

Parents Speak Out!

Responses to M&M's Childcare Questionnaire

From Zered & Joanna; U.S.A.: **DARIUS IS OUR MAJOR CONCERN** at this point. He is 9 years old & last year entered system public school, 3rd grade, for the first time. I had started teaching him at home at 2 years old & he has had fairly consistent schooling in the Family. **BUT ADJUSTING TO U.S. PUBLIC SCHOOLS WAS QUITE A SHOCK!** The hours were so long & they had to study so much! Besides, he didn't even know what a locker was! Hal At first the teachers were shocked, but after they got to know him they complimented us on how well he received correction & how easy he was to work with.

IT WAS A MIRACLE HE PASSED to 4th grade as we returned to the States in late Nov. & then in March we took off across the country to visit relatives. But Darius managed to catch up by June. Then we moved again to live with another couple & he has started 4th grade. He was very behind the first few weeks as he couldn't seem to remember all the things he was supposed to do. We saw that communicating with the teacher really helped him get desperate to work harder & get it together. Now he is making As & Bs & is very inspired. We also rewarded him for his great efforts in this area which encouraged him.

DARIUS IS AN ARIES & LOVES TO PERFORM ETC. & was a great little witness when inspired. Here in the States & since he has been associating with systemites so much he finds it really hard to be a constant witness. There is great pressure on him from his peers to get into the things they do, yet he

knows that most of their trips are vain. **ONE PROBLEM WE'VE HAD IS WITH FIGHTING.** The neighbourhood kids were beating on him & of course he wasn't fighting back at first because we didn't believe in it. But it became obvious that he couldn't grow up like that, so Zered had to teach him to defend himself if necessary. MO's Letter on this was a great encouragement. Thanks!

From Elijah & Shiloh; Canada (parents of 3—ages 4½, 2½, 10 mo.)

SOMETHING OUR KIDS REALLY ENJOY is a view master projector with the Bible story reels & also reels of foreign countries. They love to see a "movie"! It will also be fun while out camping & as a witnessing tool.

SOMETIMES IN THE MORNING FIRST THING I have the kids sit quietly in their beds & look at books while I have a little time to fill up my heart. Those few minutes make all the difference to the day, & the kids start off in a nice quiet spirit too.

From Bethany & Ezekiel; U.S.A. (parents of 1 3-year-old girl): **JACINTH GETS 1 HOUR OF SCHOOLTIME** 5 days a week. We make use of the local library for good non-fiction books & she learns science & some history from those. I usually do 1 art project with her per week including painting, gluing, clay etc. I play a little guitar & teach her songs with hand motions. We have Bible story flannelgraphs every day. I read the stories from the KJV & do any necessary explaining & this way she is rapidly learning many verses from hearing the stories repeated often.

She loves them!

I TRIED TEACHING HER READING BY THE FLASH CARD METHOD but this didn't work well with her. However, thru' reading & re-reading certain books with her, she's learning to recognise some words she sees often. She can read the 1st 4 Mo Lion Readers. They're a real blessing!

I MADE A LITTLE SET OF CARDS for her in pairs, a picture on one card & a word on the other & I have her match them up. This has proven very effective in teaching her words. We now have a set of colours, body parts, food, animals & numbers (numerals on one card & corresponding number of dots on the other). I cut out pictures from catalogues & magazines, glue them on index cards & laminate them. She loves to play these matching games & can read over 50 words by this method.

JUST A COUPLE WEEKS AGO I STARTED WRITING LITTLE SENTENCES for her to read, using words she's learned on the cards. She gets really excited when she can read a new sentence without any help. She's learning to sound out words now too, in addition to her sight reading.

Nathaniel & Sarah Zebedee; U.S.A. (parents of twin girls & newborn boy):

I'D LIKE TO SHARE A COUPLE OF HEALING TESTIMONIES. Two months before the twins were born I was hospitalised with pre-eclampsia. Two weeks later a test showed that the girls' lungs weren't developed enough to support them if born then. (They were hoping to do a Caesarean as soon as possible.)

THAT NIGHT I WENT INTO LABOUR & the Lord gave me great peace that it would be alright. Sure enough, they were born healthy but small. They

were placed in intensive care & Beth came home after 2 weeks & Becky at 5 weeks.

THEN AT 8 WEEKS OLD 8-LB. BETH WAS HOSPITALISED with a high fever & results showed a urinary tract infection. She came home after 4 days but was on medication for a couple of months. At this time we were going back & forth to the hospital where the doctors were checking on her. Then an X-ray was done that showed the cause of the infection was more serious than we thought.

WE WERE REALLY SURPRISED AS WE WERE FED UP with this life of seeing doctors. So we went home & prayed believing the Lord would honor our faith if we would quit running to the doctors. Miraculously Beth was healed & we knew there was no need for us to return again to the hospital. All glory to His Name!

ANOTHER TIME THE GIRLS DEVELOPED THRUSH. We used gentian violet but after a week & no improvement we went to a doctor. I was confident that we would get some medicine that would heal them. Well, after 2 weeks on that & no healing I could see that it does no good to put your trust in medicine! We prayed together that night & threw the medicine away. In the morning there was no sign of thrush. PTL! I've found that when God gives you the faith, & it surely is a gift, that you can't deny it or Him!

THE FAMILY NEWS HAS REALLY BEEN WONDERFUL with testimonies & childcare tips. Seek & Secundus have been so inspiring as well as all the others who have shared their lessons & activities. There is such a wealth of teaching tips already available, perhaps more helpful is hearing how others are doing it, the fruits etc. Also the answers to such questions as

disposable bottles, bedwetting etc. are very helpful. Plus it's encouraging to hear that things don't always go smoothly for others, & it's always a walk of faith & trusting the Lord that eventually it will all work out."

Levit & Charity; U.S.A. (parents of a 3-month-old boy):

JUST TO SEE OUR BABY HAPPY is what encourages us most, as well as the Dito & Tech Letters & FN testimonies. The Dito Letters are very helpful & in no way a hindrance. We know Michael is not Davidito but we use your & his sample to guide us. They give us a vision for Michael.

Andre & Gaia; U.S.A. (parents of 3—7½, 3½ & 2):

WE JUST STARTED AN "OPEN THE DOOR FOR THE CHILDREN" CLUB here. Every Thursday Heidi-7½ invites the kids from her class at school & we call ourselves "Bye Bye Birdies" & all have name tags with a birdie on it. Then we read a children's Mo Letter & pray with the ones who need Jesus & then make a project to take home, like witnessing crowns.

Laz & Talitha Pismo; Caribbean (parents of 4—ages 4½, 3, 18 mo. & 4 mo.):

THE GREATEST HELP WITH OUR KIDS HAS BEEN THE DITO & TECHI LETTERS! By far! Plus recommended books like "Teach Your Baby to Read" & "Potty Training in a Day", various books on natural childbirth etc.

SINCE YOU ASKED IF ANY OF IT HAS BEEN A HINDERANCE, I'd only say I wish I could practise them more closely & I wish I could have the help of one more person to help us so the kids could get the individual attention that they need.

AS A FATHER I FEEL THE LORD WANTS ME TO BE A

TEACHER, to discipline & be an example to follow. So what I try to do is major on the Word, our ministry of giving His Words to others & to be loving too! And to get away from all this school product stuff to rear them as disciples of Jesus. I want them to be happy too (which they always are) knowing that Jesus loves them & wants their life to be full of happiness. I also try to take them wherever I go to learn what I do & answer all their questions of which they have 1000's every day! Hal

AS FAR AS IMPROVING THE REARING OF OUR CHILDREN, I do think we can always improve it. We've found extremely valuable materials for the children in the Bible book stores—Bible tapes & books, posters, book markers etc. There's one Bible story book we just discovered, the best I've seen yet, called "The Life of Christ Visualized" by Standard Pub. Co.

ONE THING I'M LEARNING TO DO IS TO PRAY FOR EACH OF THE CHILDREN that the Lord makes up for any lack in their life that we can't supply, that He'll help & comfort & love them & supply every need that we can't.

Joseph & Joppa; U.S.A. (parents of 2 children, ages 3 & 1½):

I LITNESS THRU' PSALMS, MY 3-YEAR-OLD. She got out 700 pieces of lit last month & started winning souls too. She ended the month with 14 souls! I have a mail ministry that I'm just beginning & I write people in several states who respond, love the Letters & help out. Francis, the brother who helps with the children, & I have sung some & hope to do more bar & restaurant singing & singing at old folks' homes.

I TAKE THE CHILDREN PROVISIONING fruits & vegetables, usually once a month. I FF reg-

ularly but it's only one Fish. I see him every other night for several hours & as a result he has supported this Home for the past 4 months plus he's given Joseph, Francis & me our G.E. funds!

From Barny & Sarah; Canada (2 children, ages 7 & 6):

DURING OUR LAST YEAR IN ITALY BARNY WAS PRETTY SICK so we didn't know what we were going to do. This year we are looking into schools here in Canada but aren't too enthusiastic about sending them, but rather finding an open door to do something revolutionary.

OUR WELFARE WORKER SHARED WITH US that there is a lot of controversy about whether or not to send the children to school as they learn so much violence there. Barny was in bed most of the time at first but now is doing better so we get out more & we love it.

ONE PROBLEM WE ARE HAVING is getting lit printed. But we believe it's just an attack of the Enemy. We sing quite a bit at rest homes, hospitals & for friends & neighbours. We have provisioned around \$400 worth of needs for ourselves & friends in Italy in the last month & are so inspired about it, TYJ!

From Philippe La Plume; Canada (one girl, age 2½):

SOMETHING HAPPENED LAST NIGHT WHILE WE WERE EATING DINNER. We were talking together when suddenly Virginia rushed in & was looking at me without even being able to talk. She was choking. Right away I knew she had drunk something & her breath smelled like turpentine. (We were into painting & had left a little bowl of turpentine on the floor.)

I RAN TO THE BATHROOM WITH HER & she threw up right away & then asked me to give

her some cough syrup to drink instead of the water I wanted to give her. That seemed to help her. Then we anointed her with oil & prayed desperately with her & the Lord touched her little stomach as she went back to playing with no problem.

IT SURE TAUGHT ME A GOOD LESSON ABOUT LEAVING DANGEROUS STUFF AROUND! When I checked in the baby book I found out under the topic of "poison" that if a child drinks some turpentine it's good to give them some cough syrup, exactly what she asked me to give to her. It amazed me to see that the Lord is faithful to give the child the burden to ask for what he needs. To conclude, one suggestion I have is that it would be a great help for each Home to have a little booklet on first aid for children & adults in any easy place to find, like near the telephone or in the bathroom. (Please refer to FC's "Safety Checklist" & post it in a handy place in your Home!)

Sincerity & Judah; U.S.A. (3 children, ages 11, 8 & 7 mo.):

MOST OF THE TIME THEY COME HOME FROM SCHOOL & tell us how foolish the kids were or how the books teach "The Big Lie". They both know the Letters well & often the Lord shows them Mo Letters & even pictures to teach them.

ONE PROBLEM WE HAD WAS WE WEREN'T GIVING THEM ENOUGH RESPONSIBILITY. It was just a lack of faith on our part. We would give them jobs to do & if they didn't do them well or they took too long I'd get angry & do the job myself—more concerned about the job than the true lessons they might have learned. I had also taken on more than I could bear in caring for the 5 of us, plus litnessing.

SO THEN I WAS READING

DAD'S LETTER "COMMUNION" & the words stood out in my mind, especially about the foot washing ceremony. We had a foot washing that evening & Communion & the Lord has blessed it so much! We don't do the children's jobs anymore. If they don't do them right, we politely point it out & they do it again until it's done right.

From Paul, Ruth & Isaiah; Canada (parents & helper of 4):

PAUL & I HAVE BEEN MARRIED FOR 5 YEARS NOW, & after asking for a childcare helper & getting desperate with the Lord for a brother or sister who would really like the kids & appreciate family life & us, He showed us His love & mercy & sent us Isaiah. Since I've been sharing with Isaiah it has drawn Paul & I closer as we appreciate each other more.

WE HAVE 4 CHILDREN NOW—Kerenina-4½, Daniel-almost 3, Stephen-almost 2 & Fay-5 mo. None are in public schools. We have been teaching them ourselves & they're doing well. I have books to guide me plus the wonderful Letters.

I'VE LEARNED SINCE MY 3RD CHILD HOW IMPORTANT CONSTANT DISCIPLINE IS between the ages of 1 & 2. With the 1st 2 I was a little slack & then it's harder when they're older. If they start off right it goes a lot easier.

ONE THING I'VE FOUND TO BE A GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT is for other brothers & sisters & families to give lots of encouragement to parents & children. Because if parents try their best & yet the kids are not perfect & neither are you, if someone just starts criticising, it really can bring you down, as it might be something you've worked on for months or years.

(More coming! Please send your childcare tips & testimonies!)

Indigenous Church of Love!

National disciples live & preach the Word in Thailand!



John socks it to his countrymen with the Message of God's Love!—Thirty received Jesus!

From Mark; Thailand: **OUR LOCAL THAI MAIL MINISTRY HERE HAS BEEN GROWING** by leaps & bounds lately, PTL! Over 300 people have about wrote in & we now have about 800 on our mailing list! Many of our most faithful correspondents have been asking for fellowship.

SO WE SENT OUT INVITATIONS TO A CHURCH OF LOVE MEETING by which we hope to establish a totally indigenous nationalised church run by our own national disciples! We really wanted to stick to Dad's original vision for the Church of Love & not end up as an entertainment show.

OUR 1ST MEETING WAS

HELD AT THE HOME OF ONE OF OUR NATIONAL DISCIPLE'S PARENTS, which was a real blessing & they also helped with fruit & refreshments after the meeting for all the guests, GB'M!

WE STARTED BY WELCOMING EVERYONE & Bert, a national disciple, led everyone in an opening prayer. Then we sang Psalm 34 together, practising it once with the audience participating to teach them the song, & then singing it again. We then read the story of the Good Shepherd in John 10.

THEN SOMPOORN, OUR NEWEST NATIONAL DISCIPLE, GAVE HER TESTIMONY, & we sang "Amazing Grace" together.

"A world of good news!"

INSIDE!

A Year of Pioneering Miracles / Invading the Churches from a Foreign Field / I Found Happiness in Giving / Refuting Lies / Our Rhythmic Baby / Children's Corner.

Vol. 17, No. 2 DFO
Edited by Zebedee & Zoran Rabbit.

Then John stood up & gave "It's So Simple" from memory & led the whole congregation of about 30 in prayer to receive Jesus in Thai. Then we sang "For God So Loved the World!" several times. We later prayed the Lord's Prayer together, thanked everyone for coming & ended by singing "We've Got a Lot to Be Thankful For"—the entire service in Thai, TYL!

AFTERWARDS WE SPENT TIME SHARING INDIVIDUALLY with our guests & before they left they wrote their names & addresses in our guest book & left a donation in our donation box, & we were able to give each one a Gospel of John, PTL!

"THE CHURCH OF LOVE" WAS A REAL ANSWER TO PRAYER in being able to follow up on our sheep, & a good sample for them to see their own people preaching & living the Word, Hallelujah! We're now having Church of Love twice a month, so please keep us in your prayers that we can really establish a lasting fruitful Church of Love in this country! Love, Mark & your brothers & sisters in Thailand.

(Ed.: You can help reach Thailand & the Thais. The booming Thai Mail Ministry & Church of Love need your help! Send a donation now before it's too late! Address: W.S., P.F. 241, 8021 Zurich, Switzerland (with an inside envelope for "Mail Ministry & COL in Thailand").