### Heart to Heart concerts

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### World News

(From Silas:) Lord willing, in January, the Thailand Heart to Heart show team (along with Jeremy Spencer, Sunny, Vas, Tim Drummer and perhaps some others) will be holding another series of concerts in both Bombay and Delhi, India. Kanti and Family members in India have been working to secure the needed sponsorships for the programs. The Lord provided a free ticket for Lily (of Bani, in Turkey) to come to Thailand to help the dance team, who are practicing through the month of November. Lord willing, the band will be getting together in India in late December.

With the re-emergence of Fleetwood Mac as a group, their recent CD release, and the fact that they are now on tour has made Jeremy's connection with Fleetwood Mac a major thing. Just yesterday, Fleetwood Mac was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, which includes Jeremy as well. Fleetwood Mac's most recent album has been in the top three on Billboard's charts for quite a few months, which makes their name, and subsequently Jeremy Spencer's name, much more "in the news" than it was last time around for *Heart to Heart*. We feel the Lord is probably using this renewed interest in Fleetwood Mac to help make the concerts a bigger testimony than before. Please keep this in your prayers!●

### Brotherhood

#### THAILAND

(*From Silas:*) The Thai VSs recently hosted another Nationals' Meeting, attended by most of the nationals in the country. Testimonies and victories of the Lord's supply were shared, along with Word and current events highlighting that we're living in the "Days of Preparation."

#### USA

*(From Charity and Vas:)* Two Family Camps were held in Florida in late October and early November for the Southeastern U.S. Family (213 people in the first, and 158 in the second).

Every morning the whole staff, the band, and the inspirational crew got together to pray, and the Lord told us specifically what to do. Each inspiration was filled with the Spirit due to these prophecy sessions. The peer pressure was heavily positive.

While watching Peter's meetings on video, everybody down to the youngest teen was searching their own heart, asking questions like, "Where should I go?—To India? Thailand?" It was like a revival of the spirit!

The camp managers gave us an initial discount, as well as the use of their kitchen for two weeks. Everyone pitched in to bring food. When I went to pay on the last day, I mentioned that we could use a further discount if it were possible. The camp director grinned and said, "Only if you promise to come back again—we really enjoyed having you all here."●

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### World Highlights

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 All the Homes in our city witnessed at the annual "Pepsi Island" weeklong rock festival. Two caravans acted as our base, and our large Family banner drew many to receive a personal witness!— *Ruby, Peter, Faithy and Laura, Hungary*

Through the help of one of our supporters, we were able to sponsor school fees for 50 female children from poor families.—James, India

✤ We held a weeklong summer camp for 10 handicapped orphans at provisioned bungalows. The kids ate in restaurants, rode horses, visited the circus and took boat trips on the Danube. The biggest highlight was our personal and devotional time with the kids. They all received the Lord!— Jude, Eden and Eve, Hungary

This month, the first Arabic *TA* and tape was completed! The Lord helped us to finish writing and/ or translating 14 Arabic songs for a new tape, and raised up some professional Arab singers to sing some of the songs.—*Arabic LP Home, Mideast* 

✤ We did over 100 shows in schools, both public and private, hospitals, orphanages and jails in the south of Chile. We performed for and prayed with approximately 16,000 children, not counting numerous teachers and parents. We distributed over 7,000 children's posters and more than 5,000 tracts.— Gabriel and Lydia, Chile

On Children's Day, our teens and OCs performed for 350 slum children. We set up stalls for simple games, and used sponsored audio cassettes as prizes for the games.—*Delhi Service Home, India* Last month at a big book fair we got out 319 videos, 35 CDs and 15 tapes!—*David and Victory, Brazil*

Brian, one of our printing contacts, sent a copy of the tape *Peace in the Midst of Storm* to Princess Diana shortly before she died. On his own initiative, he has been witnessing via mail to various VIPs, including the Prime Minister and other members of the royal family.—*Michael Newman, England* 

We gave a four-hour seminar/workshop on the subject "Change of Attitudes" to the directors of jails here in Colombia, which they gave us a good donation for.—*Felipe and Victoria, Colombia* We sang on a TV program called "Los Niños

Pueden" (Children Can Do It) that is aired nationally.—Josias, Sara, Elizabeth and Patricio, Dominican Republic

A local radio station has begun to transmit quotes from the *Words of Love and Wisdom* tape during the morning hours from 9-12, five days a week.—*Pablo, Teresa and Rosa, Ecuador* We sang on local television, explained the Family's work, and showed outreach pictures for eight minutes (potential audience: five million).—*Dave, Mercy, Michael, Stacy and Jason, Mexico* We performed at an international conference on refugees in late September. There were many

on refugees in late September. There were many VIP guests in the audience, including Madame Mitterrand (the late French president's wife).— *Simon, Renee and Claire, Greece*•



# tidbits

new laborers - Oct. 1997 Maria Amelia (29, Brazilian) and daughter joined in Brazil (September). Rebeca (40, Brazilian) joined in Brazil. Lizia (16, Brazilian) joined in Brazil. Gabriel Shiner (16, Brazilian) joined in Brazil. Jorge (30, Argentine) joined in Brazil. Hector, Marysol and two children (Chilean) joined in Chile. Noemi (17, Brazilian) joined in Brazil. Elias (42, Mexican) joined in Chile. Marco (20, Italian) joined in Rjieka, Croatia

Ivan Faithful (21, Kazakh) joined in Almati. Kazakhstan

Victor Freeman (28, Romanian) joined in Romania.

Maria Affectionate (21, Russian) joined in Barnaul, Russia.

Andre (21, Ukrainian) joined in

Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine.

Sam (21, Bulgarian) joined in Constanza. Romania.

(From WS WEB team:) The members of

One section will contain pubs that you

keep checking. Ha! It'll be there soon!

We'll be changing the log-in ID and pass-

The ID for each month will be the actual

### **Christmas tool distribution**

One year we wrote a letter explaining our tools and CTP ministry, and gave this letter to a friend who runs a nursery. She gave our letter to 100 families, along with a blank order for our videos and tapes. These parents ordered 94 videos and 78 tapes—and we never even met them! This year we are going to try this approach with all our friends so that they can order our tools as gifts, while helping our CTP ministries. We will offer a special Christmas set: video, CD, tape, and Christmas story booklet.

-ABNER AND PROMISE, JAPAN

### Provisioning peer pressure

When going shop-to-shop provisioning in a wholesale market, we took our needs list printed out on our letterhead, with a space for a signature. After one person gave and signed his name, others were encouraged to give also!

-HOSANNA, MARYANN AND DAVID, INDIA

#### **Business cards**

If you print on white, your business cards don't stand out if they are put in someone's wallet. Always use a color (even off white) as it stands out in a stack.

-CHARITY, LYDIA, ROSITA AND IVAN, USA

mind you of this log-in ID, but the password will be different and will be published in each Grapevine.

> The password for December is: brush\*home

The other new section is a project we are currently working on, that we want you all to be part of!-A Family songbook that will include all the songs that the Family has written. This is, of course, a huge project, and we'll be adding songs to this section as they are completed. Only part of the songbook will actually go on the WEB for now, but we are planning on sending the entire book on CD to the Homes once it's completed, hopefully in the next couple of months. Any feedback or comments you may have on this project are very welcome!

So check out the new "Members Only" section at: www.thefamily.org/members/

Also, we wanted to remind everyone that there are two Family sites. The main one contains parts of the Free Zine, Legal Dossier, Our Founder (about Dad), and other

# Gaining givers

For the last three years, besides our monthly tithe, we have set aside a specified amount to give to other needy fields. The Lord has honored this by miraculously supplying our

budget every month, even when it often looked like we may fall short. Just knowing that we do give seems to empower all the Home members with extra faith to believe the Lord will come through, thus giving everyone a greater vacuum for receiving.

Last month we had some extra finances, and the Lord showed us to share them with the other two Homes in our field who we knew were struggling. Some of us had reservations about this, as we could have used the funds to get new equipment, but we unanimously agreed that we wanted to learn to give more. So we sent each Home a financial gift, and sent some extra funds to Russia and China.

As soon as the new month started, we began receiving gifts and donations above and beyond anything expected! Within a few weeks we received more than \$3,500!—And many new open doors for witnessing presented themselves. -GIDEON, HEIDI AND LILY, PAKISTAN

more meaty pubs. If you feel that these materials are not suitable for your friends and/ or contacts, please refer them to the more milky site. This "milkier" site is the address that is now printed on all our GP publications. audios and videos.

The addresses for these two sites are as follows:

"Meaty" lengthy site: www.thefamily.org "Milky" site: www.thefamily.org/thefamily

International WEB Site Stats for October 1997 •500 MB downloaded (17.5mg per day) •2,263 people visited the Family WEB site (about 77 people per day)

### Thai WEB site update

(From ASCRO:) Last month we received 1,300 hits on our Thai WEB Site! YA Stefan is working to make our sites more accessible on the search engines, and thus easier for people to find.

The world is blessed most by men who do things, and not by those who merely talk about them. Copyright © 1997 by The Family

Suggested reading age for this publication is JETTs and up. Parents or shepherds may read with or allow portions to be read by younger ages, at their discretion.

The news and views from Family members published in the Grapevine are not intended to reflect WS policy.

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Kurisumasu Ome ■Tagalog ● payamg υ atdlime pivdlaarit akiortame pivdlaaritlo—Inuit (Eskimo) 🔸 STHE MET ws the WS WEB team are happy to announce that a new feature will be added to the Family WEB site!-A "Members Only" page, featuring two main sections: can download, starting with the Zine and WNDs, DV, in what is called PDF (Acrobat) format! This will require that you have a program called "Acrobat Reader" (by Adobe). If you don't have this program, it will be available to download from this Members Only section. It will allow you to view, read, and print these pubs exactly as they appear on paper. It's still in the works, but feel free to go ahead and check it out, and if it ain't there 0 word each month, and will publish this information in the Grapevine. - 00 month. For December the ID will be "december". For January, the ID will be T T T T T "january," etc. We will not republish or re-Ģ

studio

#### MAPAS



(From Michael [Micah] and Paul [Pethuel]:) Since our last update we've finished two Loving Jesus songs, "The First Time" and Paul's "I Am Callin' to You!" We've worked on material to finish up our outreach ministry CD Follow On, including a couple of rockers— Paul's "Lord of Love" with some hot licks from Eric, and a country rock version of "Honesty Pays" with a heavenly lead guitar by Pedro. We also had a visit from Mark Picker who helped with some breathtaking acoustic leads on "Passin' Through the Valley."

We also recorded a song for one of those Brazilian "novelas" (soap operas) which an actor friend of ours requested us to sing in the novela he's acting in! So, "Fall on the Rock" (in Portuguese) will be part of a novela here in Brazil and will go on his album as well.

Some new songs in the works: a bluesy song from Paul, "Don't Look Back," and a new Christmas song from Micah called "The Christmas Decision." We've also been doing a lot of shows and television appearances. After mastering the *Follow On* CD, we're itchin' to get started on a lot of FAST songs—another whole CD worth of material!

#### BAS = RAD

(From Julia, for the BAS turned RAD team:) Hip, hip hooray! We finished all of our GP and Loving Jesus song projects. That called for a celebration. Our studio team had a fun evening out together. "All work and no play makes dull studio musicians."

Peter Fisherman (16, studio trainee) wrote, worked on and final mixed "India"—watch out, the teens are "taking over," ha!

We are now working on a Children's MO Letter song tape, which, DV, should be out sometime next year. Please keep this project in your prayers. Simultaneously we are keeping up with our FTT production, and some new singers, sounds and styles should be coming your way soon.

Speaking of *new*, check out the voice on "In Da Howse" and "Receive My Love." Hey, who's that? None other than Phil Teacher (a.k.a. Deep Throat; self-explanatory once you hear him). He's one of our early African pioneers, now contributing his musical talents and ethnic flavor to some of our songs. For any interested gals, he's "18" (with @ 25 years of experience).

Jeremy is getting ready for his upcoming trip to India to help out with the *Heart To Heart* concerts! The Lord did an amazing miracle to supply him with a new electric guitar for slide, plus a new accoustic one. Testimony coming soon in which we'll disclose the juicy details.

In closing, "What's in a name?" While we leave you to ponder that thought, we wanted to announce that we are changing *our* studio's name. How does "RAD" sound?—The "Rio Audio Department!" That's us! And a closing word from Jeremy: *"Keep tithing!"* 

#### IVM

(Excerpts from Solomon CR's reports, written while in the USA on a filming trip to gather footage for 13 new Treasure Attic shows for TV broadcast:) Things have been busy, though this is only our first week. I will be dropping material off at some community centers so that I can film the locals. I'll also visit a fire station, but am having to go through the top LA office for it. I got a good contact for a performing school for Latin kids, which we will look up. We're working on being able to film an orchestra and jazz band, and more colleges and schools. We filmed in downtown LA, where they were having a Mexican Festival with dancing, etc. It was perfect for what we needed.

I have been keeping my eyes peeled to film anyone that I can. I'm even planning on using the gardener and his wife, ha! I have a dance studio lined up to film some kid dancers. The teacher is having an operation for cancer this week, and it's been the Lord's setup to have us meet and pray for her. Lots of witnessing has been taking place with people we have met.

This morning, as usual, we prayed for the Lord to place those He wants us to reach in our path. As I was about to film a train, a conductor came up to me and said, "What's your name?" I answered "Robert Fernandez." He said, "That's funny. I knew a guy that looked just like you, and his name was Solomon." He took off his glasses and I realized it was Bigvai, who was in the Family in Costa Rica when I was 15 years old! I was talking to someone about him just yesterday! It was great! We exchanged numbers and will be meeting soon. He got on his train and waved goodbye as it was leaving ... just perfect for the shot we needed!

People loved being on TV with us, and we had no problems filming. We even got a Hispanic policeman to cooperate with us. Tomorrow we prepare to leave for Mexico, where we'll spend about three days of packed-out filming (about 200 people and lots of kids available). Then we'll stop at a mountain resort to film some other scenes. Please pray for us!



>> England – (From Gideon and Rachel:) Several months back (see Grapevine #21) we were invited to participate in workshops on sex and spirituality by Dr. Ben Pink Dandelion, who is involved in the God And Sex Project (GASP). The course he is running is for Quakers and Birmingham University students doing their theology degrees.

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We were given an hour for our speech and, as usual, the students asked many questions about our beliefs and practices. One of the students told us privately how she practiced what we call Loving Jesus, and that when she tried it with partners who did not believe in it they became quite offended, ha! We were able to give out lots of literature.

>> USA-(From Marc and Claire:) Our attendance at this year's SSSR (Society for the Scientific Study of Religion) conference was fruitful. One new acquaintance invited us to give a presentation to his university NRM class, and another invited us to join his religious WEB site chat session. We've noticed quite a change in the climate of the conferences, due to the constant attempts being made by anti-cult academics to discredit the involvement of academics who are writing about NRMs and championing religious liberty issues. There is obviously a battle being waged along these lines.

CESNUR's series of books on NRMs (originally published in Italian), one of which is Gordon Melton's booklet on the Family, was just bought by the largest Catholic publisher in South America to sell throughout South America! Please pray that a publisher can be found to make the series available in English.●



#### Dear Mama,

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I have seen that some brethren, in my opinion, don't really care about their supporters and sheep. If the contact doesn't help abundantly and faithfully, they won't be so inspired about praying for them or following up on them. But if the person is helping abundantly, they will really "amen" the prayer, and talk respectfully about that person. I know that if a person is a faithful supporter, we need to invest our time, prayers and attention in him, but maybe the other ones that are not helping so much need even more

prayer, and we shouldn't just drop them. The tendency is to go on the outward appearance and wanting immediate results. I've found that the times when I meet people who need more feeding and care, and I take the time to give it, the Lord always pays back wonderfully!

The Lord is saying how this is a day of love, being humble and meek, and how our relationship with Him is the most important thing. But it seems like many think that that means being successful in your job, whether it be outreach, childcare, cooking or whatnot. For example, if somebody is great on outreach and brings in lots of funds, but is grumpy at Home or independent, the shepherds will talk to them, but everyone still holds them in higher esteem than the person who is really sweet, close to Jesus, trying to be a help, but when he goes on outreach, doesn't always bring in abundant finances. I thought it was the Lord Who gives the increase. Some days, not much happens in the way of financial blessings, and on other days, He gives it all on a silver platter.

I think we need to remember our priorities: Love is the most important thing, and all the rest will follow. —female (17), Europe

### Dearest Mama Maria, Ever since I watched the Summit videos and got the gift of prophecy, it

Mama's Mailbox

has been a vital tool to me. Now I get up 15 minutes earlier each morning to take time with Jesus, and usually try to get a prophecy for the day. It's not much time, but it makes a noticeable difference in my day.

I had been getting a lot of headaches for over six months and I didn't know why. So I finally asked the Lord about it and He said that everytime I feel like I'm getting a headache it's because I need to stop and spend time with Him. It's so neat! I would have never thought of anything like that myself. He gives me answers to everything, as well as encouragement and instruction. Since the Spirit Stories GN, I have started getting a story prophecy.

I'm so thankful for everything you've poured into us. Maybe the fruit hasn't blossomed yet, but the roots are there and it's taken effect in my life at least. Don't ever think you're giving us too much, because every single Letter has been such a help to me!

—female (16)

-safety standards Into Mayna

(*From Gabe:*) When we received the sobering prayer request for Tim Drummer the other day (see below), I was reminded of the many safety standards which Dad set up for our Home. I know we can't legislate righteousness, but we need to try harder to make it impossible

for such accidents to happen. Because we are the Lord's Endtime children, the Enemy fights extra hard to stop us from doing the Lord's work, and an incident like this shows how the Enemy is walking about seeking whom he may devour. What may be perfectly fine for non-Family members and kids to do, may *not* be fine for us, as the Enemy is out to destroy our usefulness.

We, as a staff, could hardly go for a bike ride without Dad cautioning us about the dangers of bike riding, etc. In Japan we often went on long bike rides on our day off. When Dad found

out how far we went, he didn't want us to go so far. Mama explained to Dad how much it meant to us, and after discussing it he agreed that we could go, as long as we didn't go on busy streets where there was a lot of traffic. Dad had reservations, because he knew the Enemy would be out to hinder and get us much more than he would someone who wasn't doing anything for the Lord. The admonition sure caused us to be much more careful and prayerful.

While Dad's concerns over things such as bike riding could seem extreme, he was acutely aware of how dangerous even simple things had the potential to be. He instilled in us the necessity to pray, and his precautions prevented a lot of accidents from happening and kept us from doing anything stupid or foolish. It's always best to err on the side of caution, prevention and safety, rather than risking your life and valuable service for the Lord!•

In late November. Tim Drummer (of Debbie SGA) was making a homemade rocket with his younger brothers, when instead of taking off, it backfired and exploded, seriously mangling the last three fingers on his left hand. He had emergency reconstructive surgery, and with the Lord's healing touch he should be able to use his fingers again if they heal properly. We need prayer against any complications or other attacks of the Enemy so he will be able to drum again and play guitar. He is scheduled to go to India at the beginning of January for the Heart to Heart concert tour. In six weeks the temporary pins will be taken out of his joints and they will start therapy. Please pray that Tim's healing will progress faster than the doctors expect so he can go for the concert tour.

Mama jewels

### Off... HOLDING ON!

-to a staff member

If you can't do anything else, one thing you *can* do is hang on. As Grandpa's famous quote says—that we all know well:

"The Devil can't win if you don't give in!" That's one thing that we can do—hang on. The Lord made that power available to us when He died for us. There's nobody who can't hang on. There's nobody that it's too difficult for.

Everyone who truly wants to hang on and cries out desperately to the Lord to help them not give in and not quit and not give up is going to have the power to keep going. And then, no matter what happens and no matter how much you are buffeted about or how

rough things get, if you just hang on, the Devil is going to give up when he sees that you're not!●



# <u>What's Upp</u>

# Life for the Lord

(From Margie [of Jerry Paladino]:) This year, on my birthday, I celebrated my 25th year in the Family. I shared with my kids all the Lord led me to do through the years: kitchen work in Ireland for eight months, translation and pubs for four years in France, being a traveling shepherd and witnessing in Southern France, FFing and cooking in Tenerife, VSing and traveling all over Europe for three years after the RNR, having a FFing/witnessing Home in Geneva, moving to MWM and starting my life as a mother at 31, camping for oneand-a-half years in Greece, living in Sri Lanka for two years, living selah in the Philippines for two years, separating from Josiah and then doing the DF ministry for

fundraising attack over the phone! She went through the business cards she's collected during outreach, and in spare moments, began calling people to present her need. Within a couple of months the Lord has supplied abundantly! Where there's a will, there's a way—and nothing can stop the woman of faith!

# Personal prophecy

(From an adult woman:) When my son attended the JETT/teen camp, he was handed a prophecy that someone had received for him. When he returned home, he asked me if I had received it for him (I had also attended the camp). When I told him no and that I hadn't even read it, he was very surprised as it contained some

**Prayer Request for Mama** 

Thank you for your continued prayers for Mama, which are vital to her health and physical well-being. Thank the Lord her eyes have been doing fairly well lately, but she is in desperate need of your prayers for her general strength. She has been quite weakened recently by another prolonged period which has drained her of much of her strength. This also makes it difficult for her to get any exercise, which then tends to weaken her further. She has much work to do on the Words, and needs your fervent prayers to have the physical stamina to do it. Thank you so much! Mama and I are very thankful for your continued support through prayer. We couldn't do without it. Love, Peter

another two years, moving to Japan and living with Johanne and Lydia for nine years, first in Tokyo and now at the HCS for three-and-a-half years.

At each stage of my life I thought that that was what I would be doing until Jesus came back-that I'd always do pubs work, continue to FF, be a childless wife, or have to take care of my handicapped child. But each stage was perfectly timed and designed. I was promoted and demoted. I lived in popular situations and under persecution, in times of plenty and at times when we hardly had anything. I was married, divorced, single, remarried, barren, now a mom of 11! I can only say that I am so thankful to have given my life to the Lord in this Family. Each phase taught me a lot; each situation and condition was tailor-made for me, and I can certainly testify that Jesus gives us life more abundantly!

At this point I can't say that I've got any personal ambitions, except to be a yielded vessel in Jesus' hand, ready for whatever He has for me.

# Woman of faith

(From Marty and Anna:) Maggie is a single mom with two kids. She recently decided to go to China. However, as we are a small Home with a number of children, she is very busy helping with their care and keeping the Home running. The Lord gave her the idea to launch a personal counsel that he was sure I had said, as I often tell him the same things at home! It was quite a confirmation to him that it was the Lord speaking!

At the camp, after praying for the gift of prophecy, we separated into groups to hear from the Lord. In my group of about 10 or so young people, all but one person received a prophecy from the Lord!

prophecy from the Lord

It seemed so matter of fact, like "everyone's doing it," and the prophecies received were beautiful!—A good example of positive peer pressure!

#### The whole Home RUSSIA

(From Gabe, Maria and Philip:) The Lord told us in prophecy that He wanted our whole Home to make a faith trip to a nearby city. So all six of us and one catacomber packed in our Russian vehicle and headed off. We passed out 10,000 posters in six days, visited two orphanages where we performed, and won 300 souls!—All because we included the Lord in on all our decision-making!

### Deciding themselves

(From Ben, Clarissa, Shad and Amada:) On Prayer Day our focus was Christmas prep. We let our 10-14-year-olds read the prayer flyer together and hear from the Lord about ideas, goals, etc. They have responded so well in recent weeks to the challenges in recent pubs to be missionaries and witness more, so they saw this as a chance to get out and do something!

When they realized that the goals they were setting would require a great deal of time and a good measure of personal sacrifice, they stopped to pray more about how to implement it. They decided that they would forsake all computer games for the four or five weeks of Christmas push. As they further discussed computer games, they unitedly decided to delete any and all games that were violent, destructive or warlike, and any that had other weird creatures, symbols, aggression, etc. God bless 'em! They said they wanted to trust the Lord to supply good, constructive, edifying games, and promptly deleted them all after devotions!

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#### Prison ministry PHILIPPINES

(From Tim, Aura and YA Christina:) It's been over a year now since the Lord opened the door for us to have a prison ministry at the New Bilibid Prison—the biggest prison in the Philippines where the most hardened criminals, the most notorious drug dealers, leaders of the communist party in the Philippines, and bank robbers are confined. Sounds a little scary, doesn't it? But "where sin abounded, God's grace did much more abound!" (Rom.5.20).

Right now we are concentrating on the maximum security compound, which has 5,000 inmates, but we have plans to expand and visit other prisons in the country. With government accreditation, we've been given freedom to visit the three major prisons in the country with almost ten thousand inmates. The ministry is limitless.

#### "Hated of all men ..." RUSSIA

(From Ruby Happy:) With the new law passed in Russia, orthodox people are becoming more hostile towards other religions. The other day while out postering, a couple of people ripped up our posters, and many people screamed at us, "You are sectarians! What's your religion? Are you orthodox?" I had a check to stop, but I thought it was just the Devil wanting me to stop witnessing. I didn't stop to pray and hear from the Lord, but continued postering.

Then a man and woman came up to me and grabbed all the posters out of my hand and left. I thought they had gone, so I got more posters from my partner and continued. Just then, I heard someone behind me say, "Excuse me!" I turned around and it was the same two people. The man ripped up my posters and at the same time the lady sprayed something in my eyes. I managed to turn my face, but still, she sprayed half of my face with a liquid that burned and made me cry. We found a hotel to wash it off, but the pain lasted for a few hours. TTL it wasn't more serious.

The Lord told us in prophecy that it's more important than ever to be sensitive to His checks and follow Him closely, in preparation for the days ahead. It's a part of our Endtime training. (*Editor's note: Please pray for the Family's outreach in Russia, as things seem to be tightening up considerably there since the new laws were passed.*)●

# *pi*ONe<sup>E</sup>RING

#### UZBEKISTAN

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(From Carrie, Issy and the Tashkent team:) Imagine yourself going 700 years back in time to the days of Marco Polo and the great Silk Road, where people live in little mud houses with no running water. Mosques, domes, palaces, arches, and other amazing pieces of ancient architecture surround you. Along the sides of the narrow, dusty streets are wallahs trying to sell handmade carpets, hats, clothes, jewelry, etc. The bazaar is a world in itself, full of exotic fruits, vegetables and spices. Just to make sure you don't forget where you are, they have Arabic music playing on every street corner, or mullahs (Islamic priests) singing portions of the Koran to the passersby. It's hard to imagine a place

like this could still exist after so many years, and going to Bukhara was like time travel.

From start to finish the trip was an adventure. Our 12-hour bus ride through the desert was pretty wild. We started off with one seat each; towards the end we each had about a quarter of our seat left, which was a luxury considering all the others that had to either stand or sit on the floor. To top it all off, one of the wheels fell off the bus. We were glad to make it to Bukhara in one piece!

Provisioning hotel rooms was useless, as due to the 2,500-year anniversary of the city, representatives from 150 countries had been invited and all the hotel rooms were reserved. Surprisingly enough, this was not a problem, as every other person we met begged us to stay with them.

As soon as we pulled out the posters, we would get completely surrounded by people who would practically grab the posters out of our hands, and grab us too if we didn't keep moving! Some young people and kids followed us around the whole day, helping us to give out lit. In spite of the fact that this is a very Islamic city, people were quite open to receiving Jesus with us and are hungry for the Word. Music is a key, as we can't preach too much, but everyone will listen to a song. The song "You Are God's Child" usually moved people to tears.

A soon-to-be *mullah*, after praying with us, said he didn't want to go back to his school, but wanted to join our group instead! All in all it was a ton of fun and gave us more faith for witnessing in a Muslim field—even in a very Islamic city of Uzbekistan.

#### RUSSIA

(From Gerson:) It is 38 hours from Moscow, six hours from the Chechen border, ten hours from Iran. It lies between the Caspian and the Black Seas. It sits in the Northern Caucasus region, and is an ethnic kaleidoscope: North meets south

### We've received requests

from many of you for a

listing of our "alphabet

**R**: Page two of the *Grapevine* states that the *Grapevine* is *not* intended to reflect WS policy, but in sections such as *I'm Wondering*, WS does clarify policy, etc. Perhaps it should be announced that particular sections of the *Grapevine* are exempt from that disclaimer.—*G. (Romania)* 

WONDERING.

Good point! We have now revised the *Grapevine* disclaimer to reflect the fact that, on occasion, WS does put forth policy in the *Grapevine*. When something is coming from WS or WS leadership, it will be marked as such.

**Q**: It was mentioned in a *Grapevine* that Mama's e-mail address was on the HomeARC. I looked for it myself but couldn't find it. It would be helpful to be able to share more personal things with her without it going through other hands.—*Ruth, Mexico* 

A: Mama's e-mail address is mpg@ibm.net. As a reminder, please use the "Mama" CPY key (which was sent out with the HomeARC) to close messages that you send to Mama, so that they'll reach her securely!

soup" abbreviations. Here are a few: SGA: Second Generation Adult FGA: First Generation Adult CTP: "Consider The Poor" GPU: GP Pubs Unit YA: Young Adult (18-20) CM: Charter Member FM: Fellow Member LO: Live-out CVC: Christian Vocational College DR: Designated Representative FAF: Family Aid Fund FTT: Family Teen Tape TA: Treasure Attic CLE: Christian Light Education HER: Home Emergency Reserve

meets east. A team of six spent five weeks with its population of 300,000 and brought on some other changes. Such is Stavropol.

A preliminary team of three, two Russians and a Brazilian, were the first to arrive. After three days of visiting every agency and checking every newspaper to rent an apartment, it looked almost impossible. After "calling Upstairs," we called a Baptist church to ask if they could help us. A book salesman who spoke English picked up the receiver and, after hearing our situation, told us we could use his unfinished (meaning no running water or heating, and faulty electricity) dacha (Russian country house) for free. Two days later the rest of our team arrived and our adventure began.

Since Stavropol is the learning center in the region, our visits to classrooms, dorms and youth clubs became a daily event. Songs and skits made our interactions interesting and fun. Russians, Muslims and African students became regular visitors to our house for classes, prayer and fellowship. Orphanages and schools enjoyed our children's program, which included balloons, puppets, songs and games. Children's Bibles were given to us by a local church, and proved to be a welcome gift and a wonderful tool to further teach Bible basics to the children.

Jail visitation has always been a feature of our missionary ventures, and this trip was no exception. Located beside the city market, its barbed wire walls isolate 350 inmates from the rest of the world. After our performance, one of the guards said, "Few can get the kind of attention and positive response your group has achieved today."

In 54 days we distributed 39,000 posters, 850 New Testaments and 445 Children's Bibles. We performed on 31 separate occasions for 1,200 people. We made 53 personal visits and won 1,284 souls!●

Dear Family,

We love you very much and are praying for you during this Christmas season. We are so proud of you for pouring out and ministering to others at this time. Our prayer is that the Lord will bless you in every way and that you will feel His great love for you.

Earlier this year we asked the music studios to record a tape of upbeat praise songs to the Lord, titled "The Wild Wind," which should be reaching you around, or shortly after, Christmas, DV.—A Christmas gift from us to you, which you can use in your praises to Jesus throughout the entire year. May He bless and keep you close to Him.

Love, Mama and Peter



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# <u>Your Views On Issues</u>

# Love for music

(From Jerry Paladino:) I've been producing music for several years now, with great satisfaction and fulfillment; but recently I was finding my studio work growing to be boring, uninteresting and a bit mundane.

The Music Seminar we had with Peter in March brought a breath of fresh air for me, because through it I learned how the Lord wants to make us channels of His love and inspiration to the Family and to the world. Peter's main emphasis was on how we needed to receive instructions from the Lord on a daily basis, and even receive songs similar to how the "spirit stories" are received.

This new push on asking the Lord what to do has brought new life to my ministry!-New beautiful songs and lots of new musical ideas. It's made a difference in my personal inspiration and productions, as He's given many "apples of gold" and special "pictures of silver." It certainly is a lot more fun than just doing what I want. That gets pretty boring after a while, when you've "seen better days" and don't have that much left to give. I highly recommend it for everyone, especially those who have been involved in the same ministry for some time and are finding themselves in need of some new ideas and refreshment from Heaven. "Jesus has given me back my love for the music!"

# Family with manners

(From an adult woman:) I know that we are one big Family, and we live together, help each other and so on. However, I feel strongly that even though we are one big Family, we still need to keep some manners when visiting other Homes. For example, when people visit our Home, some people just open the refrigerator and take anything and eat it without even asking; or they use rooms and leave them very messy. They probably feel very comfortable and at home; we are one family, therefore our Home is their Home also. But that is not a good Christian sample.

# Family vacations

(From John and Ruby:) One thing many of us haven't done much before is have a vacation—not a weekend off, but a fullfledged 2-3 weeks to witness and relax and have a change of scenery! Some months ago, our Home had started a new plan enabling everyone to keep 10% of the income that they raise. If it is a two-man team, they split the 10%. Since the start of this plan, we've been donating to other missionaries each month, and the Lord has blessed us financially!

The Lord led us to spend a few weeks in Turkey, as we had been there in the early

pioneering days and still had a great love for its people, knew the folks there at present, still remembered the language a bit, and knew it would be a beautiful place for a summer "holiday." The Family

received us so hospitably and made our stay so special. Our savedup 10% and a gift from our Home helped us to be able to give to the Homes where we stayed and financed our trip and expenses there.

We even had time to see sights, palaces and museums in Istanbul, spend time at the beautiful Aegean Sea and visit Izmir (Smyrna) and Ephesus! Not to mention the fun witnessing everywhere we went! We looked up the doctor who delivered our second child, Neshe, who was born in Turkey 21 years ago. By a miracle, we located him at the same time as dear Faithy arrived from the States and was soon to have a baby. Our sweet doctor friend was the Lord's setup, and agreed to help her with the birth! Our stay was so fun and an unforgettable pleasure!

#### Pay and visit? SCOTLAND

(From Fortify and Ruth:) We have been burdened by the fact that our younger JETTs and teens haven't had much experience in a Home environment. They were born in the Family and lived in Homes up to three years ago when we went FM. Would any CM Homes be interested in having some families with JETTs and teens visit them on a paying basis?—That is, to join the Home for two weeks to a month with the understanding that they would pay a certain amount per week/day for food, etc.

Also, with the understanding that it would not be a vacation but a real experience of life on the field—warts and all! All Home rules and discipline would have to be upheld, etc. Perhaps a parent could go with the kids and share the load of witnessing, housework, childcare, etc. Any takers?

# All part of the rainbow FRANCE

(From John [of Milcah]:) I have never left the Family. Though in spirit I have been off the track at times, and reclassified many times, I have in my spirit and convictions never left. Many brethren I have talked with (FMs, LOs and re-transferred CMs) have said the same thing, "I never left." We are all sensitive to some extent, so when we are newly transferred to CM and we hear the comment, "Welcome back in" or "Nice to see you join again," one feels like saying, "What do you mean? I never left."

I helped start the Music Magique Studio

and camp in '81. I saw musicians come into the camp from System jobs and other situations. I saw the families borrowing from each other, and in my self-righteousness condemned it as **eseënde Kersfees**—Afrikaans

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### support-a-missionary

 Russian couple and single mom family counting on YOU to help us reach southern Russia before the doors close. We need a sister Home and/or donations. We're doing lots of shows and CTP.—RU049.
Family with seven kids, now two years in China, working with over 100 children daily, regular adult Bible studies, and much more! Support needed!—Kevin and Marie Doorkeeper, via PACRO.

 Want to adopt a Home that is committed to winning, training and establishing a local church in every city in central/northern China?
Please support Mike, Vicki and Home. (CH607)

> "un-Family." I wrote a long report on how it should be, and was subsequently asked to leave for being too good for the camp of prodigals. Six months later I was invited back—this time a lot more humble—and felt like a prodigal son coming back together with the other prodigals.

> CMers, please have a heart. Please don't fall into the same trap as I did, placed there by the Enemy only to create division between us. We may not be doing everything the way you do; we have not been together for some years and have developed differently, but not necessarily wrongly. We have much to learn, but so do you. Some LOs and FMs may not shine as bright as your bright yellow color in the rainbow, but they are still in the same rainbow of the Lord.

### Not virtual

(From Steven Ascribe:) Some have expressed sadness at the time wasted by some of our Family youth that spend hours in front of computer games and videos. Maybe they have a vision for excitement and challenge, but they have yet to discover it outside of virtual reality.

Like the Apostle Paul described the old Mosaic law as being a poor shadow of things to come (Heb.8:5; 10:1), I feel the thrills of combat in front of a monitor are nothing to be compared with the thrills of using the new and exciting weapons that He has entrusted into our hands. Not that you can't learn something from computer games and videos—just like much can be learned from the Old Testament but it's not helping us make our mark on history or giving us the lead roles that God wants us to play in His Endtime drama.

If you get busy with the real weapons, you will soon wonder how you ever had the time for anything else. Happy witnessing!●

### FORUM OPEN FORUM

 Have you ever thought of leaving the Family? If so, what made you decide Thinking to stay in the Family? Or, if you've had a • close friend who left the Family, why did you decide to stay in the Family even though they left?

uring my JETT and early teen years, when my shepherds would tell me, "Hey, the System's not where it's at," I'd think, "Yeah, sure! You guys always say that, just cause you don't wanna lose us!" Then of course, there was the lure of life as portraved in the movies—reel, but not real. I guess many teens have that feeling of, "Oh, if only I could have the rich life those guys in the movies have, it'd be so cool." I felt this way too. But seeing how some of my relatives who have made it big time in the world as movie stars, commercial models and TV celebrities live lives that are so totally screwed up made me not envy them.

A few of my friends or other teens I used to work with have left to try to live it up in the System. One YA girl left in hopes of pursuing a higher education abroad, but ended up working at a local fast-food restaurant and is now stuck with drinking problems, wrecked health, etc.

We are so blessed to be chosen out of billions to be born into the Family and not have to search our whole lives for it. Is it really worth it to give up my place in this wonderful Family with all of its spiritual benefits and blessings for an empty life in the System with no goals, no happiness, and no love? I don't think so.

-Nikki (16), Philippines

little over three years ago I was working in a ministry that I didn't like very much, with people I didn't get along with. I wanted more responsibility and I wanted a change, but didn't know how I could get out of my situation. Then, out of the blue, I found out that my older brother—my good friend and role model-decided to leave the Family. I was crushed to hear that my own brother had left.

Not only that, but he knew I wasn't happy in my ministry and said that with the talents I had, I could do so much better for myself in the System; I'd get paid and I could take credit for the things I did.

of leaving?

Now I had to make a decision as to what I would do. Here was a big opportunity! My brother, who was "always right," thought it was in my best interests to leave, and furthermore, he'd be there for me and help me until I got on my feet.—If I was waiting for a break, here it was!

I didn't want to tell anybody that I was considering leaving, so I did a lot of praying, telling the Lord I'd still serve Him, but that I just couldn't hold on any longer in my present situation and knew I could do better for myself. Up until that time I had basically stayed in the Family because there was nothing else to do and I knew I couldn't make it in the System, but I finally had to make a solid decision one way or the other. Thank God I decided to stay, because now I'm ever so glad I did. That situation passed and the ministry I'm in now has been one of my secret dreams for as long as I can remember.

What made me decide to stay? Firstly, I figured, "I can't base my decision on something that my brother, or anybody else for that matter, does." It's a scary thought, but I had to ask myself if I would continue to stay and serve the Lord even if my parents, brothers and sisters all left and were against me. It'd certainly be rough, but hey, if our FGAs had based their decisions on others, there wouldn't be a Family today. Secondly, after considering it from all angles, I'm positive this is the best place in the world to be-if I didn't think so I'd be outta here in a second. Maybe it's a good way to look at it, maybe not, but it's kept me here so far, because I sure haven't found anything better!

-female (21)

t comes down to whether we are going to be "wise men" who learn from *our* own mistakes, or "wiser men" who

### **OPEN FORUM OPEN**

learn from the mistakes of others. Regardless of how much we have been told about the dangers of the world, and how

empty and meaningless it is, some still want to try it out-if for nothing else, simply because it is the other side of the fence. Knowing that in spite of things not going perfect or working out the way you wished they had in people's lives, still, God is so great that He can turn even these seeming failures into big victories in His time!

If we are the elite of God's greater army of Christians, it is no wonder that we are going to have some drop out-if not permanently, at least temporarily. I know this is a hard realization for parents, and even for us young people when we see our peers or friends leave, because you want all of them to make it. Seeing Mama's sweet sample in the things she wrote and the Words the Lord gave for David in GN #692 ("The Road To Commitment") when he was going through rough times and even made some wrong choices encouraged me along these lines. -male (26), USA

e can all agree that when the Charter first came out, there were many mistakes made, and some people really went through the mill. My mate and I were some of those who had to cross the Jordan. We found ourselves and our children with no money, no assets, and no Home in our city willing to host us, as they were all "starting with a new vision," etc. We hadn't met up with our team yet, so we were on our own, so to speak.

It was a very difficult time, both physically and emotionally, because we'd been in the Family so many years and now we were suddenly alone. But the Lord never failed us, and the one thing that kept us going was knowing that only in the Family would we be able to receive the Words of David. Actually, the alternatives were not very attractive, and I can honestly say that it was a case of: "To whom shall I go? Thou alone hast the words of eternal life"(Jn.6:68).

-an adult woman, India

hen recently visiting my cousins and other relatives and comparing their life to ours in the Family-there is such a difference! They were amazed, though I consider myself a normal Family member. I cooked several meals while there, and when I told them that I cook for over 30 people every night, they were shocked! They were amazed that I was able to speak Thai. My youngest brother  $(1\frac{1}{2})$  could count to ten, make animal noises, etc. People were asking if he was advanced for his age, and we told them that in the Family most kids his age are like that; he is just normal, which impressed them.

Those are just a few of the many things that I saw in the difference between our training and theirs, not to mention all of the spiritual input, and insight to the Lord's secrets in the Word. I am one of many Family teens that can testify that the Family is the BEST place to be! I have no questions or doubts-I'm totally convinced!

-Bianca (15), Thailand

hen my brother left the Family, I was super disappointed. I guess I never thought that such a thing could happen to my own fleshand-blood family! At first I was heartbroken, but after a while I became bitter about it, thinking that it was the adults in the Home and the way the Family was run that made him leave! Then suddenly, I was constantly thinking about taking off as well to join him. I couldn't stand the conditions I was in, and I wanted to get out fast! Dunno why, but I never had the guts to tell anyone. (That's where the verse comes in: "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin!" Ha!) I even thought of sneaking off!-Horrible, huh?

It was during one of the teen camps that I decided I would stay in the Family, come what may! Since then, I've been enjoying life and serving the Lord in the waycool Family! We're in good contact with my brother, and I have faith that one day he'll return!

-a female teen, Asia

here have been several times in my life when I thought of backsliding, for different reasons. There were times when I

### PEN FORUM OPEN FORUM OPEN FORUM OPEN FORUM OPEN FO

didn't feel like I was doing that much for the Lord, and the thought of getting a System job and making lots of money in order to support the Family seemed alluring. It was all for so-called "good motives," but deep in my heart I knew that if I left, I would end up just living for myself.

I wasn't afraid of going to the System because I felt like I could "make my mark," and I think the Enemy uses self-confidence because when you're a young man, you feel you can take on the world and nothing is impossible. But I knew that I would end up very selfish and would soon forget about my noble ideals of helping the Family and others with the money that I made. I knew if that happened, the Lord would be very displeased with me. I'd think about what would happen when I got to Heaven and what I would tell the Lord, and I knew my "good excuses" would quickly crumble into dust; I would be left with shame and contempt for having lived selfishly for myself

instead of for others.

I've always believed that when you know something is the truth, then you should go for it all the way. Something is either right or wrong. If it's wrong, then I don't want to have any part in it; and if it's right, then how can I live with myself if I don't stay true to it? I would be living a lie, and I can't face that. So when I was tempted with leaving the Family-either because I was tired of making sacrifices and just wanted to "do my own thing" for a while; or because I was going through battles about some Family doctrine or policy; or because of the pull of materialism that the world has to offer-I would review what I call my "theory" on staying in the Family vs. backsliding. I tend to be analytical and like to be convinced of things, so looking at the situation from a logical viewpoint helps me. Here it is:

So then here's the chain of logic: Either the Family is the truth or it is not. If it is, then I'd

be living a lie to turn my back on it. If I say it is not the truth, then I have to deny that Mama and Peter are being led of the Lord in their leadership of the Family. To deny that I would then have to deny that Dad was a prophet of God, because for many years throughout many Letters he said how Mama would inherit his mantle and the Lord would lead her. If I were to deny that Dad was really a prophet of God, I would have to deny that Christianity is the true faith, because everything he preached was based on the Bible and basic Christian beliefs. Besides, I don't know of any other Christian groups that are following the Bible and living for Jesus like we are. So if Dad was wrong, then I have to throw out Christianity. If I throw out Christianity, then I have to throw out Jesus. If I deny Jesus, then I have to either say that some other non-Christian religion is trueand I don't believe any are-or that there is no God.

I know that there is a God,

#### there's no question in my mind about that. So working my way back, if God exists, then Jesus exists. If Jesus exists, then the Bible is true, and Christianity is true. If Christianity is true, then Dad was right and a prophet of God. If Dad was God's prophet, then Mama and Peter are His anointed successors and are being led of the Lord. And if that's the case, then the Family is on the right track. Therefore, to leave the Family would be to deny the truth and accept a lie. This I cannot do.

Of course there are many other reasons why, when tempted with thoughts of leaving the Family, I did not. One is that I know that people in the Family really care about me, whereas out in the System the same love and care is not easily found. Another is that I want to do something meaningful with my life, and if Heaven is real, then what could be more meaningful than helping people get there for eternity? I don't have enough space to tell of all



### Re: Childish Selfishness/ One Wife vision

I read these articles (*Grape-vine* #27) and wanted to share that the spirit of One Wife is still in our Home! We are a large Home (22 children and nine adults) and it seems the demands on people grow daily. I just had twin boys, and my husband has gone on a road trip for three months; it has taken me awhile to get back on my feet. Everyone has been an encouragement and help, and I couldn't have made it without them.

The OCs, JETTs and teens have been so willing to help me, and it actually brings out the best in them. My junior teen boy has shown a lot of dedication and responsibility in standing in the gap. This shows that boys are needed in childcare and have a lot to offer if given the chance and opportunity, and if they don't yield to negative peer pressure that "maybe only girls are good at CC!"

-JULIE (OF JAMES), PAKISTAN

# Re: Memorization, anyone?

God bless Joan, from Moldova, for sharing her experience with memorization (Grapevine #29). In our Home we've been doing united memory work. We choose a chapter from Mama's list of basic ones (see the Word Curriculum) and learn one verse a day. Every morning during breakfast we take five minutes to quote our verses, and every two or three weeks we do a test. Whoever passes-which is most everyone-gets a shiner prize (a bookmark, a ticket to a Home movie, a yummy snack, etc.). The Word is now quoted more around the Home, and memorization has gone from the realm of a would-be-nice dream to that of a chunky feelgood-about reality.

Don't get the idea that we are all Mr. and Mrs. Spiritual. Nothing could be further from the truth. Most of the time it's a case of me-and-my-brotherknow-it-all, but at least more Word is going through our minds. And don't forget, it also gives you CVC credits!

-JONATHAN NUBES, SPALIM

#### mini munchkins ...

- Baby girl (no name given), born to Faith.—Taiwan.
- Kyle Rhys, born to Rachel and Jesse.—Australia
- Carina Anne, born to Maria and Sam.—USA
- Nikhita Sharon, born to Tamara and Jonathan.—India
- Phoenix Brandon, born to Maria and Michael on August 18<sup>th</sup>.— India
- Nicolas, 2<sup>nd</sup> child, born to Celeste and Marcos on September 6<sup>th</sup>—Brazil
- Cheyenne Brook Yasemin, 3<sup>rd</sup> child, born to Faithy on September
- 8<sup>th</sup>.—Turkey
- Francesca Chantel, 2<sup>nd</sup> child, born to Lara and Nat Spencer on September 20<sup>th</sup>—Hungary
- Steven, 1<sup>st</sup> child, born to Bulgarian Joy and Sam Listen on September 24<sup>th</sup>.—Croatia
- Athamandia, born to Charity and Matthew on September 26<sup>th</sup>— Greece
- Emanuel, 2<sup>nd</sup> child, born to Mexican Magdalena on September 27<sup>th</sup>.—Romania

Constansa Olivia, 2<sup>nd</sup> child, born to Esmy and Gabe on September 27<sup>th</sup>.—Europe

Baby girl (no name given). 8<sup>th</sup> child, born to Elizabeth and Pedro Sereno in October.—Brazil

Lailani, 1<sup>st</sup> child, born to Alisa Newmorning (17) on October 6<sup>th</sup>— Japan

- Carolina, 2<sup>nd</sup> child, born to Clara and Felipe on October 15<sup>th</sup>.—Brazil
- ✤ Brian, born to Esther (Romanian) and Mark (American) on October 17<sup>th</sup>—Romania

Mehika (Indian Sanskrit for dew drop) Celeste, 1<sup>st</sup> child, born to Cheerful and David (national) on October 19<sup>th</sup>.—India

Hosana Angelica, 6<sup>th</sup> child, born to Maria and Joao on October 23<sup>rd</sup>—Brazil

✤ Daniel, born to Charity (Bulgarian) and Pete (Romanian) on October 25<sup>th</sup>.—Romania

Peter, 2<sup>nd</sup> child, born to Ashley and Jonathan on November 5<sup>th</sup>.—
Croatia

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the other various reasons why I decided to stay, but whenever I wavered in those reasons, reviewing the logic I spelled out above always helped to bring me back to the basics: If I don't live for the truth, then of what value is my life?

-male (28)

ver the last few years, the majority of my personal family has left the Family. I never thought it would happen to my parents, to my brothers and sisters, but it has! At first I tried to excuse them-convincing myself that it wasn't their fault; that they had been mishandled or unjustly treated. I'm sure there were mistakes made, and no doubt they were treated in an unloving manner by some people; but that happens to all of us, and people the world over. I had to face the facts that they had made a personal choice in the matter.

Then I tried to reason out in my mind whether it was the Lord's will for them to be out of the Family at this point. *Maybe* they're still in God's highest will, and He just has a different plan for them, I thought. Well, I can't second guess the Lord's plan for someone else, but after much confusion and condemnation over the whole issue, my faith has settled back to the basics: I know that the Lord has called me to the Family, and no matter how it appears to me that others are getting along outside of the Family, I know that my place is here.

I know in my heart that I'm called to give my life to the Lord in full-time service, and if you're wondering, just get quiet for a moment and ask Him to confirm what you're supposed to do with your life. Jesus can light that flame in your heart again, like He did mine, even if it's nearly gone. He also gave me peace about my loved ones and close friends who have left the Family. They're in His hands, and He's watching over them!

—female (23)

any times the thought of living for myself has seriously crossed my mind; I wanted to tell you why I couldn't, why I wasn't able to and to ask the Family some questions.

From the time I was a young child, I was taught the Word. We memorized verses, guoted them before our movies, had them hanging around our neck, reviewed during dishes, during JJTs, during work, while standing in the corner, had Word playing on tape recorders when we went to bed and when we woke up. During quiet time and free time we were taught to redeem the time and get in the Word. We often played Word-based games in the evenings, etc. We were drenched in the Word! As I am sure that others my age can testify, we were fed the Word like that quote about praise: "When you feel like it and when you don't feel like it!"

However, those conditions have given me a foundation and ballast that has kept me in communication with Jesus, and has given me an unshakable desire to do His will. I think that people from this generation, generally, have that same foundation and connection to Jesus, thanks to the sample and Word of our JETT and teen years.

I'm writing this to ask the Family—especially the YAs and SGAs—about our young people, our JETTs and teens of today. What are *you* doing to help them?! I can't help but look at them growing up and wonder what they're gonna be like in the future. Our young people need to get that solid training and foundation in the Word now! I know the Lord is gonna hold everyone responsible who could have had something to do with helping them.

Let's give them a chance to have that Word ballast put in the "church" of their lives, so that with all the changes and new "windows and doors" being put in, they will stand strong. Let's not let them fail the Lord because of our own selfish compromises; not doing our part in training, caring for, and even correcting them, just because we don't want to live up to the standard ourselves. We have come so far and poured so much into our children—let's not give up before we receive and reap the rewards!

-a concerned YA

R ight now about 10 names come to mind—all friends of mine that have left the Family. Not only that, but my very best friend (a guy) left the Family as well as my three oldest brothers, my sister, my mom and dad and all of my younger brothers and sisters. This all didn't happen overnight, but needless to say, it happened! But amazingly enough, every time I would face the disappointment of someone leaving, the Lord would give me the grace for it.

I've always been a person that believed in going all the way. If you have a job or a ministry, then you might as well do the best you possibly can. I knew that if I left, I wouldn't be able to do it halfheartedly, I knew it would have to be "all" or "nothing at all." If it was the "nothing at all." I would have had to go back on everything I've believed in my whole life everything that I know to be true—and I knew I could never live with myself if I did. So I chose the "all." I've seen where life in the System has led my brothers and friends, and although some are seemingly happy, most are living a dead-end life with no meaning. Some of them can't even read a Bible because it just convicts them too much. Many are on drugs, drink their weekends away, smoke, and spend the week working to support their habits. They can't even find real friends. It's pitiful.

If I could say one thing to anyone reading, it's this: You can't just quit because life is hard. Life is hard! Life is a constant struggle, but difficulties are what make us strong. You can't just "cop out" because things get rough. Don't be like that guy in "Fighters" who ran off the ice right before that glorious crown was about to descend upon his head. Maybe others will forsake their spiritual crown for something they can see, but don't you! You'll always be glad that you didn't give up, because the rewards are well worth it, believe me.

I still see my family, write my friends and love them all very much; I don't look down on them for the decision that they've made. But I know that the Family is where the Lord wants me to be, and I could never have it any other way.

I'm no great person. I know I'm not strong, and I give all glory and credit to the Lord for helping me to make it thus far and mending my broken heart time and time again. He's never failed me yet, so why should I doubt that He won't pull me through once more? The Lord's often given me this verse, "What is that to thee? Follow thou Me." It doesn't really matter whether 20 more of my friends leave— I'm still staying!

—A. (19, Leo female)

# FIND-A-FRIEND

Phebe (19) wants to contact Neville, who joined a few years ago in England (last heard he was in S. Africa). Add: P.B 155, B-2000 Antwerpen 1, Belgium.

 Beth Fountain looking for Maria Fountain, Mark Vinson, Zech Hannah. Add: CX. Postal 799 CEP. 85851-970 Foz do Iguacu, PR Brazil.
Gabriel (17), David (formerly Ahab Memory Book, 29) and John (formerly Johnny Peanut) want to contact Benjamin Montes Valdivia (18), last heard of in Chile. Contact us through the Peruvian ABM.
Cristy (of Jonathan and Sara) is looking for Phebe (of Willing and Mary), Daniel (of Tim and Maria) and Tally and Tuchi. E-mail is: jsfam@geocities.com.

Rose Dutch (Denise Woods), I'd like to get in contact with you!
Add: Michael Thanksgiving, PO Box 30011, 100-33 Athens, Greece.
Softy, please write Liz. Simeon YA (of Danish Celeste), please write Philip. Add: CP63-18 Bucharest, Romania. E-mail: patromania@meganet.ro.

Shemaiah would like to contact Angela in Puerto Rico. E-mail: lindaort@ix.netcom.com. Add: Linda Ortiz, 2017 Center St. Arabi, LA. 70032

 Luke (in Greece during 1978-79), please contact Greek Rosy. Add: P.O. Box 70339, Glyfada, Athens 16670, Greece.



### China e-mail security

PACRO

(From PACRO Office:) Some Family members recently sent one of our China Homes a very identifying unencrypted e-mail message, which not only included things about the Family, but also the e-mail addresses of other Homes. Needless to say, we were quite concerned, as China is classified as a "sensitive country." Not only is China sensitive towards our work, but the authorities there can and do intercept e-mail any time they want without anyone knowing! This could link up the Homes there; so if something is sent "open" there could be serious repercussions.

In light of this, we wanted to ask everyone to please not send anything directly to the China Homes, but rather through the PACRO China Desk which we've set up specifically for handling communications to and from them. E-mail: tyofam@crisscross.com

If you have something private to send someone, you can close it in their key and send it to the PACRO Office, and we'll pass it on. We're sorry if this complicates things for anyone, but it's very important that we are able to keep a secure line of communication with the Homes in China, and the only way to do that is to not have a lot of direct communication back and forth between the Homes there and other Homes. We really appreciate your help with this! (Peter: Mama and I agree. This is important; please follow these instructions closely. Thank you.)

#### **CLE tips** USA

(Since January 1, 1997, over seven tons of CLE materials have been shipped to Family customers in 41 countries!)

To ensure the safety of your CLE order, it's wise to use double envelopes or tape your . envelope closed, especially if there's money enclosed. Some orders have arrived in a thin, single airmail envelope with the edges worn or torn open-and the check gone!

• Make sure your return address is written on the envelope. If you fail to do so and make any mistake in addressing the envelope or use insufficient postage, your order-and any funds enclosed-could be permanently lost.



Estonia - (From Lily and Sia:) This summer the Lord supplied for Sia (a.k.a. Juanita) and me to go to Estonia on a shove-off from California! I was surprised to see how modern Estonia is, considering that it only received its independence in 1991. Most people live in apartments, which are carry-overs from the communist regime. The majority of the people in Estonia speak English, as that is the business language. There are many Russians there.

On a four-day road trip, we distributed 10,000 posters! It was thrilling to see the posters being read immediately, instead of being cast to the ground.

Estonia is indeed a fruitful field and the place to be! We plan on returning soon! If you or your teens are losing the fire, pent up in fields that are hard and saturated with the Gospel, get yourself and them to a ripe mission field! It will get those fires burnin' again! It's hoppin'!

### **Unerasable Love**

As the nanoseconds turn into milliseconds, Megabytes of graphics flood my RAM Displaying high definition images of your configuration. As I long to interface with you Through parallel ports In a network of exquisite impulse.

I long to share your files, access your hard drive, Activate your peripherals and scan your database; To blissfully plug into your motherboard: Multi-tasking in an orgasm of compatibility.

My hard disk fails as I calculate the distance between our terminals;

My keyboard driver cannot create the characters to express The aching void within my bios,

The fading of my pixels,

And the emptiness of my on-board cache

As I detect and battle the subtle virus of despondency.

You are my default configuration, My pointing device driver and my autoexec.bat file. Without you I am unable to operate in enhanced mode, And languish in endless need of technical support.

Come, my love, speak into my modem, Gently brush against my keys, Activate me with your power supply. Whisper the pure logic That thrills my CPU, And connects me to the Mainframe in the sky.

-WRITTEN BY SIMON, TO HIS WIFE, PEARL, AUSTRALIA

### Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up PEACEMAKER, THE (1997) George Clooney, Nicole Kidman

movie ratings

Suspenseful thriller about a nuclear bomb that goes missing with potentially devastating results. Beware of some scenes of violence. Pro-American slant. Entertainment only.

### Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

### **INVENTING THE ABBOTS (1997)**

Joaquin Phoenix, Billy Crudup, Liv Tyler Love story/character study following three years in the lives of two families of teenagers in a small Midwestern U.S. town during the late 1950s. Lessons on love, forgiveness and sibling rivalry.

### Movies Rated for JETTs and Up

### McHALE'S NAVY (1997) Tom Arnold

Light comedy loosely based on an old TV series. A former navy commander is recruited to help on a top secret mission. Entertainment only; foolish in parts.

### Movies Rated for OCs and Up

FAIRY TALE: A TRUE STORY (1997) Peter O'Toole, Harvey Keitel

Controversy erupts in England during World War I, when two girls produce photos of fairies. Interesting historical drama with a look at some of the famous personalities of that time, including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (author of Sherlock Holmes) and Houdini.





### **Country Shiners!** Top 15 - September '97

100 10 000	
TOTAL SOULS WON	SOULS WON/ADULT
43,688 Mexico	446.3 Albania
33,709 Brazil	336.9 Kazakhstan
21,242 USA	241.8 Venezuela
21,085 Russia 15,917 Chile	149.2 Philippines
14,745 India	143.0 Colombia 117.6 Ghana
12,666 Venezuela	112.4 Bolivia
10,935 Colombia	105.2 Ukraine
7,662 Ukraine	96.8 Mexico
6,358 Japan	90.5 Croatia
4,795 Thailand	86.6 Guatemala
4,334 Italy	84.9 Ecuador
4,056 So. Africa	84.8 Nigeria
3,971 Ghana	80.5 Russia 75.8 Chile
3,747 Peru	75.8 Chile
TOTAL TAPES	TAPES/ADULT
14,327 Thailand	73.9 El Salvador
12,830 Brazil	70.2 Costa Rica
7,485 USA	59.8 Thailand
4,942 Mexico	55.2 Guatemala
4,786 Chile	55.1 Czech Rep
2,766 Italy 2,669 Japan	44.7 Philippines 43.7 Indonesia
2,392 Taiwan	40.5 Colombia
2,372 Colombia	37.5 Reunion Is.
2,356 India	29.8 Sweden
2,039 Indonesia	26.0 Portugal
2,001 Czech Rep	25.0 Chile
1,934 Canada	25.0 Zimbabwe
1,448 Philippines	23.8 Tahiti
1,410 Russia	23.5 Turkey
POSTERS	POSTERS/ADULT
917,101 Russia	26,620 Kazakhstan
370,582 Ukraine	15,000 Botswana
370,582 Ukraine 291,668 USA 181,562 Japan	15,000 Botswana
370,582 Ukraine 291,668 USA 181,562 Japan 168,590 Kazakhstan	15,000 Botswana 11,417 Estonia 5,817 Ukraine 4,179 Latvia
370,582 Ukraine 291,668 USA 181,562 Japan 168,590 Kazakhstan 146,161 Hungary	15,000 Botswana 11,417 Estonia 5,817 Ukraine 4,179 Latvia 3,840 Lithuania
370,582 Ukraine 291,668 USA 181,562 Japan 168,590 Kazakhstan 146,161 Hungary 87,261 Brazil	15,000 Botswana 11,417 Estonia 5,817 Ukraine 4,179 Latvia 3,840 Lithuania 3,489 Russia
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### If you want to make me happy, just give me stats! Dad (ML#1361:173)



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OVERWHELMED

EAMINY TIME

BORED