

# Our Main Motive: To Witness & Win Souls!

Reflections on How Dad Raised Us As Teenagers!



—Hosea David Sept. 1985  
Dearest Dad & Mama, G.I.J.N.

Your letter requesting me to work on writing about the Teen Teams of 'Teens for Christ' in Huntington Beach has been for me like a key unlocking a door into a room full of many treasures which I had somewhat forgotten.

Upon receiving your letter I immediately began to research into all of the testimonies that have been written about this time in our lives, first of all to refresh my memory as to specific people who joined the Team at that time, & to refresh in my mind the spirit & the reasons for how we operated at that time. One thing has led to another & it has been a time of many exciting rediscoveries of wonderful things that the Lord has done & lessons that He has taught us. I am now seeing more than ever before the possibility of my own teens which I have with me right here being able to learn from & experience many of the lessons & benefit from many of the lessons that you have taught us in the past. It is sort of a "There & Then for the Here & Now" as I now look at it.

My own sons are now reaching the age &

are growing to the point of being able to do many of the things which I did at that time witnessing, winning disciples, taking responsibility for outreach teams & teaching them the wonderful new life that is possible for teenagers to experience in our Family. It has excited me to think of being a teenager in this Family now with all of the wonderful tools for training & witnessing that we have now, far far more powerful than anything which we had in those days, which can be used in the same way to cause a Teens for Christ Revolution today with our own on-fire teenagers!

Recently I have seen my own boys, who are now teenagers, in a new light as I see them individually maturing & growing in their different ministries & in their abilities to personally witness & win souls & win disciples, just as I did when I was their age. It was through your note about preparing these articles about teenagers that it really brought this all into a more clear perspective for me even about my own teenagers & the opportunities now coming into view in the very near future. It also caused me to rethink my frame of reference in referring to my own teenagers by remembering

some of the very specific ways that we thought & ways that we talked about & referred to ourselves & the way Dad related to us as teenagers.

You asked me to write about what was expected of the teenagers at that time & also what were the standards of discipline & what was the motivation that we felt as teenagers at that time. I began to study over & to recall these experiences, making a list of the things that were expected of us, such as attending classes & going out witnessing & what discipline was required, such as keeping the schedule & fulfilling household responsibilities & how that our main motive of all of these things was to witness & to win souls. I was reminded how Dad began to set down a very specific & detailed list of all of these things at that time, "The Revolutionary Rules", as I remember this is something that we compiled from our experiences at that time in Huntington Beach.

The guidelines & the rules & the standards of what was expected as far as responsibilities & dedication & so on, are very effectively encompassed in the earliest edition of the "Revolutionary Rules", which I hope the teenagers will take a new look at as something very applicable to them, written by Dad for teenagers, because the original motivation & spirit & principles are still the same today.

Also the Lord has begun to bring back to my mind even experiences that we had as Teens for Christ on the road before Huntington Beach, when we first began travelling as just a little family, sometimes even heading up our own team, as I did at the World's Fair & in New York witnessing to the drug addicts, & as we did in Miami when we won Lydia to the Family. I feel that some of our individual teenagers & families of teenagers can learn from these lessons to inspire their faith as to what teenagers are capable of as a Teen Team.

Dad is the one who really had the faith & encouraged us to step out in those situations & pioneer & try new things as he talks about in "New Bottles". He endeavored to encourage us to use new ways & methods to reach the teenagers of our generation & not limit ourselves to the methods that he had been limited to, working within the churches in his generation. Many of these experiences are now coming back to me & the lessons which he taught us on the road.

I really love you & TY for your Inspiring note to me which has encouraged me that the Lord can use me to pass on some of these very precious lessons that Dad has taught us, & I pray can be of benefit to my teenagers & all of our teenagers of this new

generation. I was also very touched & drawn to you, Maria, as I read over your "Love Story" with Dad & recalled those early days together & our wonderful experiences that the Lord did & the miracles He did in our lives & how you were so faithful in all, in spite of all the opposition & all of the difficulties, that you stayed faithful to Dad & helped him in the areas that he needed so much.

I'm so thankful & now we can see the wonderful fruit of your faithfulness in making possible our whole Worldwide Family by your not letting any of his Words fall to the ground, but saving them for all of us for all time, & that I can even now read over the Words that were given at that time & appreciate them & receive even more from them now than I could then, seeing how God has so marvelously fulfilled the promises & the visions & has caused all of the principles that Dad taught us to continue on as the foundation of our Family.

So God bless you for your faithfulness as you continue to now pass these lessons on to a whole new generation of teenagers who have the possibility to create a Worldwide effect far greater than we imagined when we were teenagers. The new stories of "Heaven's Girl" & the testimonies of her experiences are a tremendous inspiration & a blessing to the teens here, & they really identify with her & read enthusiastically every word over & over again. We are living in the most exciting time with the most exciting tools possible to do the most exciting job in the World, & I'm sure happy that I'm still here & able to be serving Jesus. And I know the thanks goes to you, Dad & Maria, that you have been merciful & had faith in us in spite of all of my mistakes & problems, & I'm so thankful & I love you & pray for you that the Lord will continue to keep & protect & prosper you.

Thankful to be your servant, Ho

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#### THE "REVOLUTIONARY RULES"

—Hosea David

Thinking back to all those teenagers we had then, they were quite a rambunctious bunch, a motley crew! Going over all these prayer letters in which Dad names them & gives their testimonies, I remember some of those teens. We were an odd lot, everybody was very very different. That's why it's such a miracle that the requirements & the rules were the same & applied to everybody. Those same rules & same requirements for us now shouldn't be any harder to implement or to be required than then. The fact that a

## PRAYER

person had never seen a Bible before or another person had been raised in a church all his life, didn't make any difference one way or the other. The fact that one person was an ex-convict & came out of jail & another person was a drug addict & another person was a pretty naive high school student really didn't matter. We were all very much on the same level, all of us on the same Team. (The Word & the witnessing were levellers.) Yes, very much. It's really amazing to see by reading over all of these old newsletters, how much those same things still very much apply now.

Reading over the Revolutionary Rules really brought to mind how much it is still the same! A few of the requirements are a little more flexible today, but the Law is still the Law. Only the balance of Grace & volunteering are a little more emphasised, but still the requirements of no murmuring, no complaining, for obedience, for willingness, all this is still the same, not changed at all! And also the degree of dedication of forsaking all, leaving everything behind & serving the Lord 100% is all still very much the same.

We've been through many changes in the Family in regards to leadership & requirements of various things, yet the basic rules, the basic requirements, the basic idea, the basic behaviour is all still the same. There have been many additions, but the foundation is still the same. (See "Builders Beware", ML No.309B.)

Now there are more freedoms added, but the basic requirements of dedication are still the same. The basic requirement of obedience is still the same. It's like Dad says, if you are faithful, God can trust you with more freedom. He can add on the freedoms as you prove faithful & as you prove dedicated & willing to obey.

In "The Law of Love" Dad brought out the point that new liberties are going to show where you're at. Though we have a lot of freedoms, these have been added as we prove faithful to follow the first principles. Then if at any time we abuse these freedoms or begin to disobey the basic principles, these freedoms can be taken away again. Some of our young people today may think that some of our freedoms such as sexual freedom is a guaranteed right, but it's not! (See "The Law of Love", ML No.302C) If they want to know the principles on which the Family is based, it's on sacrificing & on giving up everything & totally sacrificing all of these enjoyments & putting the Lord first. So I think that "The Revolutionary Rules" for now is still very fitting.

TYL, we thank You Lord that Your principles have not changed, the founding principles on which our Family was based are still the same. The basic requirements for being a disciple, whether we're young or old, are still the same. And the blessings & the rewards are guaranteed still the same. We see many many more things more clearly now than before, but these things which we see now in more detail don't change the original principles & the original requirements for discipleship & the standards for obedience & behaviour that You originally established. So, Lord, we thank You that You have given us the privilege to review these things & to see that these things come from You, that they're really inspired as the Scriptures. "All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God & is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (2TI.3:16-17)

So we thank You that these things like this "Revolutionary Sheet" have endured down through the years & still apply to us right now for our own teenagers right here right now & for each one of us, old & young. Forgive us that many of the pitfalls we have fallen into were because we didn't stick to these original principles, we got tripped off & relaxed & strayed away. So, Lord, we thank You for bringing us back to the original standard & the original requirements. So many of the things that people are confessing & getting delivered from & changing in are things that are the same as is required in these original rules.

So, Lord, we really pray You create in us a clean heart & renew a right spirit within us, & restore unto us the joy of our salvation & get us back to our First Love, Lord, putting first things first, the basic principles & oracles of God. TYL, TYJ, amen, amen.

(Ruthie: While you were praying I was reminded of the Letter "Builders Beware", that with "modifications" & "improvements" the building could collapse. We're building the lives of our children, & if we stray from these basic foundation stones & make too many alterations & changes, the lives of our children could collapse.) Yes.

So TYL, we're still in a war, the battle of the Spirit. When you really think of the principles of the Word, the principles of the Scripture, it's the same principles that have been from the beginning, from the Apostles. That's where our rules come from, HalleluJah! Amen.

(A Teen Poster for your wall!)

IN GOD'S WORD YOU CAN FIND THE  
ANSWER TO EVERY QUESTION, EVERY  
PROBLEM THAT  
YOU'LL EVER  
HAVE IN LIFE!



PATH  
OF  
LIFE

