

Dear Dad & Maria,

GBY! WLYPAPY! We've just read "SA Controversy answered by Dad" in Mag No. 41 & felt the need to write a response.

When we first decided to give up our English teaching jobs one-&-a-half years ago to try to devote more of our time to getting out the Words in this country we did it with the conviction that time is short & that we could be doing more than we were doing. Especially having just read "The Crash is Here", at that time we felt the Lord was showing us that we could be doing more despite the rather oppressive nature of the country & the fact that it had never been tried before. We decided to concentrate more on witnessing & trying to get out some lit than to make survival preparations as most of the rest of the Family was doing at that time.

We began very slowly by sticking selah tracts under doors. This was after we'd been in the country about months & had witnessed very little up until that time because we had heard that it was such a closed country. Little by little we got up the courage to knock on doors & talk to the people & then openly pass out lit in parks until now we've been openly witnessing on the streets daily for donations for the past year without incident.

We don't have anything against teaching English & think that good-paying English classes are a blessing to any Home & almost a must for large families here. To be honest, we have sometimes gotten weary of the battle of witnessing every day & I would start looking for English jobs & just when it looked like I was going to be getting some jobs the Lord would close the doors in such a way that we knew it was Him & He would encourage us to get back on the wall of getting out the Words.

I guess sometimes the Lord takes us at our word & puts our faith to the test as our original vision was to try to devote our full time & energies to the Word & trust the Lord to supply our needs which He hasn't failed to do since then! PTL! The Lord also miraculously supplied Permanent Residence for us here two-&-a-half years before we were eligible--so that we aren't legally bound to teaching English or working in a specific company!

We'd also like to say that we do not believe _____ is a completely open country & we whole-heartedly agree with all the comments you made to E & L's letter. We think No. 942 is excellent counsel for this country. We have always printed & distributed only very milky Letters about salvation, love, etc. & we preach only Jesus & salvation on the streets. We have very seldom ever preached forsaking-all, communal living or sex views to anyone & don't ever discuss politics with anyone--not even friends or catacombers as that is definitely taboo here.

But, contrary to E's letters, we do not believe that asking for donations is the most dangerous thing you can do here--rather, just passing out lit, free or for donations is subject to investigation. The most important thing is what you pass out!

There is a very great difference in this country between the Catholics & Protestants (called Evangelicos here). The Catholics are generally an-

ti-government while the Protestants & people like Rex Humbard get a reception with the President, etc. Just the fact that we are always out passing out tracts & "evangelising" puts us in the Protestant bracket--which is good for us.

We feel certain that since we have witnessed here in this small city of 300,000 daily for so long (10 months) that our lit has probably been read by the authorities. We witness every day to police, city fathers & no doubt undercover police as well--but we are a Christian group spreading the Love of Jesus & therefore we're no threat to the government!

We do not go looking for publicity & have never said we were founded by Dad. We did have one newspaper article done about us in which we called ourselves the "Christian Family of Love" but in retrospect we realise we could have used a different name or better yet just referred to ourselves as "independent missionary families" which we do now as that name can definitely be dangerous. That one newspaper article was done when we were approached by a reporter & we felt it was better to give the interview than to say no, so as not to make them feel we had something to hide. Despite the name, it came out favourably & has helped us immensely in our provisioning.

When we wrote the "Closed Country Opens" article in Mag No. 38, we wrote it as a personal letter to you, Dad, to show what we were doing along with a letter requesting counsel because although we felt the leading of the Lord in the things we'd done, & had seen His blessings & the good fruit from getting out the Words, the majority of the brethren here disagreed with us. We were surprised that it came out in the Mag & with the title "Closed Country Opens" as we had sent it in without any title. Although it encouraged us that it came out in the Mag, we have thought that the title was misleading in some ways & could give newcomers a somewhat unrealistic description of this field.

Although we do have a conviction that it is possible to get out milky lit here, you do really have to have the faith for it. We are always very sweet & agreeable & do it with faith, acting as though we have every right to do what we are doing & I think our very boldness in being so open witnessing has made the authorities think that we're not a threat & that we are an innocent Christian group, as we are indeed.

But, if you go out with fear & as if you have something to hide you are going to arouse suspicion immediately & draw attention to yourself. Because of this, we don't consider that what we are doing is necessarily for everybody but as Dad has said, "According to your faith be it done unto you."

We have never felt such a spirit of fear in any other country we've ever worked in as we have in this one, & in our work for the Lord here we know that the Devil's favourite tactic against us has been fear. We have felt that this country is like a dog that's a little afraid of you because he doesn't know you, but won't attack you unless you show yourself afraid of him & will even be friendly & love you if you show love to him.

We'd like to say too that we never intended to create a controversy

here & don't really enjoy being the centre of one. Our disagreements with the other brethren have caused us many sleepless nights & a dilemma that has caused us much anguish, hence the letter we wrote to you, Dad, requesting counsel about it which appeared in the FN as "Closed Country Opens."

Since we've started witnessing here we've seen good fruits & many lives changed. We have gotten out tens of thousands of pieces of lit, thousands of souls have been saved, we have won some precious catacombers & a live-in disciple & the Lord has abundantly blessed our provision & supply.

We've felt the leading & encouragement of the Lord to continue & that He's called us to this ministry. But the majority of the brethren have been against what we've done & so our dilemma has been--follow the Lord's leadings as we see them or follow the counsel of the majority of the brethren here?

If we are wrong, we'd like to know, as this controversy has caused us much grief & has made us feel like giving up many times & feel that all we've done has been in vain because we've used controversial methods.

We really do love you both so very much & with our whole hearts want to do the right thing & be a blessing to the work & not a problem, & please forgive us if we have been & for taking up so much of your precious time with this controversy. Love in Jesus, R & C

Dearest Loved Ones,

RE: The S.A. Controversy

7/9/81

GBYAPRY! We hope that you are enjoying to the fullest the Southern paradise. We are writing in response to your asking the view of the Family members in _____, in Mag 41, Page 186.

As you know, we consider this country almost completely opened up to witnessing when you don't get into politics or use too strange ways of witnessing & witnessing, but the opinion of most of the Family here has been different, just like you can see from the report of E & L in Mag 41. Anyway, even though lately we were kind of far from the other members for this difference, the Fellowship Revolution was trying to keep us together & to put our eyes on the positive.

But about three weeks ago a few Family members mentioned about a law that forbids the printing & distribution of any kind of material that is not registered from the government. According to these brothers the law is old, but only recently has been particularly enforced with the adding of new punishments by the government against the transgressors. After a few days, in another meeting it was explained how after some brothers looked into it, it was practically impossible to register(?) our lit because the info that should have been given to legalise it was too compromising such as, "What's the group's name" or "Who is the leader" etc.

So in consequence of this the Family members' counsel decided that it was better to stop printing up lit & to stop completely any kind of public witnessing except really carefully & slowly DTD. When they told me this (I didn't go since the meeting was on the other side of the city at 8-9 P.M. & it would have been too late for me to come back & also for S & the kids to be alone at night), I told them that I would have to pray & get an answer from the Lord about it, but that meanwhile I would stop witnessing until then. So we spent the whole afternoon praying & reading trying to see what the Lord was trying to show us about it & in the end we received a few Letters that led us to a decision & according to these Letters we decided that we would keep going & that the Enemy was just trying to stop completely the giving out of the Words that was already done in a real small scale.

One of the Letters was "Know Your Meat" (No. 943), & it explains how in some countries there is an opposition against some kind of lit, in another the opposition is against another kind of lit, but if you know your meat & are not stupid to give your pearls to the pigs, then you have got to give out the message. (No. 943:21-31.) In other words, since we are giving out the Letters like, "Love is the Answer", "Why Disasters", "Long Live Love" etc., which are heavy messages, but don't offend anybody, then the Lord has got to keep us because we are giving out His Words & trying to use wisdom in it & following also your counsel.

Also "The Island Secret" to me was really important, & I received to study & pray over it. Even though this is an oppressive, repressive, dictatorial type of government, there is a great religious freedom allowed to the point that even knowing that the government is controlling everything behind the scenes all the religions here, like Evangelicals, Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses & even Hari Krishna are invading the country with their doctrine.

TO BE?--OR NOT TO BE?!

-A WITNESS!-That Is The Question!

