

Tomorrow will never come if you continue to hold onto today.

Have you been missing Heaven's Library books?

—Check the MO site for new releases!

The good news is that more *Heaven's Library* books will be coming your way!

Since the time that the "Spirit Stories" GN was published, many of you have sent in stories that you received in prophecy or were otherwise inspired to write. Many of these stories have been published—some sooner, some later—in a *Heaven's Library* mag or book.

Aside from the fact that those of us working on these stories have over the years also been involved with other projects, one reason for the recent large breaks between *Heaven's Library* books has been the difficulties we've faced in preparing some of the stories for publishing.

The reasons for this are as many and varied as the stories themselves. Some stories have what appear to be gaps in the plot. Sometimes stories set against historical backgrounds may contain scenes or events that are somewhat out of place in that era. (See "More on Spirit Stories" [ML #3119] for details on why spirit stories don't always come out "perfectly" when they are first received.)

By asking the Lord about them, such "rough edges" are adjusted, smoothed, and "polished" in one way or another as the story goes through various stages of preparation on its

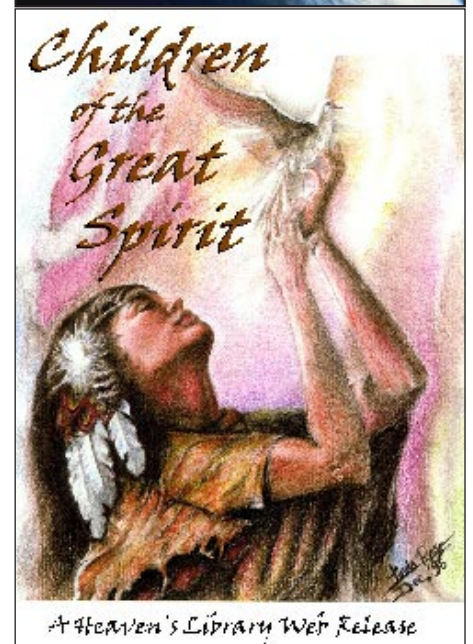
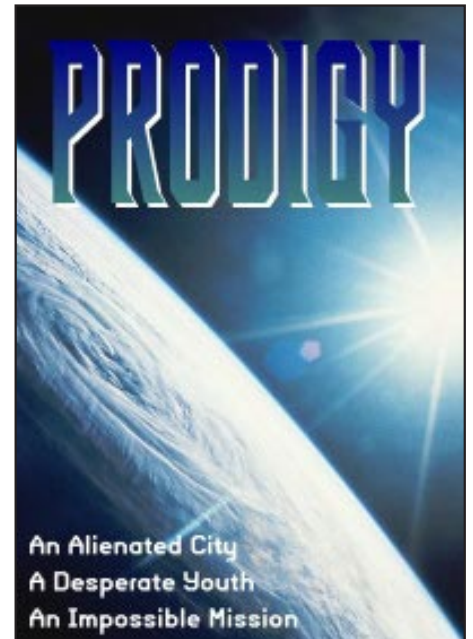
way to you. Some stories have been simpler to "polish" in this way than others, and many of these are already in your hands. There are other stories that we simply have not had the time to polish as much as would be necessary in order to release them as *Heaven's Library* books; however, they are still worthwhile, exciting, and fun stories to read.

The Lord has now confirmed that we can release some of these stories to you on the MO site (<http://familymembers.com/overflow/hl_books/index.php3>) so that you can enjoy them "as they are." This means that these stories have received only a minimal amount of edits—in most cases simply to fix up the grammar and spelling where most necessary.

It also means that these stories may contain errors, historical inaccuracies, improper grammar, plot gaps, or other apparent inconsistencies that would normally be adjusted—in counsel with the Lord and spirit helpers—in printed books.

We hope that you will enjoy these stories, even though they may not be as polished as those you are used to receiving in print, and that they will provide the additional edifying reading material for your JETTs and teens that many of you have been asking for. As you read these stories, please send up a prayer for our team and our work on polishing the many other *Heaven's Library* books that are still on their way to you.

—BY YOUR HEAVEN'S LIBRARY BOOK TEAM



Don't miss celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Australian raid victory—along with those who were there! Read a few of their stories on page 8!

table of contents

Important notices/prayer requests	2	Jonas and Christy tour in U.S.A.....	12
East Africa board delegates react.....	3	Activated news and other tools.....	13
What pubs you should read ... by Mama and Peter.....	4	Home schooling corner	14
Open forum question: childcare heroes	7	Prayer requests	16

prayer request: anti-Family documentary in the works

By Mama

Dear Family,

As you may or may not have heard via former member friends or children, a former second-generation member in the United States who was trained in filming and production during his upbringing in the Family is currently working on a documentary on the lives of former Family member young people. He has already interviewed a score of former members, and is active in seeking to interview more. From what we understand, his focus is aimed at highlighting Family upbringing in a negative light.

Please pray that this undertaking will not become a vicious attack

on the Family, or be used to undermine efforts at reconciliation and communication between current and former members. Such experiences of participating in projects of this nature have often proven unpleasant for former members as well as hindering their communications with parents still in the Family. The negative peer pressure can be very heavy, leading to bitterness, strife and disunity, where none existed previously. Please pray against such devices of the Enemy and any attempts to use this against the Family.

Love, Your North
American Media Team

Dear Family,

Please wholeheartedly call on the keys and claim the Lord's protection and safe-keeping from persecution, court cases, and other similar attacks of the Enemy.

The Enemy is fighting mad with the progress we're making as a Family. We've hit him head-on in exposing Pan, Bacchus, Apotheon, Selvegion, Lethargy, and numerous of his dirty devices. He's losing his hold on you. You're pushing *Activated* and feeding the sheep. You're taking hold of the Lord's counsel in the "Conviction vs. Compromise" series. You're setting your sights on reaching the rich, labor leaders, and winning Active members and disciples. No wonder he's attacking so furiously!

So pick up those keys-turned-to-swords and wield them against the Enemy. Claim the key promises the Lord has given us. Let's not fail in ceasing to pray and be the intercessory prayer warriors that the above prayer request, along with numerous others, require in order to effectively stop the Enemy in his tracks. The Lord's hands are tied unless we intercede and desperately ask Him to destroy the Enemy's works and his dirty deeds. So claim the keys and fight!

Love,
Mama

NEW KEY PROMISE: Do not hesitate to wield the keys to fight the Enemy's attempts to attack you, My children. Foil his plans by praying desperately and in earnest, as you attack him with your fiery keys-turned-into-swords. The Enemy cannot stand the persistent and powerful attacks of the children of David who hold the keys of the kingdom in their hands.

By Mama

God bless you, dear Family! We love you and are so thankful for your continued service to the Lord!

Several of you have recently asked whether our son, David, is still in the Family. In answer to that question, David has been out of the Family for about two years now.

Numerous times in prophecy the Lord told us to wait on announcing David's departure, as the Lord wanted to give him time to decide how he would relate to the Family without the pressure of everyone knowing he had left. Unfortunately, over the years he has pulled further and further away, and recently has begun speaking out against the Family, Dad, Peter and me.

Please pray for David, and for all of our children who have left the Family and chosen another path. Pray that they keep the Lord as the focal point of their lives, and that they settle into good situations, and don't fall prey to the Enemy's wiles and attacks.

in My arms...

Written by Tabitha (of

Marco), China: On the night of May 26th Marco got a fever. On the 27th he still had a fever but he was eating, drinking, and talking. He seemed okay (three days earlier I had a fever and a bad cold also). On the morning of the 28th I felt that I had to take him to the hospital, because he couldn't talk or walk and was slipping in and out of consciousness. However because of the kids (ages 13, 10, 9, 7, 5, 2, and 5 months) we weren't able to make it to the hospital until 3:00 PM. Five hours later Marco went to be with the Lord. He was 37 years old.

Recently Marco's health wasn't very good. He'd been suffering from hyperthyroidism, and he had the runs all the time. His resistance was very low and he had severe myocarditis and a combined infection, etc. But he had a cheerful attitude about it all. The doctor said that the cause of death was AMI (acute myocardial infarction), and multiple organ functional failure (Marco's heart, lungs, and brain stopped functioning properly).

I know so many people are praying for us. The Lord has really made it easy for me to go through this difficult

time. I don't know how to express it, but I feel so close to Marco—closer than he was with me in the physical. He told me he would take better care of us from the spirit world than he could have here.

(Jesus:) I have brought My dear Marco into My arms at this time for a purpose and a reason. I know this is impossible for you to grasp now, how this could be for your and the children's good, but this is not a time to look at circumstances or try to reason it out. This is a moment to take this entire burden that seems greater than any mountain you could imagine, and place it in My hands. You and your children are safe in My arms—safer and more hallowed 'round about at this moment than ever.

I will turn this time of sorrow for you, My love, into a time of great strength and in the days ahead, joy. I swear to you as your Husband that neither you nor the children shall want for any good thing if you will cling to Me. I will give to you and to your children the most precious treasures and the most priceless of gifts, here in this life, because of the sacrifice that you bear in faith and trust. *(End of excerpts of messages from Jesus.)*

(Editor's note: To read more from Tabitha and personal letters from others who knew Marco, please see the MO site at: <<http://familymembers.com/newswire/article.php?nwid=899>>

East Africa board delegates react – Nairobi, Kenya

Nina (of Martin, CGO Board): The board vision reminds me of a portion of the *Song of Victory*, “Come take the stand, hand in hand, shoulder to shoulder.” It’s unity! It’s so heavy! Just us getting together like this, I know that the repercussions are going to go on. We’re already excited! You feel that spirit of cooperation and when I saw Peter on the video, I thought, *This is Dad speaking through him*. Sometimes I looked at him and I thought, *My goodness, that’s Grandpa there*. Sometimes it’s like I could almost see Grandpa in Peter, with the Heavenly vision that “It’s a revolution.” It’s really a revolution; we’re going to be pumping ideas!

Brian (SGA, JT Board): On the board videos, Peter was saying that now we’ll be able to do so much more. He was saying we can be *proactive*. Well, we just read those four “Heading into 2002” GNs, and I was thinking, “Oh my, we’re already doing all that! If we’re going to do *more* now, can you imagine what it’s going to be like?” It kind of hit me, ‘cause reading through those Letters and seeing all that the Family is already doing, if the board vision takes off like it should, and it will hopefully, than I can’t even imagine what’s ahead. It’s very exciting!

Lily (CP Board): It’s been exciting reading about the board vision. Especially since I’m in a smaller place, kind of on the sidelines of fellowship where we don’t really see anybody.—I think it’s the first time in my history in the Family where I’ve been in a place like that where you’re with a small team pioneer-

ing. You see each other day in, day out, having to keep up the inspiration, the vision, making sure you’re still walking in the right direction and keeping it going, inspired and shooting straight. You can feel a little bit isolated.

Now with the board vision, it gives a ray of hope and new avenues to work together more and be part of everything. Often we’re wondering, “Lord, are we still shooting straight?” You automatically feel a bit isolated, but this new vision is so exciting. I could see it with everybody, when we got the board vision, people just literally jumped on it. “We want to do it!”

Ike (PR Board): I realized from watching the board videos that it’s going to mean more of an adjustment than I thought. We can’t go by past experience, if we had any leadership experience before. The board vision is going to provide more motivation to live the Letters more closely and to have more discipline in our lives. Plus, it’s more motivating to receive the input from other people, people who have experience in these areas.

Rose (VS Board): It was really convicting for me because my initial reaction was, “Me? Are You sure, Lord?” First I thought it was for someone else. But then I thought, “Okay, Lord, I guess You know what You’re doing. I don’t.” And I prayed about it and the Lord said, “Yes, yes. It’s not a mistake.”

One thing that convicted me was the part in the videos about *believing* that the Lord gives us the anointing. If you say, “Lord, I can’t do it,” really you’re saying, “Lord, You’re making a mistake.” We have to really be-

lieve that the Lord is doing it and not just look at the flesh and the personality or whatever, but just receive it and accept it and go with it.

Dora (FED Board): I remember some months back when the first GNs about the board vision came out, maybe because I was going through a low point having been very discouraged by many disunity situations, I read these GNs and thought, *Wow this is great, but...* In my heart I honestly thought, *Is it going to happen?* At the same time I was hoping that the disunity and the independence wasn’t the same everywhere. When the “Conviction vs. Compromise” series came, I was convinced that the board vision would happen because the Lord was calling us all to clean up our act to be able to go forward. By that time, I had full faith.

Andrew (of Mary, CP Board): I’m thankful for the obvious, but I still want to say it. There are so many talents in the Family, but they’ve only been used in the Home where they are. I feel it’s going to be such a blessing that these talents are going to be multiplied for others.

Gregg (Africa Video Ministry): For me it seems that the board vision is the logical next step that the Family would take. You see what the Lord has done to bring the Family to this stage and the different things that we had to go through—the lessons we had to learn both pre-Charter and post-Char-

ter. It’s like He had to teach us all those things so we’d be ready for this. It’s just so neat how it’s the Lord’s timing and it wasn’t too early or too late.

I don’t think ever in the Family have we zeroed in on these ministries; we’ve always had all sorts of leadership structures, but like it’s been said, one person doing everything. There’ve been things like Area Mom, that was as close as we got, but to really zero in on these different pillars and then have people that are interested in and talented in that area to do the job, has the potential to bring so much progress in each area. And if we have been able to progress as much as we have and do as much as we’ve done and muddle through—now that we have people who are anointed for that job and praying together, then the sky’s the limit!

Lily (CP Board): What I kept getting was that it’s like a masterpiece in the making. It’s almost like what you see on church ceilings, incredible paintings with special paint that lasts a long time. It seems like out of all the broken pieces, the things we have gone through—the experiences, the heartbreaks, the different revolutions and revelations—it’s coming together to something very incredible. It’s just so amazing.

One thing that also stood out to me in listening to Peter is how he said over and over again how we’re supposed to be servants, to serve each other and it’s all for the better of the other.—To serve the Homes and to think about the others.

The board vision is going to provide more motivation to live the Letters more closely and to have more discipline in our lives.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

CAN YOU RELATE TO THIS SCENARIO?

By Mama and Peter

Dear Family,

God bless you! As we approach the midway mark of 2002, we're thrilled with the testimonies that are pouring in from your perspective fields! Our Husband is helping us all move forward, and the Family is accomplishing a lot! Praise the Lord!

The purpose of this notice is to clarify a few points that we hope will be a blessing to you and help you to accomplish even more in future months.

If the following scenario sounds familiar or strikes a chord with you—we've got the solution you're looking for!

Scenario: It's Tuesday.

In morning devotions everyone prays for the town trip. The business team has a busy day ahead! There's food shopping to do, banking, several errands to run, and don't forget—check the post office! After a long day out, the team arrives back just in time for dinner. They're approached by other Home members who ask, "Did we get a mailing today? Let me see! What's in it? Did a new *Grapevine* come? New GNs? An *Eve* mag? *Xn*? Wow! Look at this mailing! It's packed!"

In the days that follow and as the weeks go on, twinges of frustration and shades of condemnation set in to varying degrees on each Home member.

Single sister Tanya digs right into reading the new GN. She's read it two times, front to back, but now feels bad she hasn't had time to thoroughly read the *Grapevine* and catch up on important Family news and announcements. The daddy of the Home goes straight for the *END*—enjoyable reading after a tough day in town; he reserves the GN for later when he hopes to get "uninterrupted" quiet time. But five days later, things have come up that Dad didn't expect, and he still hasn't gotten

around to finishing the GN.

The mommy of the Home started the new GN, but just couldn't resist the interesting tidbits in the new *Eve* and the helpful counsel in *Kidland*; thus she took a detour to these pubs before she popped back to the GN. Understandably, her concentration on the GN was lost, and she had to start all over again.

16-year-old Lisa scarfed up the *Xn* and skimmed *The Grapevine*, but hasn't had time to finish the new GN. Twenty-year-old Todd read the *Grapevine* straight through, front to back, but it's been an exceptionally busy week and on top of that there was an extended get out on the weekend including young people from several Homes in the city. Needless to say, he's not had time to read the GN, let alone take personal time to ask the Lord the suggested P&P questions accompanying Mama's latest Letter to the Family.

You can fill in the blanks in the rest of this scenario and how it might play out for you. The point is, for many reasons, many of you read some of the pubs but not all of the pubs. Isn't that right?

We've received reports that most Family members at one time or another feel overwhelmed in having to read the amount of material contained in the WS mailings. Well, we don't blame you! The Lord has blessed us with a wealth of information to share with the Family, and thanks to your prayers, He's given us the means to pipe it to you, and it is a lot of material to read! The emphasis here is on "a lot!" This is why we want to clarify to you once again what the criteria should be in reading the publications that you receive each month, including the material that is posted on the MO site.

The solution is simple, really: You don't have to read it all! That's right! You do not have to read all the material in the WS mailings at the moment it arrives on your doorstep, or even in the immediate weeks that

follow if you can't get to it. So you can all step back and take a deep breath, heave a sigh of relief, and know that there is absolutely no reason for anyone to feel condemned if you cannot read every publication that we send your way. If you're unable to read some of the pubs right now, you can always go back and read them later, even in the future when world conditions tighten up and we're no longer able to send out as many pubs as we can right now. Okay?

There is a very important point, however, that I want to get across regarding reading the mailings, so please take note: While you don't have to read every single pub that we include in the mailings, there are some things you do have to read. I'm sure you can guess what your priority reading should be. You got it, the GNs! What is required reading in every WS mailing is the GN—the Word, your lifeline!

Our WS mailings are chock-full of a variety of material. There's something for everybody—from tots to teens to adults. Everybody might not read *Eve* or *Kidland*, for example, or all the children's pubs. Various pubs are more geared to different age groups, or to certain ministries and so forth. For example, if you're a young couple with two small children, you might want to put an emphasis on reading *Kidland*. If you're a young person, you're likely not going to want to miss the *Xn*. If you're a full-time witnesser and you teach Bible classes a few times a week, you probably won't want to miss the *END* or the FSMs that provide inspiring testimonies and valuable follow-up and teaching tips. And there are more pubs besides those! There are pubs for our children, for ministering to contacts and friends, and the list goes on!

GNs are top priority! That's the criteria, folks! The Word, the GNs, provide you with direction—where the Lord is leading us. They're your spiritual strength and daily feeding, and they're a must! Reading the GNs is what you must give priority.

It's human nature to go for the easier reading first, such as the

Grapevine or the END. All our pubs are wonderful, and we feel they're important; otherwise we wouldn't put the time and effort into producing them for you. But first things must come first, and if you're reading everything else to the neglect of the GNs, then something needs to change. GNs must come first and foremost; you need them for your spiritual feeding and strength. When you've read the GNs in a new mailing, then you can go on to the other pubs, and depending on your job for the Lord, your ministry and work, let Him lead you on what you should read next.

And last, but certainly not least, you don't need to be frustrated or condemned if you can't get to all the other pubs. We don't expect that every Family member will be able to read every single pub soon after they arrive, but you can go back to them later on. We hope you'll never run out of things to read; that's certainly our goal and the reason we're here—to pipe it to you! Praise the Lord!

Here is a little excerpt of what the Lord had to say about this dilemma for many Family members when we asked Him about it:

(Jesus speaking:) I love to speak to My children! I love to pour and pour and pour out, to lavish good things on them, with My direct Words, as well as the helpful information that

I lead you to gather to pass on to the Family for their inspiration and encouragement. I know they can't possibly read everything in one shot, I don't intend for them to do so. I don't intend that every publication be read soon after its arrival.

I pour out to you in abundance now to help you prepare for the times of famine. I'm leading you to stock your Homes well with helpful reading material. I've given you a great assortment of pubs, something for everybody; therefore it's okay to pick and choose when necessary. If each one will come to Me for confirmation, I will lead them as to what they need at the time, according to the work and ministry I've given them.

But one thing is non-negotiable, and that is that everyone should read what is required—and required reading for everyone is My Word, the GNs, the Words of life for today! If the Family is missing out on My fresh Word for today, if they're missing out on reading My Words through the main vehicle I've chosen for today, the GNs, then they will soon find they're going to run out of steam and run out of the strength and stamina that they need to keep going in the Time of the End.

The required reading must not be put off. The GNs are required; this is the Family's lifeline, their lifeblood. The GNs must not be ne-

glected, for without this fresh inspiration and clear direction, they will falter and come to a full stop. The GNs are My guiding light for these dark days; they will infuse strength and power into each Family member so they can advance in the coming days.

The criteria, the required reading for all Family members first and foremost, is the GNs; all else comes second to GNs. Each Family member can seek Me as to their own personal priority of what is important for them to read after they have read the GNs. I want to have the first word. I want the first spot in all Family members' reading priorities.

Make this a rule of thumb: GNs are required! Reading and studying over the GNs is top priority! *(End of excerpts of message from Jesus.)*

(Mama:) So there you have it, dear ones! You no longer have to feel frustrated or condemned if you can't read every single pub in our WS mailings. But you do need to read the GNs. We pray this clarification will help you keep your priorities straight. Thank you again for all you do to make this Family what it is. We're growing and progressing every day. Thanks for doing your part to win the world for Jesus. We love you!

Much love,
Mama and Peter

activated stuff

Lesson about tools

BY MARTIN, ESTHER, AND MELODY, SÃO PAULO, BRAZIL

We know a salesman from another movement who loves our material and has now started selling it. This month he sold 90 videos and 17 CDs. He is very enthusiastic. We believe this is a lesson for all of us to have more faith in our material that the Lord has given us!

A reason to give!

BY ROSITA (20), USA

The *Activated* magazines have proven to be a boost to our friends and contacts. Some have received the whole first year's worth (we hand them out personally), and pretty much all of them receive the monthly issue. All are very impressed with

the quality, color, and content. It leads to open doors in witnessing to them on a variety of subjects and helps pull them along spiritually. In return, they have continued to support us with goods and produce. Seeing us constantly improving gives them the vision to continually keep giving.

The keys are working!

BY ANNE AND DAN, QUEBEC, CANADA

Two of our Active member families are holding regular Bible classes for their sheep, as well as getting out tracts and posters. They are all eagerly waiting for *Activated* to be translated into French so they can sell subscriptions too.

Our Active members are now using the power of the keys. One of them was struggling to stop smoking,

but he now testifies that after reading the Letters on the keys, he called on their power, and stopped smoking completely ever since.

Flipped on *Mottos*

BY JOHN, LUBA, AND ROSE, TURKEY

The *Mottos for Success* desk calendar was recently completed in Turkish, and it's been so inspiring getting these out. We present it as a "perpetual calendar," and so far, all we have to do is show it to our friends and they ask us if they can buy one or more! Most people just flip out over it. More than one person has read the whole thing through in one sitting, and one girl who is a longtime friend stayed up all night to read it, and made some major commitments in her life after reading it.

happenings

The return of Countdown to Armageddon...

Daniel and Lana, Russia: Around Easter we had three university girls over to our Home for fellowship and to watch the Endtime video *The Final Stand*. The students belong to a Christian Center here that had been originally set up by American missionaries. As the AC (Gabe), appeared in the first song I could see them speaking to each other, commenting out loud of their agreement with the message of the song. One said, "Yes, that's right! There will be a seven-year covenant!"

After the second song one of them said to me. "You know, it's amazing! We just borrowed a video from our Christian Center's video library and it was on this very theme, and your video confirms what we have seen! In fact, they both use the same actor! It turns out they had borrowed *Countdown to Armageddon* (we don't know where the Christian Center received our video from) and recognized Gabe as the AC. Ha! After this double dose of the same message, they were quite inspired and wanted to borrow our copy of it to show their friends.

Impressed by our lifestyle

Stephen, Mary, and Mark, Tanzania: A missionary priest, who is a friend of ours and works with us on some of our CTP projects, loves to see our JETTs and teens perform and dance. He asked us to perform for the head of his Catholic order, the Passionists—an order similar to the Franciscan order. They have missions in 33 countries.

The head of the Passionists was touring their missions in East Africa for

a couple of days. He visited our CTP projects, which he enjoyed. In the evening we performed for him and some priests from their various missions here in Tanzania, plus members of various NGOs here in Dar es Salaam. Most of our Home was able to attend the function. The dance troupe put together dances to "Essence of Life," "Livin' and Lovin'," "Be the Best," plus a traditional Arabic dance. Our younger children also performed.

The head of the order made a speech and commented how it was the right direction to be going for the Church and their order, cooperating together with us in these projects. He told our missionary friend that he was overwhelmed by the evening. He said that we don't boast, even though we were doing a lot. And he said he would never forget the girls dancing and the light they portrayed, or the younger children and the love they gave. He repeatedly said that there was something special about us.

The next day he was leaving but wanted to see us before he left. His co-worker, a young American priest, also commented on our lifestyle saying he was impressed with our children and young people. Overall it was a major victory. We were constantly praying, claiming the power of the keys for the whole event.

Government oral hygiene program

Charity, Islamabad, Pakistan: We received a call from a woman who's been appointed by the federal minister to a special task force committee to enhance the government's special education program. She was recommended by her minister to us (since last year we'd had brief contact with her and

presented her with a package of our materials). She heard from several sources about us and our activities and our involvement with various special education centers, which is very encouraging.

She asked us to prepare a show and drama for their "Oral Hygiene Day" for 150 mentally challenged children and 100 visual impaired children. The goal was to impart the basics of good oral hygiene.

Despite 80% of our singing team coming down with the measles, the Lord indicated that we should still try to help, especially since the minister had referred this lady to us. With no time to lose, our teen team prepared a half-hour show with songs, magic tricks, and a meaningful skit based on the song "Brushy, Brushy" with colorful, life-size props. (Thanks also to the ASCRO FED who put together a wonderful "health package" that can be used for different programs as we used the "Brushy, Brushy" coloring book and activity sheets.)

For the blind children the characters went down and let the children feel them, and their clown costumes, plus the teeth impressions we'd gotten from a dentist, and their teacher gave a running translation of the actual drama with accompanied dramatic music. We then passed out gift toothbrushes, toothpaste, and a leaflet explaining the basics of keeping teeth clean and cavity-free. The woman was very thankful for our help and will also provide the sponsorship for us, God bless her!

Prestigious university takes *Motivated*

Islamabad Home, Pakistan: We've recently printed the first issue of *Motivated*. We've already

received a great response to them, and the potential is fantastic! We almost gave out our stock already and we are about to print issue #2 and a special holiday issue. Recently one leading university took 20 *Motivated* magazines and will take them as regularly as we print new issues. *Motivated* will be circulated among the various campuses across the country, reaching thousands of upper-class students and faculty members.

Meeting Pedro Espinosa

Merryheart, South America: I was at the airport in Panama waiting for my flight when I heard all these ladies and girls screaming. I assumed some famous person had come through, so I went over and saw this very tall guy walking down the corridor. All the girls who work in the duty free shops there were gathering around, and several of them stopped him to take a photo with him. He was sweet and obliging.

I went up to him and gave him a *FAR* and a tract and told him to please read it when he could. He was quite surprised that someone was giving him something. He thanked me and went on.

I then went to some of the people who had gathered around and asked who he was. They said he was Pedro Espinosa, a famous actor on a very popular Colombian soap opera—*novella*! That was fun!

It pays to serve Jesus Ben, Meekness, Christy, and Kelvin, Botswana:

In our life and service for the Lord we sometimes get used to the many blessings Jesus sends us. Recently we've been learning to be content and always count our blessings no matter what happens. And as faithfully

as ever, the Lord has come through once again, as the following situation shows.

Our landlord is a young black Botswanan man who has been sent to Australia for some further training and had left his car in our yard. Vehicles cannot be left standing still for long periods; they need to be used from time to time. So we explained that to his girlfriend, and volunteered to start it up every so often. The next day she came over and handed us the keys to the brand-new BMW.

We said, “Okay, we’ll start it up from time to time.” To which she replied, “Go ahead and feel free and use it whenever you want to!”

Our landlord will be in Australia for two years and we have the use of a new BMW. Only Jesus can pull off something like this, as we all know what lengths Systemites go to in order to drive around in a luxury car.

Better in the heart of Africa, right in the center of God’s highest will, activating our part of the world than in some rich, modern and affluent, decaying western country. Our children are growing up on the African continent and seeing miracles each and every day. Jesus and the Bible are not fairytale stories. Our kids pray and see the Lord do mighty things.

The power of God’s Spirit

Home in Karachi,

Pakistan: Our performing group, *HeartBeat!*, has been doing two to three shows a week in schools for the past few weeks, as the school year comes to an end and we receive many invitations for “end of the year” concerts for the students. We now have quite a following amongst the student population, and at our last concert, all the teenaged students were chanting “HeartBeat! HeartBeat!” and crowding around for autographs.

We did one show for 3,000 high school kids at one of the top schools in the city,

where most of the elite send their kids. As part of our 90-minute program, we included a meaningful short drama that had an anti-drug message, as well as a concluding message to “love your neighbor” (in a modernized teen interpretation). Three days after the show, the principal of the school called and asked us to meet him. He gave us a very generous donation and told us the following: “Every year at this time, after final exams, we have some kind of stage show or activity for the students. During the 16 years that I’ve been here, this is always followed by acts of vandalism, like eggs thrown at the walls, property destroyed, etc. But after your show, there hasn’t been *one* single incident. I really believe God’s Spirit took control and left its effect after your show!”

They already are asking to book more shows, as they have another 3,000 students who did not attend our show that day. PTL!

Viktor Orban gets the message

Lucas, Sophie, and Pearl, Hungary: This year’s election was a very close run between the Socialists and the Young Democrats party run by the current prime minister of Hungary, Viktor Orban. The prime minister went for a country tour to gather support and among other places came to our town as well. When we heard that the prime minister was coming, our visitors Peter and Faithy, with crazy Don Quixote faith, encouraged us to go and try to meet him. We prayed together and got the okay from the Boss.

It started to rain, but that didn’t dampen the excitement that was growing as we discussed what to write to him, what tools to put in the package, etc. Some of us got together to type the letter desperately claiming the power of the keys for the right words. We were desperately praying and claiming the power of the keys for the rain to stop and that the

Lord would open the door to meet the prime minister.

By the time we got there the waiting crowd was quite big and our team, led by God’s own hand, went behind the stage where people were already standing in line waiting to shake hands with the prime minister. A few minutes later a limousine pulled up and suddenly Pearl found herself standing at just the right spot to approach him. Viktor Orban shook her hand and she had enough time to hand him the package and tell him that the video, tape, and everything else inside was for his personal encouragement.

The whole thing took only a few minutes and we were amazed how miraculously the Lord guided us to that very spot at the only possible moment to meet him. The following evening while listening to his speech on the TV in which he was acknowledging his party’s defeat, a few of us noticed that he was saying things that sounded like the words from the *How to Win* tape we had given him: “We know that all things work together for good and we have to keep fighting and looking ahead of us. . . .”

Isn’t the Lord amazing and the power of the keys awesome?!

open forum

Our childcare heroes and heroines!

In GN 991, the Lord said: “There must be a plea for help and solutions to prevent burnout for childcare personnel. . . . There is help and there are solutions if everyone will live as I ordained in My Word. The teachers must be given prominence in the Family, and help and support. They play a vital role in the Family, as vital as those who go out to witness and win others, for they are training your future witnesses and disciples.”

Then Mama said: *The Lord said in this message you just read that we need to send out a plea for help and find solutions to prevent burnout for our childcare personnel; teachers must be given prominence, help, and support; delinquent parents must forsake their wrong attitudes and habits; and unity must be restored. These are the things the Lord is expecting you to do, dear Family. This is in your court.*

The Family is you, and you’re the only ones who can solve these problems. You’re the only ones who can dedicate your lives to the Family’s children, and inspire others in the Family to do the same. You’re the only ones who can pray about the ideas in this GN to see if they’ll work for you. You’re the only ones who can pioneer a city school for your children. You’re the only ones who can make childcare a prominent ministry in the Family by giving parents, helpers and teachers due respect and appreciation.

You have the boards, you have the Word, you have the tools for the job, and you have the children. Now it’s up to you to see what you’ll do with them! There isn’t going to be any other answer—the Lord is waiting on you!

(Read the full GN—“Where to Now?”—for a refresher on this topic! It’s terrific!)

So, what can we do about it, Family?

- Do you have any practical tips or ideas that you can share with the rest of the Family via this open forum to help preserve and support our wonderful childcare workers?
- How can we prevent those who care for the children from burnout?
- How can we show those who pour into our kids day and night appreciation?
- How can we give teachers and childcare workers prominence in the Family?

Let’s call on the keys and put our heads together to come up with some ideas that can make a difference in your Home, for your childcare personnel, for your teachers—for your children! Write in today with your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions!

Happy 10th Anniversary of Our

RELEASE!

—STORIES FROM THE 1992 AUSTRALIAN RAIDS

“Tremble, ye enemy!”

BY MICHELLE CHARISSE (SGA, OF PETER, SAMARIA, AND HEIDI), [India](#)

**...WE CAUGHT
SIGHT OF OUR
PARENTS AT THE
BACK, MADE
A HEADLONG
CHARGE ACROSS
THE COURT-
ROOM, KNOCKING
ASIDE ANYONE
WHO STOOD IN
OUR WAY. WE
RAN INTO OUR
PARENTS' ARMS,
WEEPING.**

Ten years ago I woke up to the sound of our front door being broken down. Ten years ago, I woke up to the knowledge that nothing would ever be the same. Ten years ago I was persecuted for my faith. Ten years is a long time to backtrack, so bear with me, as the walk down memory lane can at times be fuzzy, but there it is in black and white: Ten years ago was the first time my personal beliefs ever came into question.

I was 12 years old, and staring into a video camera, pistols in holsters, and the big bad world. I was wearing nothing but a yellow T-shirt.—Definitely not my idea of reveille. But it was happening, and that was that. How did this experience change my life? Well, throw cataclysmic, traumatic, and basically astounding all together and add more than a touch of the miraculous and there's your answer. Here are some of the highlights of what I remember about that week starting with the “pre-dawn raid”:

After acquiring some semblance of undergarments and the basic clothing, it was time to be cross-examined. Clever strategy, huh? Catch the little tykes off guard in the wee hours of the morning when their half-asleep minds will bypass the brainwashed codes of conduct and actually give away top-secret information! Alas and alack, Danielle and I naturally attempted to witness to our interrogators and even to bring them to the point of salvation, which, sadly, they didn't accept. Somehow our angels were punching through the chaos and fear. I felt a confidence and peace that was, under the circumstances, simply impossible.

In the general cacophony, before we left the house, a whole group of babies and toddlers were left alone in a room to fend for themselves, and we insisted on being allowed in to take care of them. The officials reluctantly gave in and I was allowed inside. A few minutes later one of the mommies came in. She had tears streaming down her face as she took her little girl in her arms and hugged her as if she would never let go. She rocked her back and forth, praying out loud and

then stretched out her arms to draw all the babies close. She had just heard that we kids were going to be taken away. I, however, had no idea what was going on and I just remember feeling like the world was coming to an end.

After “assuring” us kids that we were only going for a short trip, the police began herding us into mini-buses. Sitting in there with no one but my younger brothers and sisters and some other little kids, I had never felt so alone. It was freezing cold and drizzling; I just wanted to cry. It was then that I believe my guardian angels got through to me with one outstanding piece of information: No matter what happened, I just had to pray and fight for the other kids. From that moment on, everything was different. As the bus pulled away from our beautiful farm, we starting singing fighting songs at the top of our lungs, hoping the others would hear us and get inspired.

I was the eldest in my then family of seven. Six of us were taken away, including my two-year-old sister. It was a Friday morning, which meant that they could keep us over the weekend without any legal proceedings. That was the longest weekend of my life. The Lord gave us supernatural strength, and I remember fighting with police officers, social service workers, doctors, physiologists, and just about anybody who was trying to interfere with my brothers and sisters. I am not a brave person, so I thank God for the courage that made me face down the toughest social workers, and demand they release my brothers from the room where they were questioning them, and siccing our lawyers on them when they refused, insisting on being with each of the kids when they were strip searched, keeping them all in the same room at nights for safety, and fighting to take them to court with me every day. This was a perfect example of taking the weak things to confound the mighty.

All weekend Australia heard that we were children who were emotionally abused, unable to recognize our parents and incapable of any feelings of love towards them. So it was a dramatic moment when, on Monday morning, after repeated warnings from the authorities to keep quiet and stay with our social workers, those very same “abused children,” when the court doors opened and we caught sight of our parents at the back, made a headlong charge across the courtroom, knocking aside anyone who stood in our way. We ran into our parents' arms, weeping. The judge, lawyers and members of the press were moved

to tears as they watched this tearful reunion, and finally security had to physically seat the children, as many just would not let go.

Day by day in custody things grew tougher, but so did our desperation for the Lord. At night I would sing the Psalms to the little ones when they would wake up from their nightmares, and we would all pile on one bed together so that we wouldn't have to be apart. Needless to say, I got very little sleep! All the training we'd had suddenly came to life. We would sing songs, quote verses, and review whenever we could. Nothing had a greater impact than our parents' fighting spirit. Whenever we saw them in glimpses as we were rushed from one holding room to another, from court to detention center, they would always call out to us to hang on to the Lord, tell us they were praying for us, and that Jesus would get us out no matter what. I remember my dad managed to get around the back of the court building one day as we were being driven back to the detention center. I was tired of trying to be strong for so long and I broke down and cried while talking to him through the window. He immediately reassured me of his and Mom's love and held on to my hand for as long as he could and said over and over how much he loved me. As we sped away I turned back and I saw my big, strong dad cry. He was crying for us kids, and I knew then that the Lord was going to do a miracle for all of us!

The rest of that week in custody in Melbourne was intense, but as time would fail me, I'll have to skip it for now. One day while waiting in a stuffy, cramped holding room, all of a sudden the authorities got really upset and started herding us kids around, gathering our stuff, and I remember thinking, *Oh no, where are we going now?* I looked around at the JETTs and kids from the other families and I wondered if I would ever see them again. However, in a few short minutes we were taken outside and handed back to our parents!! I couldn't believe it! We were free! What a relief. I remember all we could do was thank the Lord!

The next few years were a blur of activity as we had a long court case to fight through. God bless you, our Family, who fought for us in prayer and every way possible. We felt your care and the love of Dad and Mama so strong.

During the court case, the Lord continued to keep and protect us, but boy was it a fight. Those days were thrilling as we would rally together to fight our common foe. We kids marched through the city, our banners proclaiming, "We are the children of the Children of God" as we sang "Tremble, ye enemy! We're growing up for God!"

I was part of the media team to represent the kids and we delved in the Word every day looking for answers to the allegations against us. We memorized and could quote most of the statements, and were interviewed by every news corporation in the country. There was never a moment's rest as we fought alongside our lawyers, appearing in court, handling and organizing mountains of witness statements, legal documents, and paperwork.

At one time due to a lack of funding from the government, we children were denied legal counsel. So we had to represent ourselves; in other words, be our own lawyers. We three girls aged 13-15 sat at the bar, with barristers and solicitors

with decades of legal education, and presented our own legal arguments. This caused a sensation across the country; we were the youngest legal counsel to have ever appeared in court. And this was just one small part of a huge picture of hundreds of Family members defending our beliefs and prophet and fighting for the freedom to live the Word. The witness that was broadcast across that anti-Christ nation was like none other. The Lord saw to it that our enemies paid heavily for their crimes against His children, and His Gospel was preached far and wide.

That was ten years ago. Now things have changed a lot. Thank God, He's kept me here in His service completely by His grace. I now live in Bangalore, India, where I am able to spend most of my time freely witnessing and sharing the Word with the hungry people of this country. The *Activated* vision is taking off, and as a result we have many sheep that we are feeding on a regular basis, ripping off more victims from the System. The air is great up here on this mountain pasture, and there is soooo much to be done. It's unbelievable! I'm reaping the rewards of those battles years ago, because I am now free to live and love with a wonderful team, learning many lessons and seeing the Lord move like never before.

If I had to do it over again I would want to stand guard more militantly over my thoughts and life, to lift up a standard against the influences of the world. During that time I was pretty close to the "dangers of System influence," and I came out of it with a lot of baggage that I still have to fight against. I know the Lord can change anything that we put in His hands, including weaknesses as a result of compromises made, but if I could do it over, I just wouldn't want to go there. It's so not worth it!

Now I am seeing a whole new side of fighting for what you believe in! In this day and age the spiritual battles are so intense that warfare takes on a whole new meaning. During the persecution we fought against enemies we could see, now our enemies are even more insidious. Personally, I feel it's easier to fight against a physical enemy. The "Conviction vs. Compromise" series made me realize that my fighting skills of the spirit need serious upgrading. I'm trying to understand now, that in the spirit, it's only Jesus that I have, only Jesus that I can count on. He's all I can expect. I want to get back to the basics in spirit and live for Him as if every day was my last.

To young people who may feel like you missed out on some action or a chance to stand up for your faith, I say, look what's going on in the spirit now. The battles now amount to the same thing. The Enemy is trying to drag us out, smash us down, snatch away our heritage. I admire each and every one of you, 'cause I know deep down inside we all have the same rebel spirit, we just need to realize it and fight with all we've got not to let it go.

My mom was a real fighter; she fought for us kids with everything that was in her. My prayer is that I can take that same fighting attitude into my own spiritual world and sock it right in the Devil's face. I need to attack him. We need to attack him. We need to march into the future declaring that "We are the children of the Children of God"; to shout out, "Tremble, ye enemy! We've grown up for God!"

**WE NEED TO
MARCH INTO
THE FUTURE
DECLARING
THAT "WE ARE
THE CHILDREN
OF THE
CHILDREN OF
GOD"**

A milestone turning point

BY JOANNA (SGA, OF SHANE), **South Africa**



“...FOR THOU HAST BEEN A STRENGTH TO THE POOR, A STRENGTH TO THE NEEDY IN HIS DISTRESS, A REFUGE FROM THE STORM, A SHADOW FROM THE HEAT, WHEN THE BLAST OF THE TERRIBLE ONES IS AS A STORM AGAINST THE WALL” (ISA. 25:4).

The moment of our release from state custody, I have to say, was the most exhilarating feeling of my life!

We had been attending court every day of the week, as draining as it was; at least we got to see each other, and the mums and dads in the back. We were all separated into families and placed in temporary foster care, unlike the Sydney kids who were together in a compound. We were at the Supreme Court downtown in a basement waiting room, social workers all around and barring the doors. Their pasty smiles and artificial sweet voices changed noticeably when they called my name (mine was the first alphabetically); that was when they led me upstairs to a waiting crowd of parents and cameras flashing and rolling. We sang, hugged, kissed, and gave interviews for the rest of that day.

I believe the persecutions around the world, collectively, was a milestone turning point in Family life. Our rather isolated lifestyle transformed overnight to one of street witnessing, picketing, post-carding (for the Argentina Family). Being able to be so incredibly open about who we were was such release. We had wonderful support from the general public. People were so enthralled to meet the second generation of the COG. Because of our name change and security over the years, there were many who had thought we had disbanded years before and were glad to re-establish contact!

Since then, I've spent three years in Russia, one in the States, one in Japan, and am presently on my third year in South Africa. I've gotten married and have a toddler boy. I'm presently on my way to open an *Activated Home* down on the southeastern coast of South Africa!

The only thing I wish I had done differently is being more in tune with the younger kids also taken that were a lot more insecure and scared than I was. I was just 13, but was one of the older ones. The spirit was heavy and depressing the entire week but what a victory the Lord got! I don't think He could have turned the Australian Family around any other way! It made us stronger, as persecution always does, and I have no regrets!

To all my fellow Ozzies that are still around, write me at: bushfire16@yahoo.com

Where are we now? As a family we are serving the Lord in Pakistan. My son Michael has spent two years in Kenya and Ethiopia with his wife and kids. And Chris (now 20) has spent a year in India.

If you had to do it all over again, what would you do differently? I believe that as a Family, except for very sensitive situations, we benefit from our friends and most relatives being able to visit, to know where we live. We found that, once the court proceedings began, we were desperate for people who knew us and believed in us. These same people were often the ones we hadn't given our address to for security purposes. Thank God those that really loved us forgave us, and our good relations continued in spite of our ignorance.

Another adverse affect of this attitude of hiding from the public eye did not have a good effect on many of the [then] children. They would often hide when cars drove by or when visitors came. Of course the logic behind it was not bad, but it seemed to foster a spirit of dishonesty, not being straightforward when people asked us where we lived, etc.

Thank God, the Lord has helped us over this attitude. I pray that our children of today are learning not to be ashamed of our way of life and beliefs, but proud of their heritage and bold in their witness.

Comments: These were dark days, but the Word spoke so clearly. The Lord spoke to us in the night seasons. We usually stayed up until midnight praying and preparing for the court battle. Reveille was around 4-5 A.M. so we could pray together, hear from the Lord together, hear messages from Mama and Dad (so faithful in the midst of battle, GBY!).

The Lord was the One Who won the battle! Seeing His hand move was thrilling! Our lawyers were brilliant, answering every charge with a resounding counter-charge, refuting every lie. At last, days into the court scene, the prosecuting attorney came up with one charge which could not be refuted: the vast majority of our children had not been immunized. The silence in the courtroom was deafening as our solicitor scrutinized the face of each child, hoping to get a denial of this charge, with no response. The judge then broke the silence. "I was not immunized as a child. My parents are Seventh-day Adventists. They don't believe in immunization." Hallelujah!

After the introductory statements by community service workers who obviously violently oppose our lifestyle, our case looking very bleak, one lawyer assured us: "Don't worry. Once Mr. Richter finishes with her, there'll be blood on the walls." (Mr. Richter was a Queen's Counselor who had donated his time to our case, known as one of the best in the business.) We were just astounded at how he wielded his words, until the woman had practically perjured herself. The verse came alive: "For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall" (Isa. 25:4).

All that to say, the Lord delivered us in many mighty miraculous ways!

Raids, after ten years

BY SARA, **Pakistan**

How did this experience change your life?

We have been freed! Freed from the fear of people [community services in particular] finding out where we lived, because now the whole world knows!

DID IT CHANGE MY LIFE?

At the time I was a rather foolish 13-year-old, and although the Lord was probably trying to get through to me, I have to honestly admit that I came out with a lot of lessons still to learn, perhaps even more than before. But I know for sure that the Family at large benefited from the counsel and Letters written at the time, and the resultant changes this raid and others elsewhere brought about in the modus operandi of the Family. I do have one specific long-term effect of the raids, and that was the money for tickets and flee funds which we received seven years later courtesy of the OZ government, after our civil suit, and the resultant compensation.

LIVING NOW AND DOING WHAT:

My wife and I are at present living in Bradford, England. We returned from Africa late last year and have been raising funds to go back. Sylvie, my better half, just had our third child, a woman child, whom we named Audrey, and DV we'll be back on the field in September.

Since the raids, I have lived in Japan, England, Kenya, Ethiopia, and visited, Korea, Seychelles, France, Yemen, and Uganda. All in the pursuit of spreading the Word of God!

WOULD I DO ANYTHING DIFFERENT?

Well, I have to say that if I could go back to do anything different, I think I would have made it a lot harder on the social workers when they came to take us away. Before boarding the bus our shepherd gave us a pep talk about cooperating and being good testimonies, or something like that. At the time it seemed like the right thing to do, and definitely in line with our training, but in retrospect it would have been better for us to have been closer to stubborn goats, rather than the dumb sheep some of us were.

Later Maria said in the Letter "It's time to Attack": "We need to teach our children to fight if they're taken like that, to resist, to not be so obedient anymore and yielded like they're taught to be all their lives. We've got to teach them that when they get in that kind of situation they've got to be 'bad,' that they've got to fight and scream and put up a real fight to get back to their parents." If we had had this counsel at the time, they never would have taken me.

Name:
Mike May
Age at
time of
raids: 13

dear brave soldiers,

Peter and I love you so very much! I want to let each of you who were in the Australian raids know how proud we are of you.

We admire your love for the Lord, your dedication, your courage, and your strength and dependence on the Lord in the midst of such a difficult and trying battle.

The Lord said about you, "These ones are valiant soldiers. They deserve the spotlight! They fought for their faith and won! They are heroes." And we wholeheartedly agree!

I'm so thankful that you took the time to write up your testimonies. I know it was a sacrifice. When I read your stories, I cried tears of joy—because I know that with such strong fighters as all of you, we're going to be able to win any battles yet to be fought in the future. Those of you who have been through such testings and times of persecution will be a great strength to your brethren when we're faced with such battles in the future.

I know there are many others of you with similar stories to tell. Those of you who went through the Spanish, French, Argentine, and Mexico persecutions are also valiant defenders of the faith! Peter and I appreciate each one of you—and all of our wonderful Family members who stand up for the truth and have endured persecution for righteousness sake. We send our heartfelt love and admiration for all that you've been through, and rejoice in the victory alongside you!

With much love in our miracle-working Husband,
Mama

(See "Religious Persecution" statement for more details on the Australian raids.)

JONAS & CHRISTY TOUR

See more pictures on the MO site.

In the second half of April, we made a 12-day trip to the U.S. Going overseas seems to be a new development in our ministry, as we've been invited to a number of countries in Asia and Europe, as well as to Australia this year or early next year, and then back to the U.S. later this year for some programs at a large Asian festival.

Our trip to the U.S. was very fruitful. It started off in New York City, where Jonas and Christy gave a benefit concert at a Thai temple on Long Island. The majority of the audience consisted of well-established people from the local Thai community and their children. The funds being raised by the people hosting us were earmarked for a variety of charitable causes in Thailand and the New York area. Many people in the audience wept as Jonas and Christy sang, and they gave them a standing ovation.

In this particular situation, the hall wasn't so big, being a semi-private affair. It held 600 to 700 people, but was packed, with standing room only. The audience was warm and enthusiastically received Jonas and Christy's performance. It is amazing to see how well-known Jonas and Christy are worldwide by virtue of Thai Global TV, which most Thais and other people from SEA who are living abroad watch. (Italian Television will be filming Jonas and Christy this month for a documentary they are putting together on Thailand that will be shown throughout Europe.)

Jonas and Christy with a Thai fan in Las Vegas.



Jonas and Christy also did two smaller programs in the Southwest. These were followed by a larger program in Hartford, Connecticut. The majority of the audience at the Hartford program were Laotian, with about 800 in attendance. Quite a few people who had seen the show in New York drove to Connecticut to see Jonas and Christy again only one week later. (At all four programs, the tickets were sold out; they even had to turn people away. We received invitations to return after every performance.) This particular audience was very lively and as soon as Jonas and Christy got on stage, there was a huge surge towards them by almost everyone in the hall, gasping, cheering, and yelling, cameras clicking and so forth.

The Lord said in a number of prophecies that these golden opportunities will only increase, because news is spread through word of mouth, over the Internet, and through the media about the programs Jonas and Christy are doing abroad, the quality of their performances, the depth of their sincerity and meaningfulness, etc. It was inspiring to see how almost every person in the audience knew what we represented—not only Thai music and culture, but also that we're Christians. It gave us many opportunities to witness and pray with people along the way.

There are many people from these trips who have gotten saved, and we plan to follow-up on them by mail and e-mail. It's been inspiring to see how many e-mails we've received, particularly since our last trip to the States. Quite a few people wrote and commented on how much they liked the shows, or asked if we got back okay. Now that we have their e-mail addresses, we're able to follow up on them via e-mail. We even got a letter from a former Thai Family member, telling us how much his family loves Jonas and Christy, and asking Jonas to please call his mother and pray with her to receive the Lord.

Here are some of the e-mails we've received, for your interest.

Hello Jonas and Christy,

I hope you guys had a wonderful time here in the New York area. It was a great honor to meet you guys. I'd like to say thank you for giving such a great performance in Connecticut. The crowd was so amazed and I myself was blown away. Though I never really listen

to Thai music, through you guys I am right now. Slowly but surely I will understand. So I wanted to say thank you for bringing me back to my roots, my home, my country—Thailand.

—Abe

Dear Jonas and Christy,

I'm May—one of your fans from Connecticut. I'm originally from Laos and have been living here in Connecticut since 1979. I went to your concert on 4/27/02 in Connecticut—that was a great performance. You and Christy are great and down to earth. All of your fans from Connecticut love both of you very much. My mom is one of your biggest fans. She was sorry that she missed your concert.

—Your fan, Amy, from Connecticut

Dear Jonas and Christy:

It was great meeting you and the entire gang last night. Linda and I were so impressed with all of you. You are all very well-mannered and very nice people. And thank you so much for singing for us; it was most enjoyable listening to you and Christy. Linda is Thai, as you know, and she told me you guys are terrific; I didn't need her to tell me that. Please let me know the next time you come. My best regards to all of you.

—Irv (and Linda)

Hi Jonas and Christy!!!!

I saw you perform at Wat Thai in NY on April 20th. You both were nice and incredible and amazing, that I will never forget. I sat in the front row seat so I could see you closely. You both are naturally beautiful. I am impressed by your personality and your talents. I took pictures with you guys too. I found Jonas has a good sense of humor and responds very quickly in Thai. I'd really like you to e-mail me back; it would mean a lot to me. I hope to see you again in Connecticut. I'll try to find the ticket, if I'm lucky. Till I see you both again.

—Love, Liz (Long Island, NY)

There are many more e-mails that have come in and we are inspired about the potential there is for follow-up and feeding these people via a mail ministry, which eventually can grow into a type of pre-Activated course. ■

By Steven (CO), Thailand; written after our return home

It can be done!

By the Arc Home, Bangkok, Thailand

We have been ministering over the years to some folks who have known the Family off and on for many years. However, in most cases these friends have not been visiting any Family Home



Loving Jesus time

regularly. Our friends visited us from time to time and for a while we were giving them regular Bible studies and shared some special occasions with them (such as candlelight services, etc.), but we wanted to give them a more regular and a steady feeding program.

So we have recently started holding Activated meetings with some of our closest friends. Our friends are very inspired about these meetings and we are too.

Lord help us, we had several mindsets or excuses as to why it would be difficult for us to have a regular Activated meeting such as:

- Our friends live too far away and it would be too far for them to travel regularly
- They won't have the time as they have to work long hours
- They are on different levels of commitment and it would be too difficult to have one meeting with all of them

When we look back now at these "reasons," we can see that the Lord supernaturally overrode each one. It's true that our friends have to travel a fair distance to visit, but they are willing to do it. It's incredible how each one has been able to find time in his or her busy schedule to come to the meeting. And as far as them being on different levels, we are still learning, but it seems that we have been able to hit a happy medium where all are being fed.

Actually, it was one of our friends who really pushed to start having meetings, and she volunteered to come over early to help set things up, etc. It was partly due to her persistence that we felt like we couldn't let her down, so we jumped in with both feet. It was amazing how well it went! After the first meeting, with everyone still here, we asked how often they wanted to have

these meetings (some of us were thinking in the neighborhood of about once a month). Some of our friends said: "Every week!" A few of our mouths dropped open. (We also cook and serve a nice dinner for all.) We worked it out to two times a month, which everyone seemed happy with.

So far, at each meeting, someone has brought along a new friend that we haven't met before, so there are always new faces. At the first meeting, some of our friends who hadn't met each other before wound up exchanging business cards with the possibility of doing some business together, so that was an extra benefit for them as well, ha!

All in all, things have gotten off to a very inspiring start and God is doing it, and we are looking forward to our next meeting!

Winner tools

By the Islamabad Home, Pakistan

Below is a letter we received, which confirms the Lord's burden to still give out our tools here in Pakistan:

Dear Mr. Daniel,

Hope your people have been having a good time. I am Naeem Parvez, a high school teacher, from Peshawar. I saw you in 1997 when you visited the Institute of Learning and Motivation, Peshawar. I was the Vice Principal at the time. We were lucky enough to get four tapes of Treasure Attic. Unfortunately, I could not get in touch with you later, though I tried to locate your office in F sector continuously for two days. This happened last year.

Now, luckily, I managed to get to your Web site and I got your e-mail address. I have given you all these details 'cause I wanted you to know how desperately I had been trying to get in touch with you. The reason is that I want to acquire the Treasure Attic videos, virtually all the volumes available.

My eldest son, now five, has grown up with Uncle Jim and Peepers. Now I have another one who just turned one. I had Fun on the Farm, We Can Get Along, Little Creatures and Fantastic Friends. I sent the tapes I had to a friend of mine for viewing, but I never got them back. So I need all of them now.

When we met in 1997, you also had a Christmas one as well, which you didn't want to produce in

Pakistan. But since we are Christians, we would cherish it.

Please let me know how I can get them at the earliest. Please respond promptly, though I understand that you have a busy schedule. Hope to hear from you soon. Please let me know if I can contribute towards the noble mission you are carrying.

Regards,

Naeem Parvez

"That magazine blesses me!"

By Dan and Dawn, USA

At Christmas we personally delivered Christmas cards to our faithful contacts. One such friend, Nate, was particularly happy to see us, as we hadn't had a chance to see him in several months due to his shop being so far from us, and because we had moved. We'd subscribed him to *Activated* as a gift, as he is always such a blessing to us, helping with repairs on our vehicles. We also thought it would be a good thing for his customers to read while in the waiting room of his shop.

I asked him if he was reading the magazine and if he was still receiving it every month and he immediately started telling us how there is something very different and powerful about the *Activated* mag.

"It is the only magazine out there that people borrow," he told us. "And even if I tell people that they can keep it and pass it on to someone else that needs it, they say, 'No, I'll just photocopy the article and bring it back.' And they always do! That magazine blesses me, and the blessings multiply with the others who read it."

One testimony he shared was of a couple that had a teen who took his life. The father couldn't get over his grief. The mother came in and got all excited about an article in the *Activated* she was reading and asked Nate if she could borrow the mag. She wanted to give it to her husband to read. Several days later she came back and told Nate how the article had changed her husband's life and gave him back his faith! She said it helped her husband to get the right perspective on things, and showed him how the Lord is the only One Who needs to understand it all. She was so thankful for the magazine and said she wanted to bring it back to so that others could also read it and get the help they need from its words. ■

home schooling corner

Teacher training a great help!

From Marie (of Dom), South Africa

God bless dear Mercy for bringing out this very valid point (“Schooling our kids,” GV #132), which expressed almost word for word what I had been feeling these last few years. I am personally sold on our Family educational tools, and was excited to see in GV #133 that some of them were being put into CDs (see GV #133: pg.8, 9; makes it easier to keep when you’re traveling), something I’ve been praying for. I have one little parenthesis to add to Mercy’s article, which I believe the board vision will be able to help with. That is regarding training of our Family parents and teachers.

A couple of years ago, I had reached a desperate point in my teaching. I was facing bored children who had lost the joy of learning, had difficulty concentrating, and would waste their morning school hours accomplishing virtually nothing while distracting others. The result was that our afternoon “fun” extra-curricular activities had to be cancelled so the children could finish their scholastics. Discipline was taking most of my time, and I felt caught in a vicious cycle. I was desperate. It was at that time that Dawn (former ASCRO CO; I was in India at the time) held some “PEP” seminars, which proved to be life-changing. She suggested getting enrolled in the CLE full-program (as a way to help parents who were having similar problems, and were unable due to various reasons to faithfully follow through on their children’s schooling). She also challenged us to complement CLE with our Family curriculum and other extra-curricular activities such as art and crafts, music, health and hygiene, excursions, documentaries, HSV and GAP videos, as well as following the Word Curriculum for each age group, thus fulfilling the vision the Lord gave us to train our kids both spiritually and scholastically. Although at first I was very reluctant to enroll in the CLE full-program (I just didn’t want to forsake our wonderful Family educational way), after asking the Lord about it, He told me to go ahead and take the CLE teacher’s course.

In my new situation in South Africa, I am no longer able to continue on the CLE full-program, but I am very thankful for the input and training I received from CLE. The teacher’s course is very beneficial and provided me with the

help I desperately needed in teaching the group of children I had at the time. Although their discipline method and standard is practically the same as our *Family Discipline Guidelines*, it provided me with added practical dos and don’ts which I found very helpful, including charts, goals, and a whole method of training which combines scholastic with spiritual training and gives the children the vision to do something worthwhile with their lives, as well as instill in them godly work habits of concentration, faithfulness, diligence, self-discipline, setting goals and organization—everything we want our children to do, but sometimes lack the training in how to practically implement. We have the Word and the vision, but sometimes lack the practical training as parents to implement it as successfully as we would like.

The Lord showed me to just follow their suggestions, charts and all, and I found I could easily adapt them to our Home and situation, and the results were more than encouraging. Our school year was structured, we had an

honor roll set up, and we planned a road trip or special bigger type of excursion at the end of each quarter for all kids who had completed their goals. We used their system of privileges and consequences (adapted to our Family style) and the kids started to become challenged in their work. They had goals, which they reached; they got rewarded with privileges for extra work or presentations (like quoting a memory chapter at fellowship, writing a book report, etc.). My frustration was over. I realize all of this vision was already in the Word, but I just lacked the practical training before to successfully implement it.

So my prayer is that the CP boards will be able to offer that training to Family parents, in a similar way as Dawn did for the Homes in ASCRO, in which case we, Family parents, would no longer need to depend on these outside courses but could pick and choose the best of different courses and continue using our wonderful Family pubs and curriculum to train up our precious children in the way they should go.

NEWS ARTICLE

M-m-m-math Anxiety? It’s All in the Teaching

By Janice Billingsley, HealthScoutNews Reporter

WEDNESDAY, March 27 — Add math anxiety to the growing list of phobias haunting modern society. And for grade-schoolers who’ve got it, it might exact a high price later in their academic careers.

In a study of teaching methods at 65 sixth-grade classrooms throughout the Midwest, researchers found that a teacher’s emphasis on getting the right answers only increased the number of students who did not ask questions, purposely didn’t study and were loathe to explore new areas of math.

In contrast, the researchers, from the University of Notre Dame, found that teachers who used supportive instruction methods helped to produce students eager to tackle new and more challenging concepts.

“Those classrooms where kids reported the lowest avoidance behaviors were also the classrooms in which teachers offered the most encouragement for learning,” says Julianne Turner, a psychology professor at Notre Dame, and lead author of the study, which appears in the latest *Journal of Educational Psychology*.

Also interesting to Turner was the value of what she terms “motivational discourse,” which calls for verbally encouraging the children as they progress.

What the researchers found was that teachers who were enthusiastic about the subject matter, saying things like, “This is the part I really love,” or “Wow, that’s interesting,” were more successful in their teaching, Turner says.

That contrasts with teachers who were less enthusiastic. “They weren’t negative, but they came across as very neutral. They did not encourage the children, didn’t say positive things, didn’t demonstrate that math was worthwhile or interesting,” Turner says.

Children in those classes reported a higher number of “avoidance behaviors”: not asking questions; not trying on purpose, called “self-handicapping;” and not wanting to explore new concepts.

“There is a fair amount of research about enthusiasm in teaching,” says Nathaniel Gage, Professor Emeritus of Education and Psychology at Stanford University. “And generally, enthusiasm is positively related to student achievement.”

A QUESTION FOR YOU

Are you a parent who doesn't feel qualified to teach your kids? Does math sound particularly scary for you? Here are some helpful Internet sites which may help you see how easily you can learn what you are missing, help your kids make progress, and at the same time make math studies fun!

Claim the power of the keys to help you and your kids learn! "The keys of the Kingdom given to the children of David will part the veil and release revelation, instruction, insight, knowledge, and understanding such as the world has never seen."

The Math Page

<<http://www.themathpage.com/ARITH/arithmic.htm>>

Complete course in arithmetic, basic functions, fractions, and percentages. In <<http://www.themathpage.com>> trigonometry is also covered, and they have plans to do algebra and geometry.

Math for Morons Like Us

<<http://library.thinkquest.org/20991/home.html>>

Seems to do quite a good job of covering pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, algebra II, pre-calculus, and calculus.

Cool Math for Kids

<<http://www.coolmath4kids.com/>>
A variety of math games for kids.

Mom's Math

<<http://archives.math.utk.edu/software/msdos/k-12/mm40/>>

MM40 is an MSDOS-based program, but works fine from Explorer by simply clicking on MM.exe once you've downloaded it. Simple math program, especially suited to kids who are just learning to use the computer. This site also has links to a variety of other math-related sites.

ad

CVC teacher training

If you do not have the CLE teachers training course available, we suggest you look at the *CVC Pubs CD!* While we do not have a course with all the *details* covered in the CLE Teacher's Course, you'll find much of what you need in the Child Care and Education courses on the *CVC Pubs CD*. Not only is the study material outlined, and most reading material available at the click of your mouse—but when you complete a course, you can apply for a CVC teaching certificate! The CVC courses are not just for teens and young adult students—the Child Care and Education courses are an excellent source of training for parents and teachers of all ages!

You can earn certificates in one or more of the following areas of study:

- Baby Care
- Child Care
- Early Childhood Education
- Primary Education
- Secondary Education
- Youth Counseling

GP e-mail reactions to *Winepress* and other pubs

RON, WINEPRESS MEMBER, USA

I received the *Winepress* mailing; thank you so much. I will send a donation again as soon as I can. I trust that all is well; in fact, I know it is, as the Lord is in control. I was very pleased to read the Letter regarding the keys, and the Lord's message regarding submission to Him is timely indeed. I cannot express in words how thankful I am for you!

Remember the letter "Change the World"? In particular the quote: "If you have changed one life, you have changed a part of the world!" I guess you could also say: "If you have influenced the change in one person's life, then you have helped to change a part of the world!" Well, this is true in my case. You have certainly done that. Your loving diligence has been an answer to my prayers. Even if I was never to hear from you again, your influence would continue, as just knowing that you are doing your best for Jesus daily, is a powerful witness to me and others around the world.

WAILANI

Since the last e-mail I sent you, I have made use of the spiritual keys that are available. Inspiration and strength that I needed to make positive changes in my life are happening. Before I received the Letter on the keys, I had this drawing feeling to keys. I couldn't figure out what that feeling was about. Soon after I received the Letter describing the keys. *Wonderful!* I thought.

RAPHEL KNIGHT

Thanks a million for the *Winepress*! I received it three days ago and took a day off from work to read it; it was so inspiring. What it said made sense to me, as now I feel I should spend more time at His feet and be a Mary instead of a Martha. The "Leadership" series was just coming out when I left and it spoke so much to me. I have given my mother the notes I made and she is now implementing it by taking more time in the Word and in prayer.

I felt a lift in the spirit when I read about the keys; now I feel I too can make use of them if I try. The Lord is helping us now. Please pray for us. I'm trying to get a better job so I can start tithing internationally to you all. Right now my tithe might not even cover the postage, so please say words that the Lord looks favorably on us. I do want to get the *Winepress* more regularly as it is my feeding and reading.

ROB, OXFORD, ENGLAND

I am looking to join the Family in England. I am 28, and I have led a typical Western consumer-driven life, and I now feel tired of it all. I have IT skills, so I do have something

to offer to the Family. I have read your wonderful Web site, and am now aware of what is really important in life. Are there houses in England where Family members live and work together? I would love for them to reach out to me and wrap their loving arms around me. My life will be empty if I cannot join you. God bless you.

MATTHEW D.

I have a friend here in Jacksonville, Florida, who is in the Family. He's been teaching and reading the Bible with me. Now I've begun studying the Bible, reading the MO Letters, and witnessing to my family. He showed me a little book called *The Memory Book*. He let me borrow it and I'm using it to memorize verses. I was wondering if I'd be able to get one of these books for myself. I'd be willing to pay. Thank you.

CLAIRE H.

Thank you so much for your reply to my e-mail. Your story touched me and so reminded me of my own life. I have always felt called by God to do something for Him, I have just never figured out what that was. I am prayerfully seeking God's will for my life. One thing that might be a problem for me joining such a discipleship as yours is that I am a single mother. I have two daughters, ages 12 years and 8 months. I love them; they are my life. I could never leave them. Is it possible to serve God and take care of them too? Do any Family members have children? Any suggestions? I look forward to your reply.

RAY

I just got back from my first real Family fellowship in, oh, about 25 years. Ha! A bunch of Colorado families and friends got together in a nice park, ate, sang songs, read, prayed, and a few souls got saved. It was great, and I met a whole new group of brethren. I was kind of like, "Hey, they do exist!"

Thanks again for the *Winepress*! This is the first weekend I am sober in I cannot remember how long. A veteran hard liquor drinker for 37 years, recently up to as much as a liter of vodka from Saturday night to Sunday afternoon, and a half to a pint a day the rest of the week, and I could not stop. *Winepress* #52 and #53 about the keys and changes had the greatest effect. Wow!

You sent me the *Winepress* even though I couldn't tithe. This last week has been wonderful—the gift of sobriety, and the money is getting better, too. I had some things to learn, I guess.

I traded the vodka for the *Winepress*. Thank the Lord and the keys! The *Winepress* is my favorite. I practically memorize it and share it with my family around here.

Pray!



Healing key: Reach out your hand in faith as you call on the key of health, and the healing elixir of My Spirit will spill on you, bringing life and strength to your body.

Testimonies of Answered Prayer

By Sarah (of Jeremy), USA: I want to thank all those who prayed for our son, Ryan. He had quite a battle with eczema, but ever since we asked for prayer, the Lord did a total miracle through the power of the keys and we haven't had to use the steroid cream once in almost two months; we used to have to use it every week to keep his eczema outbreaks under control. His skin is nice and smooth now and the spots that used to be so visible on his face and neck just a while ago are completely gone. Thank the Lord for His wonderful working power and for all of you out there, prayer warriors!

By Natacha (SGA), England: I've had very bad headaches for as long as I can remember. I would take painkillers and they'd go away, but they would be back in a week or so. I got used to it, and it became a routine for me. About a month or so ago I got a really bad headache first thing in the morning and I called on the power of the keys for healing. I got on with my day without taking any painkillers. My headache went away almost straight away, and I haven't had one since!

By Mike Newman, England: My hip girdle popped out and was very painful. Usually when this happens I have to visit a chiropractor and it takes them about three visits to fix it, but this time the Lord must have put it back while I was asleep, as in the morning it was back in. What a miracle!

By Emanuel and Daniella, France: Key power is real! H., a friend, told me about a nodule in her breast as well as how the doctor had suggested an immediate operation due to her thumb hurting. We prayed, and the day after that the thumb was okay without an operation. Plus, the nodule had totally disappeared!

By Miguel, Esther, Victoria, and Esther, Spain: Victoria finished her chemotherapy and is feeling better. She's been able to be more active, she even went for a trip to visit a Home and friends for a week.

Asia

Pakistan and India: For stability in these countries, that war will be averted, and for the Family's protection, guidance, and wisdom.

Michelle (YA): Cervical and thoracic subluxations, causing muscle spasms, headaches, and severe back pains.

Europe and Africa

David (17): Scoliosis and thrombosis.

Joan Irish: Osteoporosis, insomnia, weight gain, and respiratory problems.

Solomon: Athrosis. Glaucoma. Needs to lose weight.

Andres, Jessica, and Ana Rosa (10): Scoliosis.

Peter (of Hannah): Osteoarthritis.

Virginia (of Ivan): Cervical erosion.

Angel (16, of James and Charity): Ulcerative colitis.

David (5, of Anthony and Talitha): Mononucleosis.

Pacific

Aaron (of Jewel): Metastatic melanoma.

South America

Flor (of Richard): Cancer of the colon.
Jonathan (24, of John and Maria): Cancer.

Joana (of Adino): Cancer; constant pain in her bones.

Angie (of David V.): Eclampsia during pregnancy; umbilical cord to form properly.

Kristen (3, of Phil and Cristal): Sclerosis tuberosa; convulsions.

Martin: Prolapsed valve and heart pains.

Arturo (17): Anemia and allergic rhinitis.

Brunilda (of Mateo): Benign tumors in abdomen and liver.

(Editor's note: For more prayer requests and answers to prayer, check out the new MO site online prayer list at: <<http://familymembers.com/pubspages/search.php3?searchpub=18>>

Keys free friends from military service!

By Faith PI, for Arc Home, Thailand

Our Home claimed the power of the keys for the two sons of our friend who needed to serve in the military, unless they happened to pick by lot a certain paper that would exempt them from it. A month later, this friend thanked us for our effectual, fervent prayers because *both of her sons* picked papers that exempted them from this otherwise mandatory military service!

Using this miracle as a springboard, I mentioned to her about this secret weapon of using the power of the keys of the Kingdom that the Lord recently gave to us. She was excited about it so she agreed to hear about it when we see her soon. The power is being passed on!

The keys work

By Marianne, Shine, and Tim, USA

We have seen so many manifestations of the power of the keys! Calling on the keys has transformed our witnessing on some of those "tough" days out. Praying in the name of the keys has changed the weather to make our driving and witnessing conditions easier more than once! We have had some of our minor afflictions healed. We've found lost items. We have seen people change. We could go on and on! All through the power of the keys!

Pray for Liberia

From Stephen, Liberia

Stories about the growth of witchcraft in the past few months in both the capital, Monrovia, and out in the interior of Liberia—including the participation of some of the country's leadership—has grown considerably in the last months. From the demonic stories we've heard the Devil has had a great impact in Liberia. We often hear of how out in the interior the Devil "comes to town," for either material payment or for the people to pay their respects.

The Lord has instructed us to fight harder in prayer. He has told us repeatedly that Liberia will only be cleaned of her filth through prayer and our continual pouring out of the light of *Activated*.

We would really appreciate some prayer power aimed in our direction, as Liberia is spiraling deeper and deeper into spiritual depression. We know that we have total power through the keys!

“Whatever!”

By an FGA, Brazil: I don't know if this is the case in Homes around the world, but here there has been a wave of using the word “whatever” in order to answer any given question. To me, it is a way to answer a question in a negative way. Either you don't want to do it and you don't want to be honest and say so, or because you don't have a clear opinion, you just answer with “whatever.”

Of course, it depends on the spirit you answer in, but mostly people have been using it with a negative connotation. We have almost made it a joke in our Home by using it to describe a situation that is sort of weird or a person that “doesn't cut the mustard,” but I feel that we need to be careful to not use “whatever” as a blind to murmuring or criticizing in a cool way.

Apology consideration

An FGA woman: I want to share something concerning consideration and love. Sometimes a little act, and a few minutes of someone's time, can save someone else days of battles or even heartache.

Recently I felt led to write some apology letters to a few people. I understand that we are all very busy for the Lord and that most people don't find the time to answer e-mails. It was quite hard for me to write those notes, but after months of not hearing anything back, I was left wondering if it was really worth it. I also felt led, and was encouraged by to share my heart with one of the shepherds concerning different things that happened in my previous field. It was a difficult step for me to write those things and I kept wondering if I did the right thing. Weeks passed and I didn't even receive an acknowledgment of my note having been received. Then I heard that other people have experienced the same thing.

So I got to thinking how many people go through battles that could be easily avoided by a few words of: “Thank you, I received your note!” It's just a little courtesy that can make someone's day a bit brighter.

Security/privacy

Meekness Shepherd, Mideast: I learned something the other day as a friend showed us the computer room of his office, which runs most of the card phone booths in this country. I had never considered the fact that the phone card I carry in my purse holds

on it a record of all the calls I've made from it! In the computer room, once you enter the number of a phone card, you can immediately learn which booth the card was used in, which number(s) was called, how long for, etc. I learned that policemen visit the office almost daily to check out cards they find in the pockets of criminals, or anyone they've apprehended! Interesting, no?

Informing supporters adequately

Concerned Family member, England:

My mom has been supporting a particular family for many years. Then this family left the Family but failed to adequately inform her, so she continued to support them for a couple of years. She was disappointed when she discovered the truth; it caused her quite a bit of grief and still does but we may be close to resolving the situation.

It may be good if those who wish to leave and stay friendly, as this couple has done, adequately inform their supporters and give them the choice as to whether or not they wish to continue the support. There's not much that can be done when people choose to leave, but perhaps a mention of this in the *Grapevine* lets people who may be considering becoming former members be aware that quite a bit of worry and grief can be caused in a case like this. This sort of situation needs to be avoided as it doesn't reflect positively and is a bad sample and can leave the supporters feeling distressed and even cheated.

Standoff with a sister

FGA man, India: I had a certain “standoff” with a sister in my Home. For some time I felt that she was keeping her distance from me and I didn't know why. But, instead of going to the Lord and seeking Him in prophecy and striving for unity, I chose to lean to my own understanding and feelings. I decided never again to do anything that might make me feel close to anyone. I decided that the Law of Love was not for me anymore. I was also hesitant to get prophecies, because I didn't want to receive what I felt the Lord would tell me to do.

So for about two months I avoided this sister and felt falsely good about it. I talked to the VSs about it and they were very patient to hear me out and even got a prophecy for me. The prophecy was right on and they counseled me to read “More on the Keys, Part 3.” When I read it, one section that stood out to me was

“Home Sweet Home,” where it talked about how if I wanted to win the outside church, then I needed to be sample of Jesus' love to others in my own Home. I realized that if I had taken the first step to hear from the Lord, He would have not only showed me what to do but also helped me see the other side of the coin.

God bless this sister! She took the first step to do the humble thing and apologized and we talked. It helped me to see that she too was going through some battles that were hard for her and that I needed to be more understanding of her and praying for her, instead of “getting back at her.”

Dental warning

Phebe (of Stefan), USA: I would like to pub a warning to all the older people in the Family who, like me, may feel they didn't need to see a dentist for cleaning very often. I never had much of a problem with tooth decay and usually only had a dental visit for cleaning after pregnancy, as I always did have a hard time at those times with my gums bleeding.

Since not having any children for a few years, seeing a dentist was not high on my priority list and I put it off for quite some time. Recently I began having some pain in one of my front teeth, so I decided I really needed to make the dreaded visit. I was informed that I had periodontal disease at a moderate state. Having a large amount of tartar build up, particularly on the back of my teeth, was causing my gums to separate from the teeth, allowing air pockets under the gums to cause the bone under the teeth to begin to dissolve. What a shock! Lord forgive me for being so neglectful. I believe the Lord can do the miracle but also know that there wouldn't have been this need if it would have been taken care of much sooner.

So please take heed and don't make the same mistake that I did. See a dentist on a regular basis for necessary cleanings so you don't lose the bone holding your teeth in and then lose your teeth.

(Editor's note: Please take note, Family! In recent years, we've heard about increasing numbers of Family members who have discovered that they have similar problems. It just creeps up on you. Even if your teeth seem fine, if you aren't getting regular check ups and maintaining your dental hygiene and care, you can visit the dentist one day only to find that you've had significant bone loss. Please be faithful to take proper care of your teeth and gums.)

entertainment

Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up

40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS (2002)

Josh Hartnett, Shannyn Sossamon

Comedy. After a breakup, a young man vows to stay celibate during the 40 days of Lent—a task which proves quite daunting.

(Jesus:) While somewhat unrealistic, this movie is full of laughs. You gotta feel sorry for the guy. Poor fellow. It goes to show that you can't reach perfection by abstinence, self-denial, or any of those Catholic trips and hang-ups. Just think about how much better you've got it.—If you're having relationship problems, you can just ask Me, and My advice will always be right on for you. You don't have to go trying silly things like this guy did. It did make for a fun and funny movie, though.

So many young folks in the world have so little in the way of help, comfort, and faith because it's a world of "every man for himself." It was so hard for him to go on with his life without doing something drastic and what could be considered rather foolish. When you watch this, be thankful for the friends, the family, and the shepherds you have that can talk with you, listen to you in a non-condescending way and help you and pray for you. It's a luxury and something that as you will see, was a need in this man's life, and if he could have had some really good counsel or an understanding friend, it would have been a lot easier for him.

My cautions would be to be wary of System viewpoints on relationships and sex, etc., as well as to be on guard about the quite unrealistic portrayal of young people working in the System. This movie shows them all to have great jobs that obviously pay well, yet you never, or hardly ever, see them working. They have plenty of money, live in a world with almost all attractive people, never have a hard time finding plenty of girls or guys, etc. That's just not accurate, and it would be a shame if any of you took this to be your idea of what you think things are like out there, because it just ain't the truth.

MY FIRST MISTER (2001)

Leelee Sobieski, Albert Brooks

Drama: A cynical teenage rebel and a lonely middle-aged man forge an unlikely friendship after he hires her to work in his clothing store.

(Jesus:) This movie has a lot to offer. You can learn things and experience things from it that are not the norm for your day to day interactions with others. You can gain insight into the minds and emotions of some of today's teenagers, and you can feel and sympathize with their struggles. The things that this girl was into were not good and not of Me. She was lost, lonely, searching and desperate, and her actions were in the wrong direction, so much like the youth of today who are lost and searching for the truth and light; however, they think they can find it in darkness and destruction. You can see what a daunting task it is to try to help guide, teach and influence for the good today's youth who have cast aside all the rules and absolutes that you are so accustomed to.

This movie will make you laugh, cry, reflect and count your blessings. It shows the give and take needed in order for two generations to

blend. It has its emotionally traumatic moments, which are not easy to watch, but it's important and edifying.

This shows the benefits of the mingling of the generations, how both generations stand to gain from uniting. He gave her stability, and she gave him freedom. They needed each other. They taught each other how they had self-worth, and that made it possible for them to reach out to love others. There is great gain and beauty to be had in the mingling of the generations, and this movie brings that point home beautifully!

This movie also shows how people need people. This is something a lot of the modern generation today doesn't understand. People need people, and that's one reason you, My Family, have so much to give. You give people the warmth element.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

SPIDER-MAN (2002)

Tobey Maguire, Willem Dafoe, Kirsten Dunst

When bitten by a genetically modified spider, a nerdy high school student gains spider-like abilities, which he must eventually use to fight evil as a superhero.

(Jesus:) In many ways this is just an old-fashioned action movie with the hero fighting off the bad guys and protecting the world from evil. It's exciting and has captivating characters. It's clearly a good versus evil movie and has a lot of fun in there as well.

The violence is overdone in parts, especially the hand-to-hand combat between the two "supermen." If it weren't for this and a few other scenes, the movie could probably be suitable for a younger audience. But sadly, the producers fell prey to the "violence marketing scheme" in trying to appeal to kids who are so used to the violence that it doesn't faze them anymore.

NEW ON THE MO SITE!

A Parenting and Childcare index, including *Eve* and *Kidland* and other pubs not yet indexed. Only on the MO site ... download it now!—Updated versions will be posted periodically, DV. Don't miss 'em!

Though the violence is done in a mock manner as the superheroes are supposed to be almost invincible, there is still the underlying message that violence is okay if done for the right reasons.

The world never truly appreciates its heroes, and this is also true in this movie where the hero isn't truly appreciated, and when he does the right thing, it seems to only make matters worse. Yet in spite of it all he remains a hero and doesn't compromise with evil. This is a good message. Many times you, My children, have to make sacrifices to remain pure from the world's evil.

It's not a must-see movie by any means. It will only appeal to certain viewers. But it's not harmful and won't have negative effects on your spirit, if the viewer is mature enough to see it for what it is.

This movie is obviously a fantasy. It's easy to recognize that this is not true; it's someone's imagination. This type of movie, where it's so

clearly not true, not even partly true, is less dangerous to My children than movies that are subtle and where the lines between fact and fiction are blurred. While this movie doesn't have much to offer as far as lessons or depth, it would be enjoyable to some people.

This movie can be for JETTs, providing the parents or guardians preview it and ask Me about showing it to their children. It should only be shown to those JETTs whose parents have the faith for it and are willing to take the responsibility for it. They can't expect WS to make that decision; the parents have the ultimate responsibility.

Movies Rated for JETTs and Up

STAR WARS: EPISODE II – ATTACK OF THE CLONES (2002)

Ewan McGregor, Natalie Portman, Hayden Christensen

Second prequel in the *Star Wars* series. Anakin Skywalker is assigned to protect Padmé Amidala after an assassination attempt, while Obi-Wan's investigation leads to the discovery of a secret clone army.

(Jesus:) This is a sci-fi movie with terrific special effects, computer graphics, etc., and those that enjoy those types of movies will most likely enjoy viewing this one. This is not a real "message" type of movie. For the most part it's "entertainment only" and fairly wholesome at that.

This prequel has the continuing threads of the complete *Star Wars* story, in which we see Anakin Skywalker slowly turning to the Dark Side and the evil Empire gaining control. If you have seen the other *Star Wars* movies, you can see clearly how Anakin's pride, his willfulness and his I-know-better, I-am-better attitude comes before his fall of being deceived by the darkness.

It's a story with a clear-cut distinction of good versus evil. It shows the need to rise above your emotions in order to stay connected to the power. They call this "the force," as they have throughout this series of movies. This gives the movie the "New Age" elements that the series has always had. The reality is that there are only two forces—good and evil. There is no other good force besides Me, and there is no other evil force besides Satan and his demons.

Those who are close to Me and filled with My Spirit can draw the right conclusions and parallels. It is in a way a modern-day futuristic parable. There's a distinct comparison with the spiritual battles that you face. It shows the way evil can creep in in an almost silent way and destroy the good. In many ways it's the picture of the world today—the struggle of good against bad—the bad that is becoming more prevalent, and the light of goodness that is fading fast.

There are other lessons that can be gleaned

from this movie. It shows the need for two generations to work together. It shows where hate and vengeance leads to, and that there is great power if you focus on the good. There are lessons about not yielding to anger, about being obedient, yielded, and forsaking your own way.

Be prayed up as you view it so that you can take in the good and yet eschew the subtle inferences that are not of Me. It can motivate you to keep fighting evil with all your heart, as long as you don't give up, knowing that you will prevail as long as you stay close to Me and let Me do the fighting through you.

You, as the children of light, are having to learn how to combat the great darkness that is covering the earth. You're having to learn how to develop the spiritual gifts that I have given you, and learn how to wield the new weapons as well. It's still a learning process for you; you have to give your thoughts, your concentration, and your personal desires up in order for My power to have complete sway in your life. You're like My Jedi—you have the power, a power of light that the darkness can't overcome as long as you continue to wield the weapons you've been given.

LIFE OR SOMETHING LIKE IT (2002)

Angelina Jolie, Edward Burns

A reporter interviews a psychic homeless man for a fluff piece about a football game. Instead, he gives her a startling bit of news which sparks her to action, to try to change the pattern of her life.

(Jesus:) This is a good movie with good lessons and without a lot of the foul language and violence that mar so many movies.

It shows the shallowness of a System life changed when faced with death. Even though it does not show her embracing Me, which would be the ultimate in satisfaction and a meaningful life, at least she is reaching out for things that count in life—things which are more important than money and jobs and popularity. It shows how a life can be freed and changed quickly.—How much more so when someone turns to Me and asks Me to turn their life around.

It shows the struggle for vain glory, the struggle for beauty and perfection of body. It shows all those meaningless things that people in the world invest so much time in, only to discover one day that all those things aren't going to save them and that, in fact, because of all their busyness, they've missed doing the most important things. They've missed out on friendship, life, love, and purpose in their life. They've missed out on happiness.

No matter what people look like on the outside, they are all the same inside. They are looking for and longing for real love, purpose and meaning to their lives. The systems of this world feed them the same line—work hard, study hard, stay in line, and you'll be successful and happy. It just isn't so. Love, happiness and contentment all come from My hand. You have to get out of the rat race and be willing to go a different direction, against the status quo.

While this movie brings out lessons that My children can spot, the portrayal of it all is quite Hollywood. That's not generally the way things go in the world. Things don't work out so well for the most part. Things don't fall into place so easily. But still, this movie is viewable. The mes-

FAMILY FEAST BIRTHDAY TREASURES 2001

What was YOUR birthday treasure? To read what others received, check out the MO site! <<http://familymembers.com/newswire/article.php?nwid=871>>

sage is fine and sweet. This movie will be more meaningful to those in the world than those in My Family, because it will make them stop and think and wonder if they have their life in order. Whereas, you, My children, know that you have your place in Heaven secured, and therefore you can burn your candle at both ends, living and giving your life for Me, and not for worldly, selfish, and trivial pursuits.

A movie like this should break your heart for the sheep, especially the rich, the educated, the famous, the successful. There are so many who seem to have everything and yet they are so sad and really have nothing. You must reach these.

Like your Father David said, the poorest people spiritually are the ones who have the most in the physical. They take in the things of this world and the materialism, power, fame and the acclaim of man because they don't see anything else. There's no way out for them. They search for the truth, yet so few find it because so many of the churches have turned them away from Me with their self-righteousness, their hypocrisy, and their lack of love. Will you reach the rich? Will you give those that are so poor in spirit the true riches of eternal life?

model for his children and those young people he worked with, so I gave him supernatural strength and skill as a reward—and opened some big doors for him when he was technically past his prime.

You're never past your prime when you and I are teamed up together. Just wait until the Great Tribulation, where I will help all My children, young and old, strong and weak, male and female to do many exploits in My Name. I will use the weak things to confound the mighty!

This movie portrays the real world of the common folk, the simple "little people." It's full of lessons on fighting, on perseverance, on pouring time into others, on inspiring confidence, not giving up, on following your dreams, on bitterness and forgiveness, on trust and faith and love. Because love was a motivation for much of what was done in this movie, it is of merit to My children. It is a sweet, touching story of the struggles in life and brings out the need to fight to rise above your circumstances and then I can do the impossible in your life.

Do you have dreams, hopes and aspirations that you haven't reached yet? Do circumstances keep you from reaching your goals? Just because you haven't reached them yet doesn't mean they

ONGOING CHANGES IN THE U.S. SINCE THE SEPTEMBER 11TH TRAGEDY

—Important notice from the North American public relations team (concerning legal paperwork and home schooling), posted on the MO site: <<http://familymembers.com/announcements/index.php3?anid=36>>

Movies Rated for OCs and Up

THE ROOKIE (2002)

Dennis Quaid, Rachel Griffiths

A Texas baseball coach makes the major league after agreeing to try out if his high school team makes the playoffs. Based on a true story.

(Jesus:) This is an encouraging true story about a man with a good heart who overcame bitterness, physical setbacks, and disappointments to pursue what I put in his heart to do. He was a good shepherd and coach—sincere, a good role

won't be attained. A lot has to do with timing. Take your Father David for example. His real ministry, his true calling, was not fulfilled until the age of 49. So don't lose hope. I have great things in store for you.

Be like the supporting characters in this movie; have faith in the gifts and talents I have given your co-workers. Encourage them to use them to the fullest.

I'd call this film Capraesque in style, like *It's a Wonderful Life*.—Inspiring for those of all ages. You will find this movie uplifting as well as getting some good lessons from it.

SEEN THE VINE?

Rosita (20), USA says: "Have you gotten your copy of *THE VINE*? Not only is it WOW, SUPER, and GREAT, but it will give you an unending love, appreciation, and zest for those within our greater Family who are going all the way for Jesus, winning the lost, and are completely on board. We're so happy and proud to be a part of you! A round of applause to all those who had a part!"

Michael (13), USA says: "I found *The Vine* videos to be very inspiring, uplifting, and fun. My favorites are the ones of Thailand!—But I like all of them. Thanks to all the Family people who sent things in for it to inspire all the rest of us!"

HELP WANTED

Hi, sweet people! My name is **Bruni** (Russian national) and I have a three-year-old son. The Lord showed me to go to Mexico and I have clearance and a Home waiting for me there. It's not possible to fundraise in Russia and training our national church before we close up the Home takes all my time. Thank you so much to all who sent donations! It is a real blessing! However, I'm still lacking about \$500. If the Lord puts it on your heart to help with any amount, I'd be truly thankful! Your prayers are also appreciated very much! You can reach me at e-mail: alexis01@safe-mail.net. Thank you so much for taking the time to read this and pray about it! Lots of love, Brunis

letters to the editor

Re: Xn

By Michael (13), USA

I really like *Xn*. It has so many encouraging things in it. A big thanks to all artists who drew all the pictures!

Re: "What we need" by FGA woman, GV #133

Dear sister,

GBY and thank you for writing such an honest article! It's true, a little bit of love goes a long, long way. I'm praying for you and I'm sure He has been taking care of you already. It broke my heart to read your story, but stay happy, okay? And keep going for Jesus. He sure has a big reward for you in Heaven. Just hold on a little longer, don't give up! Nothing is impossible with the power of the keys! ILY.—Anonymous

The power of the keys in action

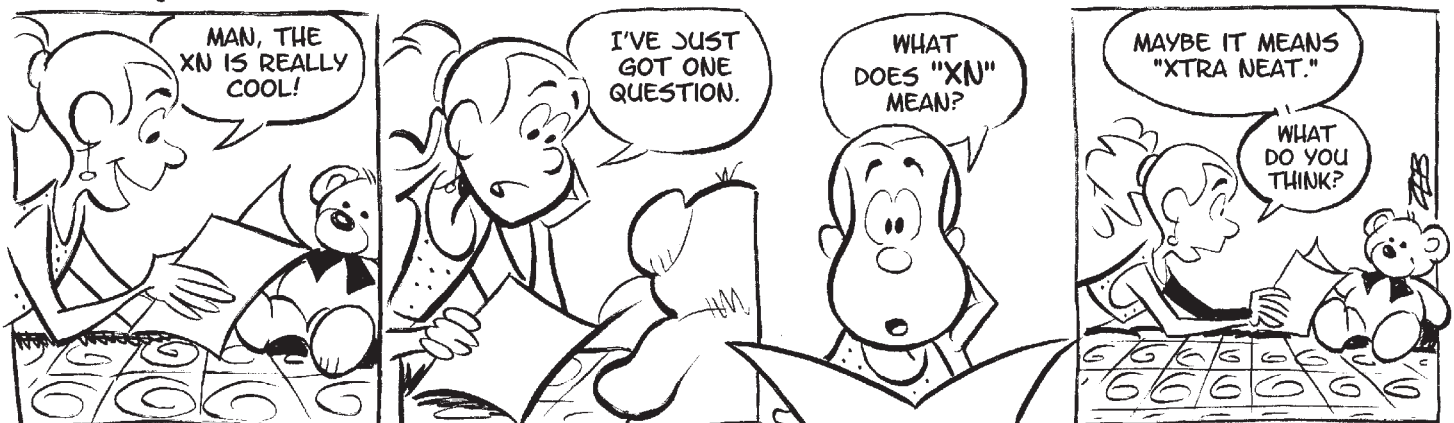
BY FAITH PI, FOR ARC HOME, THAILAND

Our Home desperately needed about US\$1,200 to change our van's air-con system. We got even more desperate when the old air-con system of this vehicle completely broke two weeks before we had to take our children and some of our close friends to a CTP at an old folks' home. The date of that CTP was April 13—*Songkran* day in Thailand—by tradition a day where people splash water on each other in the streets and also on vehicles passing through. We realized that if we didn't have a new air-con by then, we would either be soaking wet from water splashing on us with our windows open, or we would be suffocatingly hot inside with our windows closed. We had only one week to raise the funds and another week to have the van serviced.

We prayed desperately and the Lord told us to send a request letter to a certain person. After devotions, the Home prayed unitedly over the request letter and claimed the power of the keys for miraculous supply in a short time. As you must have already experienced yourselves, the keys indeed work like magic! This friend called a week before April 13 and agreed to give us US\$1,200 for a new air-con system. Hallelujah! And there's more ... this friend also promised to release another US\$1,200 to sponsor 100 *Treasure Attic* videos for 10 public schools!

Encouraged with this great power at our fingertips, we again wielded this awesome and marvelous power of the keys when we asked another friend to help us with the cost of the improvement of the interior of this same van, and also to sponsor *Treasure Attic* videos for public schools. His business hasn't been doing well, so he asked us to talk to the manager of his other company. This lady approved about US\$500! Half goes to our van's interior improvement and the other goes to sponsorship of 20 videos for schools. Thank You, Jesus, for the power of the keys!

PECULIAR PEOPLE



The news and views from Family members published in the *Grapevine* do not necessarily reflect WS policy. Suggested reading age for this publication is 14 years and up. Selected portions may be read by or with those younger at parents' or shepherds' discretion. The *Grapevine*, P.O. Box 168751, Irving, Texas, USA - 75016-8751
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Personals

Hey, this is Megumi (of Paul and Lydia). I'm looking for **Pandita** (of Patience), **Ryan** (of Dust and Sunshine), **Alisa** (of Sapphire) and **Aichan** (of Mike D.) I would like to get in touch with all of you, Please write to: livingwt@plum.ocn.ne.jp

Pedro Fisher (Nimrod Prophet) in Peru would like to hear from **old friends**. Please communicate with me at Milagro80@yahoo.com

This is Heather (13, of Claire, Taiwan). I'm looking for **Marianne** (of Elisabeth). Where art thou? Last you told me, your family moved to England. I want to get back in communication with you. If you have any spare time, write me! My e-mail is: clairet777@hotmail.com

Attention **Spanish Rafael and Maria!** We (Argentine Francisco and Cecilia) would like to get in touch with you! Please write us through the SACRO Office with your e-mail or other address! Thanks.

Marie Jolie, please get in touch with Emanuele. Add: Caixa Postal: 213. Belém – PA Cep: 66017-970. E-mail: marajo44@interconnect.com.br

FORMER MEMBERS AND FRIENDS – seeking contact

I am trying to locate my cousin formally known as: **Kevin D. from Michigan**. None of the family have seen him in years and his mother, who resides in Florida is dying. Time is short. Larry Dahlka, Dearborn Heights – 313-565-3273.

For ideas for devotions and prayer days, see the MO site at: <http://familymembers.com/newswire/article.php?nwid=873>