

cover" work!

**WE ALSO SAW THE NEED FOR GREATER COORDINATION & FOLLOW-UP**, as we are meeting men from other States & countries where we have homes. One thing we all agreed we need

to be more faithful with is to write reports on the fish's progress. It seems the lessons to be learned are: the necessity of writing reports, not going on to someone else's fish without counselling, faithfulness in passing on a

fish to another sister if you have to move, & the importance of counselling with the fishermen who are kept up-to-date with everyone's progress. —Fa & Joanne.

## Big Families Going For God!

"Our children & families are going to be some of our greatest witnesses!" (315:3.)

From Eli & Tara Fisherman, parents of 6; France: Dearest Dad & Maria, I AM UNABLE TO REALLY DESCRIBE MY FEELINGS upon opening Peter's letter & finding a personal love gift from you, a big love gift! I could hardly believe it, I didn't feel worthy at all. PETER MENTIONED THAT YOU WERE ENCOURAGED BY OUR TESTIMONY, but I thought "We're far from being shiners on the stats & it seems like we've made so little progress. How could you be encouraged by our little Home here?" Really I felt so undeserving of such special concern, thought & love.

I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW MUCH YOUR GIFT ENCOURAGED US. It inspired us to want to do a much better job & work harder. We're so happy to be part of this wonderful Family & we're so thankful for the faith the Lord gives us to be able to continue on the mission field, & we never want to leave it.

AND THEN AS IF YOUR LOVE GIFT WASN'T ENOUGH, a few days later we received a visit from Faithy & Juan, & she said that you had asked her to come & visit us here. That week is something we'll never forget. I don't know what else to say except that I hope & pray we can be a blessing to the Lord's sheep & that we can continue by His grace to follow you & the Lord thru' every new revolution.

ENCLOSED IS A PHOTO that was taken in Nov. '77. Since then the Lord has blessed us with a precious love gift from Heaven on June 22, a beautiful baby girl,



Tara & Eli Fisherman with 5 of their children—Joseph-1 month, Daniel-3, Megan-5, John David-1½ & Michael-8½. Their 6th is a baby girl born 22 June.

our 6th! Love, Eli.

From Tara: Dearest Dad,

WHEN WE JOINED THE FAMILY, Eli & I had been married for 4 years & had 2 children, the smallest just 3 months old. Eli was working as a system analyst at a University, but was pretty fed up with the System. Now I could never desire to be anywhere else but with you & this Family forever!

YOU & THE LORD HAVE SHOWN ME how to be a loving wife & mother & the Lord has blessed us with 6 beautiful children to raise in the Lord's love & truth. How blessed we are! Words cannot express my appreciation & love. How can I thank you?

By obeying & giving my whole heart to you & the Lord as I do. Much love, Tara.

From Zaccheus & Lamb; Holland:

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR LETTER. It was such an encouragement to hear from you. Please could you thank Dad & Maria for us & tell them that they sure are the most loving & encouraging parents & friends we've ever had. I'm trying to write down how much I love & appreciate Dad & Maria, but I'm sure you know how hard it is to put it on paper.

COULD YOU JUST TELL THEM THAT WE ARE VERY THANKFUL not only for this

they've given us. The Lord has been so good to us, blessing us so tremendously it just really makes us cry at times & be thankful! Don't think that everything is peaches & cream, 'cause we also sure have our share of trials, but He helps us get the victory every time! TY!! Love you lots, Zaccheus & Lamb.

From Jay & Aola, parents of 6, including twins; Portugal: Dearest Dad & Maria,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS & LOVING CONCERN in sending us such a generous gift. We know how much you love us & could feel something very special in the Spirit. We feel so privileged & honoured to be a part of the beginning of His Kingdom here on Earth.

WE'RE SO HAPPY, HAPPIER NOW THAN WE'VE EVER BEEN! The Lord has blessed our lives so much in the past few months. The timing of your message & gift was just perfect! It came on June 4th, the day after Aola gave birth to 2 beautiful babies, each weighing 2½ kilos! born healthily & naturally with no complications, TTL! It was such a testimony & victory. Now we have 6 children!

SINCE WE'VE BEEN WORKING SO CLOSELY TOGETHER WITH THE CHILDREN this past year, we've found them to be nothing but a blessing & asset! It's such a witness to the people here in Portugal to see us living by faith & serving the Lord with 6 kids. Especially here because of the economic situation, the people live in such fear of the future, always worrying about money, the children's education etc. & have also been conditioned by much family planning propaganda.

SO WHEN WE CAME ALONG WITH 6 KIDS living by faith in God's Word with no salary or fixed income, they just marvel & see by a living sample that the promises of God are true no matter



Lamb & Zaccheus (both Dutch) & their 4 children—going for God in Holland

Just walking down the street the other day we immediately had a crowd of people around us, admiring our big family. As soon as they started complaining about how bad life was to have children—

IT WAS A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY for us to witness to a whole crowd of people about the Lord & His promises. Things like this happen all the time no matter where we go, & the Lord uses the children so much to draw people to us.

THE CHILDREN HAVE ALSO BEEN USED SO MIGHTILY in provisioning at the markets, where we've been going regularly. We've found the little ladies selling fruit & vegetables to be some of the sweetest, humblest & sheepiest people we have ever met. Joel, our oldest son, has stayed a couple of times with one of the ladies at her house, & they have bought the children shoes, given us most everything we've needed for the new babies, given us money regularly as well as supplying us with their best fruit, vegetables, meat & fish!

LORD WILLING, WE'RE GOING TO START HELPING ONE LADY with her mentally retarded boy, maybe taking him once a week. She has such faith that we can help him & we know the Lord can do a miracle. There are about 50 of these ladies & we're getting very close to many of them. The children, by for-

literally gotten back 100-fold! A FEW MONTHS AGO WHEN WE DECIDED TO "SHTICK" & continue on with the job the Lord has given us here in Portugal, the Lord blessed Aola & me with a Portuguese wife. She was a catamober for the past 4 years & recently joined when she became of age. Her name is Primavera. The Lord really had us fall in love with her & she with us & the children.



Beautiful Portuguese national, Primavera!

WE'VE ALL BEEN LIVING TOGETHER for the past 3 months & every day is getting better. Aola & she really get along great & she's been such a blessing in helping to take care of the kids & we just couldn't have asked for anyone better.

OH, I ALMOST FORGOT TO MENTION that the twins are half-Portuguese with brown hair & maybe brown eyes—our FF'ing souvenirs! We're so thankful for such precious love gifts from the Lord. We love you, Dad & Maria, & are so happy to be in this beautiful, loving Family with such a wonderful Shepherd & Shepherdess! God bless you

## FAMILY NEWS -BY YOU & ME!

### A LIFE CHANGED BY LOVE

MY NAME IS DONATO: I was born of first generation Italian-American parents in April of 1927. When I married in 1951, my wife was a Southern Baptist but was willing to take Catholic classes to go along with my wishes for us to become a devout Catholic family.

TO MY SURPRISE, my wife found that she could not go along with many Catholic doctrines, since they did not have a foundation from the Bible. Because of this mistrust of the Catholic church, she searched for something else.

SHE FOUND IT IN THE TEACHINGS OF THE JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES. After having four children, my wife convinced me that the JW's were the best way to go & in 1968 I was baptised in Jesus & joined them.

IT WAS NOT EASY to live by the strict code of Bible interpretations laid down by the JW's. I tried very hard to be a good example to my family & I became a ministerial servant in the congregation.

LIFE WAS GOING AS TO BE EXPECTED for an American with two years technical training after high school. I finally began to sort out things financially. We had a modest home & my daughter & oldest boy had graduated from high school.

THEN TRAGEDY STRUCK. My oldest boy was electrocuted in a construction accident. Eight months later my

"It was that sharing of their love that convinced me!"



Donato surrounded by so much love in his new Family, during his visit to a Home in Spain. "Mama" Senaah looks on. Photo by Levi.

wife was found to have terminal cancer. In April 1974 she died. In the beginning the members of my congregation were very helpful.

BUT BY THE TIME THE SHOCK WORE OFF, I was completely on my own. I tried to stay strong in the faith & sought the Word for solace. Among my congregation I was considered very strong & they soon took it for granted that I was doing alright.

BUT I WAS ALWAYS TREATED LIKE A "FIFTH WHEEL" or "three's a crowd" with a couple. It was difficult to make dates with women in the congregation & the few there were who were free were considered too young for me. I lost interest in the

people who considered me a threat to their wives or didn't openly invite me to their homes without my suggestion.

SO I WENT LOOKING FOR COMPANIONSHIP ELSEWHERE.

I tried the cocktail lounge circuit but found it unrewarding as everybody was looking for something but not willing to give for fear of being hurt. I went into sports, took up tennis & bowling in hopes I would find someone. It was the same—everybody afraid to let go for fear of getting hurt.

THEN I TOOK A BUSINESS TRIP TO FRANCE & something happened that was to change my entire life! In June of '78 I went to Toulouse, France & during a weekend trip to the little country of

Andorra, I met Senaah.

I FIRST SAW HER WITH HER TWO DAUGHTERS, Printemps & Lovelight, singing in a restaurant. The songs were intriguing for they had a message of hope & future happiness. I talked to Senaah & immediately felt her love & concern for her fellowman. I invited her & her family to have dinner with me later that week. I must tell you of our next meeting because I know it was ordained of the Lord!

I CAME CLOSE TO NEVER MEETING HER AGAIN, because I missed her phone call. But I just happened to go to a new restaurant to eat one evening a few days later, & in came Senaah to that same restaurant to sing! That meeting

seemed like pure chance, but I know now it was a set-up of God & from then on I was in the Lord's hands.

LATER THAT WEEK I MET HER FAMILY & they talked about their love of Jesus & what they did to win others to Him & about their Family. Her mate, Levi, offered & did share Senaah's love with me. It was the most wonderful thing that ever happened to me in my life!

IT WAS THAT SHARING OF THEIR LOVE & their example that convinced me that the Family was where I belonged. Now I've spent two long wonderful vacations with them. I have shared in their daily living for the Lord with their love of Jesus & David & Maria. They shared the Word & the

Letters. They made me a part of their home & shared with me so many wonderful things. I learned about David's ministry of FF'ing & how it has won so many souls to Jesus.

I HAVE SEEN & FELT HOW THEY LOVINGLY GIVE of themselves to others. I know now how important it is that I give of myself to others & follow the example of the Family & try to be a part of what David has shown to be the only way to live & love.

DEAR DAD & MARIA, I WANT TO THANK YOU so much for being you & sharing your love with the world, & I hope someday I may become a full-time member of your loving Family. God bless you all. Love, Donato. (GBY!—MM.)

## Witnessing To Arabs!

Try love! It's the key to every heart!

From Habakkuk Cherubim, an Algerian brother in France:

I'M A BROTHER FROM ALGERIA, North Africa & am now living with my parents. I want to share what the Lord is doing now! It's terrific! Marvelous!

A GIRL IN MY FAMILY IS NOW SAVED & reading Mo Letters! She loves them. This girl is married & has a little baby. From the day I joined the Family I was always in touch with her thru' the mail. I knew her problems, & the problems she had are the problems of all Arab girls.

RECENTLY DURING A FAMILY MEETING, we had a talk, she & I. She was desperate & in need of love. I told her, "Do you know from where comes my peace



& my happiness & why all my needs are filled?" She said, "Yes I know. I know in whom you believe." She knew I was with a Christian group & I was a believer in Christ. I immediately I had the check of His Spirit to take her somewhere to a quiet place where we could talk.

WHEN WE WERE TOGETHER ALONE, I said, "Do you trust me?" She said yes. I explained to her the difference between Mohamed the prophet & Jesus, as she had asked me. Using the Koran & the Spirit of Jesus, I showed her different verses, explaining everything. I told her, "There is a difference between Mohamed

& Jesus. Mohamed had a father of this world & a mother of this world like everybody. But Jesus had only a mother of flesh. His father was not from this world. Look at these verses in the Koran.

AND I SHOWED HER THE VERSES: "We (God) sent Our Spirit to her (Mary) & He (the Son) was given to her in the form of a perfect mortal." I explained that's why Jesus is more close to God & has more authority than anybody else & that's why Jesus can really help you. We read more verses about Mary, Jesus & the promise of the birth of Jesus thru' Gabriel the angel, in the Koran.

SHE WAS REALLY AMAZED to know these truths for the first time in her life. Then I quoted Rev. 3:20 & we prayed for the Lord to come into her heart & to pour out His Spirit & to help her with her problems. We talked about the new relationship she will now have with her husband.