual lessons from it to relate & explain to the teens!

We have found in some cases that some adults do not preview the movie; others will simply preview the movie, & then sit with the teens while they watch it, & only make a general commentary afterwards. In other cases, the explanations cover every minute detail of the movie & its setting, so the explanation can take too long & even be too tiring or boring.

How can the adults go about making teen video-viewing a valuable teaching & training time? Here are a few pointers that could help you to explain videos to teens:

1) **Open with prayer:** Explain briefly the setting & main theme of the movie. You may even introduce the main characters in advance.

2) **Major on the lessons:** As you preview the movie & afterwards, pray about what the

Lord wants to teach the teens through it, then let this be the main part of your explanation. Often the characters will put the main lessons into words, but if they don't, you need to, to be sure the teens get it. Keep it basic, fundamental, clear & simple. Although it may be helpful to explain some details, your main job is to point out the overall lessons for the teens' training.

3) **Explain how characters change:** When the characters go through changes--for example, becoming more loving through learning submission, or being heartbroken because of being unkindly treated, or having their faith encouraged through someone's love & understanding, or learning how to fight after a crippling accident--this is a good way to explain lessons to the teens. Show what is a right & wrong way to take accidents or heartbreak. Point out right decisions & their good fruits, or wrong decisions & their consequences. Ask the Lord to help you have discernment, & then pass this discernment on to the teens.

4) **Relate the video to the Word:** You can use Scriptures or references to the Letter to explain what is happening, like pausing the video & saying, "See how she is looking at him? That is a proud look, isn't it?--which Proverbs says is an abomination to the

Lord!" Or "See how he is learning from his mistakes?--Just like Mama explained in the Letter on 'Failure', he is more humble & more loving to others now!"

5) **Explain terms or habits which the teens may not understand:** If the film has some type of jargon, such as "black lingo" or "hippy talk", you will have to interpret. If it discusses things in the System which our kids have not had contact with, these things need to be explained as you go along.

6) **Explain the background or factual elements, but not too much:** When viewing a historical movie, or one which has an unusual setting, it is an opportunity to explain many factual things which may be of interest to the teens. However, we have found that if too much explanation of this type goes on during the movie, the flow of the movie is lost & the teens tune out the explanation so they can finish the movie.

We've found it's better to have a study on these points at another time, to discuss the factual background which is brought out in the movie, or other related interesting information. For example, before seeing "Desiree", our teens were told to read about & research Napoleon in the Childcare Handbook & Ladybird books, etc., which they really enjoyed & learned from, but which we then did not have to take movie time to explain.

7) **Try not to interrupt suspenseful moments:** Wait until a tense part is over before pausing the video, & then explain what has happened, so that the excitement is not taken away. Teens love excitement, so let the movie be exciting, but still explain later if needed.

8) **Don't "over"-explain!** Too much explaining can make the movie last too long, be boring, & even make the teens feel they are being "talked down to". Sometimes the teens can follow & understand & learn from the unfolding of the story itself without you commenting on every segment, so you have to be Spirit-led & know your teens to see if they are catching what is going on. When there is no dialogue, you can also "talk over" some parts of the video without pausing it, so the action isn't broken. Maintain a good pace, keep your explaining to the point, interesting & brief, so as to not drag things out.

9) **When done, ask the teens what they learned:** Give them a chance to share what they learned & benefitted from & appreciated in the movie. Asking them what parts they liked most also helps you get to know the teens better, by seeing what interests them most, what sticks with them. It also

helps them to remember the lessons, when they have put them in their own words & expressed their own reactions.

10) **Close with prayer:** It's important to pray that the good lessons & good portions are retained, & that the bad System behaviour or System language not be copied or even remembered.--Just as in watching adult videos, that they will not disturb our sleep or cause any bad effects.

Additional helpful tips:

Our teens say they prefer to know in advance what kind of movie to expect--if it is slow-moving or tense, a love story or spy movie. Otherwise even if it is good, they say they can be disappointed if they anticipate a lot of action & it is not that type of movie.

Also the teens appreciate it if you encourage them to ask questions. You can pause the movie after an intricate part & say, "Any questions? Everybody with us? Hope you're getting this!" or "Now what do you see is happening here?"

It is also profitable to ask the teens the following day what they learned from the movie, after they have had a chance to think about it! Sometimes you can even pick movies on themes the teens are learning lessons about, such as introspection & appreciation ("Amy & the Angel") or worldliness ("The Last Days of Pompeii"), & they can comment or react on them later.

If watching a teen movie with a big group of adults, explain beforehand that the purpose of the video is for the teens or children present, therefore the movie will be paused & explanations be made. This is much better for the teens' or childrens' understanding than trying to whisper explanations during the movie. This is why, if possible, it is good to have a viewing time that is designated "Teen Video" so that adults who do attend know what to expect--that it is "Teen Time"!

Also when watching a teen movie with adults present, it is good to agree ahead of time who will explain the movie & just have one person to do that, although that person could ask for comments from the other adults as well.

To sum it up, we'd say: Preview, pray & plan! Ask the Lord beforehand to show you how this video can help our teens learn & grow! Then use the video as an outlet to pour out the wisdom that you have gained through your knowledge & study & practice of the Word! GBY with edifying, profitable & inspiring teen videos! WLY!