

things.

Then one night, after ten days of living in hotels and not having even met with the brethren yet, the Lord gave us some more verses we had only read but never experienced before and didn't really relate to until now. They really gave us the faith to take the next step: It was a quote from "Don't Drop Out, Drop In!":

"The old ways we used to do it are not going to work here in a new situation! We have got to do something entirely different if we're going to survive and be able to carry on, something totally different!" (par. 99) And another quote from "Pisces":

"This has real implications for the future too when some colonies in closed countries won't even be allowed to exist! But just one couple with children that lives and works normally within the community may be more and more the thing in closed countries." (par. 62) Wow! Small Families of Love!—Little families living and working in the system and changing their part of the world day by day with their sample. Letter after letter started coming alive to us.

This was God's plan for these countries—to infiltrate them through the system and just hand-pick His sheep out of it and change the world day by day. People we meet would have to use their jobs as a witness, and our Home and the love there would have to be the sample. Our girls would have to be the bait, and our children would become our proof of the pudding. The vision seemed limitless!

At this time Peter was working in a taping studio and teaching English and still living in one room of a hotel with his pregnant wife and child. In order to get a house or even rent an apartment, you have to have a "residence permit", and in order to get that, you have to be employed! But they had been as yet unable to find a house.

The next day we called a meeting, and for the first time we got together with what was then basically the whole Bishopric (except for four people in Esfahan and three in Dubai) in the back of a van, to discuss our moves.

After sharing parts of various MO Letters and praying together, we immediately divided into three separate units—an FF'ing Home consisting of Peter's family and mine, a three-man pubs Home to organise the mail ministry and translations left from the former work, and a road team to minister to freaks and people the Family already knew. This team was made up of people who were already known as the Family and had no contact with the rest of us. In fact, this was the last time many of us were to meet again.

Actually, we were later to decide that the road team outreach was not really needed, as in four years of its existence working from hotels here, I don't believe there had been much lasting fruit.

That night God miraculously led us to a house! A girl Peter worked with said that she was living with five other people in a ground floor apartment and that a couple had just moved out of the basement

room. That night Peter, Eva, Ruth myself and the two children moved right in. We spent our first night cold on the floor, but were we ever thankful to have found housing! About a week later, another couple moved out and we expanded into one of the large upstairs rooms.

Our sample and love started spreading like wild-fire throughout the apartment. Soon we started re-modelling and painting and the others started sharing and even praying with us! But at no time did we mention the Family and who we were. Nor did we leave any Letters around! Then another couple moved out in April, and the apartment was virtually ours.

The first time we invited friends over, God started supplying our needs beyond our wildest dreams! One friend gave us a beautiful six-piece living room set and a sweet FF'ed friend gave us the use of a beautiful Persian carpet!

So now we have transformed this house into a real Heavenly Home! Hundreds of people from frustrated American housewives to students, to diplomats, to freaks have passed through our doors to be given a taste of the joys of God's Love.

Even Dennis, who still lives in the apartment with us in his own room, has changed so much in ten months

it's unbelievable! He is a 28-year-old intellectual American who has played jazz piano in many big name places in the States and knows Bob Dylan and other musicians. After reading his first MO Letter "The Snake Charmer" (he's a Scorpio!), he received Jesus and has been coming along more and more. In fact, he now says, "You know, I come from a broken home and this is the only family I've ever had. In fact, I don't hesitate to tell people that this is my family!"

Then the method and message spread to other cities. Joe in Esfahan got a job and rented a house. We have a drop-in brother, Ezra, who we've lived with for over two years and who is continuing to be a tremendous witness and help, not only to our work in Iran, but the entire world.

We've found that in these closed countries it's necessary for someone to make the sacrifice to take a system job so that something can be established. But through one man's obedience it enables the entire Family to operate freely and the salaries they receive are quite sufficient to support the work! As Faithy said, "In witnessing and loving and trying to win souls, use anything at your disposal to do it." Love, Asher Thanksgiving

#### LITNESSING TACTICS!—A BROTHER SPEAKS OUT!

by Elihu Newheart, Brisbane, Australia

Dear Dad,

31 Jan. 78

After sharing with different brethren in different Homes in Australia and seeing the different litnessing and fund-raising methods, I wanted to share with you my honest opinion about the way things are

Here is the way most people in Australia litness: 1) A team will go to either a traffic intersection with a long red light or to a shopping center, mall, etc. They take a can with NNN cover, etc. pasted on it from a nearby shop.

lots of love and prayers.

Elihu Newheart;  
Brisbane, Australia

(Editor: Thanks for speaking up, Elihu! We hope this situation is no longer the case in Australia or in any of the other areas of the world where we have heard of this same

scene being used. That is, the blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life ... Phil. 2:15,16a. "SEEK YE FIRST!")

## FF'ing Saves a Marriage!

Brasil:

We first met Jose, a 45-year-old well-to-do banker, when he picked us up hitchhiking on our way home from litnessing. I invited him to come in and have supper with us, expecting him to say no, but he happily agreed! We both felt Jose was "worthy" and had a burden to witness to him, and we also felt God had raised him up to help the Family at this time, as we desperately needed help to pay our rent.

The second time I went out alone with him, he gave us half the amount we needed for our rent! He told me that he and his wife hardly spoke to each other and had not made love for two years! I told him Jesus really wanted him to be happy and wanted to supply his need. We prayed right then and he asked Jesus into his heart. Then we phoned Elijah who encouraged him to make love with me so he could know how much Jesus loves him! PTL!

Jose began to visit the Family and read and distribute MO Letters. Two weeks after we first met him, his wife opened his locked briefcase

and read a manuscript on a book he was doing on us with all its intimate details, and she exploded! Over the next few days, she destroyed several of his favourite possessions and parts of his car; she threw fits, bit his arm making deep wounds, and seemed to be demon possessed—a jealousy demon! She also hid all his MO Letters, claiming she'd destroyed them, and continually spoke against the Family. From this time, we saw her as a real enemy and never tried to visit, contact or win her.

Meanwhile, Jose became very close to the Family, especially to Elijah and me and our little girl Beleza. He was always helping us with food, especially for the pregnant moms and children. When our second baby was born, he insisted on buying the many items we needed for him! TYJ!

When our Home here finally disbanded, we did not know where we would stay until we could leave for another field. Suddenly Jose and his wife appeared at the door, and she invited us to stay at their

The usual thing then is to approach a person or car and tell him that we are a voluntary youth group doing charity work, social work, etc. Some even use a name such as "Sydney Christian Youth Centre" or "Brisbane Community Centre", etc. Then after receiving the donation, which with this method is often 50-60 cents (Australian), and having finished their explanation, they will offer the lit-NNN, etc., which is usually accepted by the donor. Then on to the next car, person, etc.

2) Of course, there are still those who go out openly giving the lit first and openly confessing who we are and what we believe when asked, but these brethren tend to be in a minority and are often considered "old bottles" or to be "self-righteous".

3) There are other methods, such as singing and doing skits on the street as an attention-getter, and this really gets out the lit, along with a good sample of our love and message. These are the main methods used, along with 4) sometimes door-to-door, which is usually done similar to the first stated method.

In my opinion, using the first method is underhanded and somewhat dishonest and sneaky. But it seems that most brethren, having once tried it and found the donations to be far better and more lit getting out, continue to use that method.

Also due to the fact that we have already saturated Australia with about 2-3 times the amount of lit as population, just plain litnessing is really hard. It seems that most

people reverted to the first method of litnessing to reach their high quotas, etc. I find that the average litnesser (usually they have children and family responsibilities as well) cannot get out his bare minimum quota of 1,000 per month and still have good word time, witnessing, fishing and follow-up time as well.

I don't know if this is only here in Australia, due to over-saturation of lit in a low population area, or if it is a worldwide situation. I just know that I would rather not litness at all than litness in the underhanded, begging way I have described.

I also believe that a large part of the reason is, as you said in "Pisces" No. 567:14, that too many of us are too dependent on literature to provide all our needs, and hence we neglect our converts, kings, etc.

Having been a provisioner on and off for most of my time in the Family, I have experienced lots of people not ministering to and sharing with the contacts as they should, and not letting those responsible for them do it either, but rather sending them out litnessing when they should have been sitting down writing thank-you notes, etc.

So, due to this dependence on literature income, people go on trying to get funds this way. And if the lit isn't all that profitable, they put the lit away and just go on asking for donations, or begging anyway, and just bring out the lit to give to the donors.—Sad, but true! I hope that this gives you a better look at the way things are here and helps you in your prayers and direction for our work here and the whole world.