

Circumstances do not make the man or woman—they merely reveal them.

## THE CERVANTINO Festival

GUANAJUATO, MEXICO

By PEDRO (CO)

The international festival of Cervantino has been held in the beautiful city of Guanajuato for over 30 years now. Originally the festival was full of cultural performances. The most outstanding artistic spectacles in the world were performed in forums, theaters, temples, and in the main streets of this colonial town. Over the past years, this festival has changed into a place where young people can party all night long through the streets, drinking alcohol without restraint, and consume every imaginable type of drug.

This is undoubtedly the biggest gathering of young people in the entire country. It's a place where friends and companions go, with the sole purpose of partying unrestrainedly, having a fling with somebody, and to freely consume any kind of beverage or drug. Thousands of young people get together at this festival.



Captions on page 2

Over the past few years, various teams of Family young people have attended to try to reach the youth there with the Words of Life. This year the Lord told us to go to this festival once again. He said many wonderful and inspiring things such as: "This Revolution was built on a crazy Quixote faith. I've used many Quixotes that were willing to

be seen as 'mad people' for Me, and to show this 'madness' to an agonizing world. So I ask you to be My Quixotes."

One interesting detail is that the Cervantino Festival was given this name in honor of Miguel de Cervantes, and Don Quixote is the symbol of this festival.



After receiving the confirmation from the Lord we went about searching for these Quixotes. Alex (VS) began calling the Homes in Mexico, inviting teens to this witnessing adventure. Within a few days the Lord raised up an army of 30 young soldiers, coming from 11 different Homes across the country. They came from Mexico City, Guadalajara, Monterrey, and León. The three-day festival took place on a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning.

On our way there the Lord supplied abundantly, performing miracle after miracle, fulfilling each of His wonderful promises through the power of the keys. This really inspired the young people's faith.

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## A SOLID WALL OF FIRE

—ACTON YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP

BY CLAIRE (VS), PACRO

Some months ago the Lord laid on the COs' and VSs' hearts the burden to hold a meeting for the YAs and SGAs from Taiwan, China, and Australia. We weren't sure what to expect, as none of us had organized a major young people's meeting in years, but we knew the Lord had been working in the lives of our second generation.

In recent years, Letters like the S2K and the "Conviction versus Compromise" series had spurred a necessary sifting of the ranks, and the recent Word revolution was further working in everyone's heart. We felt there was an urgent need to invest more in our young people, so we challenged them to come to this meeting not just for fellowship, but for training.

We sent out an invitation offering a chance for input to those who were serious about being missionaries. The responses began to pour in, and it became evident that it was going to be a big group! The planning committee needed

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The Lord led us to a hotel in a small town 15 kilometers away from Guanajuato. They only charged us for two rooms for the girls, and for the boys they lent us a large room where we were able to sleep on the floor with sleeping bags. This room also became our meeting center during our trip.

The Lord had revealed to several of us individually that by going to this festival we would be entering the Enemy's territory and that we should watch and pray at every step. He also told us that if we didn't rely on Him completely and have the right vision for being there we would be in serious danger. Because of these warnings we talked extensively with the young people, making sure that they were aware of the mission that the Lord had given us, as we entered into the Enemy's territory to rescue the souls that were under his power.

Before going to the festival, we gathered together and everyone shared the reason why they had decided to go to this festival, and what the Lord had said to them personally about this trip. It was a very inspiring time and it helped everyone to have the same vision, and it also united us as a team.

At the festival that night, it was amazing to see how the Holy Spirit took over the whole situation and how the fire of the children of David burned fervently! The Lord told us to walk the streets of the city singing radical witnessing songs. We walked all around town looking for space that we could launch an attack from, since in some places there were such large crowds of people that you could barely walk.

It was really inspiring to see the Family young people—some who were very young and for the most part very shy—so on fire for Jesus, winning souls, singing, dancing, distributing tracts, glowing with the Spirit of God, and being a sample of the Holy Spirit.

After singing and doing Holy Ghost samples for about an hour or more we formed a circle and prayed with those that had been watching us. After that, we made teams and went personal witnessing. Sometimes after praying with sheep, we sat down on the floor in a circle and sang slower songs of witness and of the love of Jesus.



David and Saskia (SGAs, Taiwan) listen intently to class given

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to do some serious praying to find affordable accommodations. We wanted a place where we could not only hold meetings, but also a place where our hardworking young people could relax and refill, surrounded by nature. The Lord answered every prayer, supplying a gorgeous ranch-style resort in the mountains of Taiwan, complete with pool, sauna, and sports facilities, all at a very reasonable price.

These young people wanted exactly what we were showing them. Many asked us who we were, and what were we doing there. Some told us, "You are so different, and you have something special, we can see it in you."

We also performed skits on the streets, and the message reached deep inside the hearts of those empty teenagers.

Saturday morning we got together, and by then the teens were already bursting with inspiration. We read the Letter "Sock It to Me! That's the Spirit!" God bless Vas who was used by the Lord to give us all the vision to go out to the streets proclaiming the Revolution for Jesus like true children of David.

The Lord put many sheepy people in our path and we got their names and addresses. It turned out that many of the young people we had met came from the cities where the Family young people had come from—Mexico City, Guadalajara, and Monterey—the three biggest cities in the country.

One of the most inspiring things for me personally was to see the positive effect these witnessing days had on our young people who participated. At the end of the trip we had a meeting with the young people before they returned to their Homes, where we went around in a circle and each one shared how the festival had affected their lives.

Below are a few reactions of those:

"When I saw all these hungry and needy young people it made me realize how rich we in the Family are. It made me so thankful for being in the Family and for having a place to serve the Lord."

"I was able to clearly see how the young people in the System have such empty lives and how they can see that we are so different. We have the truth that they've been searching for!"

"I saw so many people trying to be happy and to find happiness in this empty world, while on the other hand we are so happy. It was almost like we were in a bubble of happiness set apart from their empty world. Those young people could see that."

"Being here gave me the faith to believe that the Lord can really use me to win others to Him."

"I always thought that winning souls was super difficult, but in being here I realized that in reality it's easy. Personal witnessing is also easy, since the Lord has given us so much truth, and the young people in the System long for that truth."

"All of us teens at some given point try to be cool, and that was what all the young people at the festival seemed to be doing. But I came to the conclusion that I don't have to try to be anything. I don't have to think about myself at all. If I think of others first, I can let the Lord use me to the full."

"This trip made me want even more to learn the language to be able to personal witness more."

"Now I have a desire in my heart to start doing this in the city where I live with the local young people."

"I feel renewed!"

We've gotten in contact with many of the young people that we met at the festival. In Mexico City one of them comes to our monthly *Conéctate* meetings, which propelled us into witnessing in Coyoacan (a meeting spot for many young people on the weekends) with all the young people in the area.

This was an unforgettable trip that changed the lives of not only those whom we witnessed to, but it also changed our lives. Thank You, Jesus, and thanks to all of you who contributed, even in small ways to make this trip a reality, especially those who stayed at home helping out while others went on this trip. Thank God that we are a team and that every victory is a victory for all of us, and for the Lord!

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#### COVER PICTURES:

Holy Ghost sample.

Vas and Marcos singing on the streets of Guanajuato

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the spirit. It was electrifying!

The difference between this young people's meeting and previous ones was that everybody attending was pulling in the same direction. The indifference, cliques, and negative peer pressure that haunted previous fellowships was gone. Poof! All thanks to the Lord and Mama and Peter, our faithful Word-givers, and the shepherding you've given us through the Letters!

What beautiful fruit from your publishing the Word that has challenged and convicted us to change. Instead of a blasé crowd, we had a meeting hall packed with young people all pulling together, eager for training and input, and hungry to learn how to become better, more effective Family members.

It was truly like seeing a rebirth of the early days of the Family. As one VS put it, "The love the young people at the meeting had towards each other was genuine! That's what we joined for, the love. They caught it too—the Lord's love, that spirit of taking care of each other, talking to each other, and supporting each other. It really was a movement in the spirit!"

Over and over we heard young people comment, "I've never seen anything like this before!" "I don't want to lose this!" "This is what I've been praying for!" and "This is the spirit of David!" It brought tears to all of our eyes and reminded us of what we experienced when we joined.

The "Call to the Rescue" class on shepherding the JETTs and younger teens in the Homes was heart touching. Each of the YAs and SGAs attending pledged to give of themselves in a greater way to help the younger ones. Discussion groups were held on understanding the Law of Love, where we read and talked about the spirit behind our beliefs, and the pitfalls we can face when trying to live the Word.

On the Family Birthday, we celebrated together with united Word, a beach outing, cake and ice cream and a dance night, with games. What a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the birth of the Revolution together.

At the beginning of our meetings, the Lord told us not to worry, that He would use each and every event that occurred as a teaching tool, even our goofs, if we'd pray.

Our final day together was dedicated to discussing the major reason for being in the Family in the first place—witnessing! We had morning classes highlighting our commission to reach the world with the Activated program, and an afternoon session on winning new disciples. Several newly joined Family members from our area gave moving testimonies of what brought them to the Family.

Throughout each of the classes our talented skit team put together some incredible performances that had everyone in stitches. And our versatile musicians kept everyone revved up and clapping during each and every meeting.

The reaction of the hotel staff to all this was just astounding. I don't think they'd ever seen anything quite like it! With all the love, affection, and on-fire spirit in the air, not to mention the shouts of "Revolution! For Jesus!" coming from the meeting room, we were a city set on a hill. We didn't fail to escape their attention, and we were wondering how the management

would react to all this. But as it turned out they loved it, and the owner of the resort begged us to come back.

We wanted to do something to show our appreciation to the hotel management and employees who took such good care of us during our stay there, so the band did a show in the hotel disco and the manager agreed for the staff to attend. We took over the disco with songs, dancing, and skits and the young people were pulling the employees up to dance. It was like a Family club!

A number of the staff were saved during the meetings and are now being followed

up on. The assistant manager of the resort was in tears when he prayed with one of the young people after the meetings were over. He said, "I never knew talking to God could be like this!" and then asked, "How can I be a part of you?"

When asking several of the young people how they felt we could bring this same spirit of love and fire back to the Homes, one answered, "By personal choice! We need to be in the Family for the right reasons. That was the big difference this time, the people here are in the Family because they *want* to be here!"

### Ad: TJWL #3

Dear Ones,

We are happy to present to you another book of praises to Jesus, our wonderful Lord and Husband. *To Jesus with Love #3* is a compilation of prayers of praise that were received by individuals of all ages and personalities, and we pray that they help

you to express your love and gratitude toward the One Who means everything to us.

Please do keep the shipping of it in your prayers, so that it arrives safely and without problems. Thank you so much, dear Family!

God bless and keep you praising!  
Love, Mama

be a natural part of our hearing from the Lord.

The Lord loves being given the opportunity to speak to His children, and give them further insight on the things they're praying about. Maybe He won't have anything else to add, but if He does, you wouldn't want to miss out by failing to ask Him.



(L-R) Faith (SGA, Australia), Joanie (SGA), Mark (SGA), and Esther (SGA) from Taiwan



Tamar

#### kidbits

**Sonia Agnieszka**, 2<sup>nd</sup> child, born to Polish Magda and Matthew

on March 30.—Middle East

**Malcolm Avinash**, first child, born to Joanna and Michael on

April 3.—India

# happenings

## Benefits of quality Word time

**Abel, Marie Claire, and Feliz, India:** We are seeing the benefits of putting Jesus, the Word, prayer, praise, and prophecy first, before starting the day. The results have been absolutely wonderful. The more we do this, the more the Lord engineers situations behind the scenes by His Spirit and not by our might or flesh. We just come along and pick up the fruit that the Lord brings through our obedience.

Recently, a lady who loves "Mottos for Success" called up and ordered a dozen more copies as well as books and audios, videos and CDs. A shopkeeper whom we hadn't heard from for quite a few months suddenly rang up and told us he was completely out of stock and needed more books, audios, CDs and videos, and wanted to clear up his last bill with us. It was an answer to prayer as we were a bit short on funds. Jesus is so good to us!

It's not that we didn't know these principles, but sometimes we get familiar and have to be reminded ourselves over and over again about putting the Word first and letting the Lord do it.

## Tract power

**Lisa, South Africa:** It all started when my necklace broke and I took it to the jewelers nearby where we witness. When I went to get it fixed I explained about our work. The lady was interested in what we do. When I came to pick up my necklace after it had been fixed, I gave the lady a tract. I told her I'd give her a new tract every week I'm in the area for witnessing. So I faithfully gave her a tract every week. I didn't talk to her very much, but every time I would go and see her she was very inspired to talk to me and receive a new tract. Now all the other workers want tracts too.

I told her about *Activated* and she wants it. It's inspiring for me to see the power of a tract, and how the Lord engineers things. If my necklace hadn't broken I wouldn't have met one of His special sheep.

Another time on outreach a lady came up to me and said she received the "Deal of a Lifetime" tract. She had given it to her son who is in prison, and through the tract he got saved and passed it around to his fellow prisoners, and now they want tracts for themselves. It's so inspiring to see the wonderful fruit our tracts have.

## Reaching mothers through their children

**Pandita, India:** We've been giving art and music classes to some of our friends' children. The mothers of these kids we had originally met through birthday parties and we have been following up on them since. They had asked us to start some classes with their children to encourage their creativity and teach them values.

During the course of our classes we are also able to follow up on the mothers and give them feeding material (they are also saved). It's a miracle to even see these people as they are so busy and top-class people, but the Lord has really helped us to get a link with them. Now when we go to the classes we pray with the kids before starting and sing all Family songs and read Family stories, and their parents like it. The kids also enjoy themselves so much and look forward to these classes a lot, and they love our Family songs.

One of the kids who wasn't doing so well in his school is now doing much better and concentrating, which is a total miracle. His mother is so happy, and wants us to help him more by even telling her what problems he needs to work on. Thank the Lord that He has helped us so much; it's only His doing. We pray before each class and the Lord gives us many new ideas each time. We are now starting even more classes with more mothers to follow-up on.

## Of different cultures, but the same in heart

**Eman, Indonesia:** Mrs. M. is the wife of a Japanese official and was introduced to us by a close friend, as she was looking for English Christian fellowship. At her first visit to our house she was touched by the love and simplicity of our little family. I shared verses with her about the most important duty we have of loving Jesus and sharing His love with others. She especially enjoyed the stories I told her that I have learned from the Letters. She said that this fellowship was exactly what she was looking for.

She is about 60 years old, a high-class lady, so kind and receptive. She has been traveling to many countries and has met many people, and it is a privilege for us to reach her heart with the love of our precious Husband and His Words of wisdom and life.

On her following visit, she asked for my help, as her chauffeur had been going to Bible classes and theological studies for 16 years, but was a very unhappy man. Mrs. M. asked me to find a way to bring him to the path of joy and peace. I prayed desperately in my heart, claiming the power of the keys for our never-failing Husband's help, and He did it.

After asking the dear man about his troubles, I received the answer from Heaven in the form of a verse. After the man read the verse he said, "I have read my Bible many times from cover to cover, and yet I had never applied that verse to my situation!" He was so thankful, and we all praised Jesus for His love and concern.

The third week, I went to visit Mrs. M. at her residence. She started by sharing her personal testimony, about how she came to know Jesus. Being Japanese, she speaks English slowly, but accurately. It was such a beautiful time, as her story was very touching. She said: "It's amazing how Jesus had us meet. We come from different cultures, backgrounds, and traditions, but we are just the same in our hearts."

In answer to a question she had about yieldedness, I shared with her parts of the Letter "God's Chess Game," and she was so thankful. I realized how blessed we are in the Family—we have so much material at our disposal.

Meeting and ministering to Mrs. M. is a fulfillment of the Letter "Reach the Rich." Before, I wouldn't have thought of trying to reach such a person, but the Lord brought her across our path.

## Patience rewarded

**Marina, Japan:** A couple of years ago I was giving regular German classes to Mr. M., during which he also practiced his English. He enjoyed talking about his work, ambitions, interests, and concerns, while I often spent the better part of the time practicing my listening skills. When I finally was able to tell him about my missionary activities, he was so impressed that he decided to get involved—for the first time in his life—in volunteering himself. He began to help with translating, being our cameraman, etc.

Witnessing to him about the Lord was not that easy, as he repeatedly stated that he already had his own concept about God. However, since he had many questions about this subject, it opened

the door to many answers, until he was at last willing to open his heart's door to Jesus. One Bible verse in particular seemed to be the key in changing his life: "Casting all your cares upon Him" (1Pet.5:7). He would say again and again how much happier and at ease he had been feeling since I'd shown him that verse as a solution to his tension and worries.

Having received faith in the existence of an after-life also helped him to cope with the recent death of his beloved wife. Now two years later he attends our Bible classes regularly.

Recently I showed him a little card with this quote on it, "All that is given cheerfully and generously to another comes back to you and enriches your life in unexpected ways." He grabbed it and asked if he could keep it, saying, "This expresses exactly what I have learnt from you! My whole life has changed! Everyone can see how much I have changed!"

## An affinity with Activated

**Tabitha, Taiwan:** My daughter, Lily (13), and I recently followed up on a woman whom I had met at a hospital where she was a volunteer worker and had previously been a cancer patient. She had explained that she was a Christian, but was very discouraged about her family, particularly her husband, as none of them shared her faith and didn't even want to hear about Jesus.

On this particular visit, before bringing us to her home, she prepared us that her family was a bit "strange," and often remained silent with visitors as well as each other. Were we in for a surprise as the Lord went before us, working miracles through His keys! The husband, who is the intellectual type and fluent in English, began sharing his heart with me about the Chinese people and how he believes that Confucius, Mao Tse Tung and others have led them astray by their overemphasis on education, resulting in too much pressure and loss of other values.

Eventually I showed him a copy of the first issue of the Chinese/English *Activated* magazine. He studied it slowly and carefully and said, "I feel a real affinity with this magazine. I believe that this is just what the people of Taiwan need! How can I get my own copy?" We were then not only able to sign him up for a year's subscription, but to ask him and his daughter if they would like to receive Jesus. Without hesitation they prayed with us!

The wife smiled the whole time, hardly able to say a word. She was so absolutely amazed at what had just taken place. I reached out to hand her a *Fear*

*Not tape*, explaining that it was a little gift to give her strength and to encourage her faith. To both of our surprise, the husband grabbed it instead, saying, "Thank you so much. We'll make good use of this!"

## Extreme tracting

**Crystal Light, Australia:** The top gynaecological surgeon in a famous women's hospital here in Australia was scheduled to operate on me. When I saw him for the one and only time I did, I was in great discomfort and forgot to give him a tract. The Lord showed me that since it would be very difficult to meet him again I should place a stack of tracts on my chest as I entered the operating theater. I also had a sign saying to please help yourself to the tracts, so I assume he took one, plus the anesthetists and the nurses, who generally speaking are hard to meet otherwise.

When I went in I was a little drowsy, but I gave out a few to the surprised attending staff, and I asked them to make sure for me that the doctor got his copy. When I was delivered back to my bed after the surgery, there were no tracts to be seen! I pray they all reached their targets.

## Shepherding our sheep

**Jimmy (of Joy), Taiwan:** Our sheep and Active members need a lot of training, shepherding with the Word, and lots of encouragement. It is especially true since we are getting closer to the End and the battles will greatly intensify, so we have to draw our strength from the Word more, to confront and defeat the Enemy.

## A commitment to outreach

BY CHARITY, PAKISTAN

For some time our Home's outreach has been a bit "dry," as we were busier with follow up, and not doing much office-to-office and meeting new people. Since our city is small and we've been here almost eight years, it's easy to slide into a "it's already been done" spirit, and feel like there's not much use in hitting the same drag again. Also, since the main couple of outreachers are the ones who know the sheep the best, the rest of the Home wasn't getting out much, and we've had a "no" on our Home evaluation checklist for quite sometime regarding getting out for the required hours in a week for witnessing. Our finances of late have been quite low, which is often an indication of the message not getting out how it should! Whoops!

At our outreach meeting, we made a commitment as a Home to get out more teams and get the tools out, and the Lord has been blessing us and the tools are going out slowly but surely.—And we've been meeting some precious new sheep to follow up on.

Since this commitment a couple of people are considering pledging, and another lady wants to sponsor a show at a hospital. Plus the reaction to "Mottos for Success" has been good, and people who bought them are phoning for more for their friends. It's been exciting for me to see the Lord pave the way before us and make our days very inspiring! It seemed such an impossibility, but obviously it's just been the Enemy trying to defeat us and make it look that way.

After reading the New Wine about getting on board with implementing the Word revolution, the Lord told us that we needed to pay more attention to our live-out disciples, and give them closer shepherding. One of our own faithful Active members has recently encountered some battles and difficulties with bad health and unemployment, but still remains faithful to the Lord and the Word. We gave a class to her on the keys, and explained how she can call on the power of the keys to help her when she has problems. We also shared with her that when the Devil starts attacking her through her thoughts, that she should right away start praising the Lord, and go on the attack to rebuke the Devil.

The Word classes really strengthened her, and immediately after she returned home, she went into her room and starting praising the Lord out loud for a long time. She said that she started yelling at the Devil saying, "You can't put me down. I'm going to attack back, even though I have so many problems. God is greater than you!" She said that in that moment she felt as if a heavy burden had been lifted and all the trials were gone.

She shared her testimony with her husband, and they both started praising the Lord together for the victory. Another inspiring thing was that they borrowed a car from one of their friends, but the engine wouldn't start. They prayed and then stepped out by faith to try again, and the car started working again. They were so encouraged by this, and it was a big testimony to her husband who saw the miracle before his very eyes.

# Interview with the Emerald Isle Home

TAKEN FROM "ACTIVATING TAIWAN"—AN AREA CGO BOARD NEWSLETTER

**Q: What was the main thing that motivated you to get behind the Activated push, and what has helped you to not lose the vision?**

**A:** (Johnny:) Mostly the many GNs that have come out in the last few years. Also because we have had to wait for years before Activated was available to us in Chinese, I have kept a mailing list of my sheep and contacts, and have endeavored to send them as much feeding material as I could, so now the Activated mags are the best thing I could've hoped for to help feed them with. That's why it was pretty easy for me to get my initial 50 subscriptions, because they were literally to a good portion of the friends and sheep I have already been feeding through the mail.

(Christina:) Reading the Word is the biggest motivator, and of course, the testimonies of others in the Family who are moving forward with Activated. I would say that the first reason for me to keep fighting to get subscriptions, even though I only do this type of outreach once a week, is obedience to get Jesus to the people in the best way and form. He's done so much for me, what can I do for Him? The Lord says He will bless us in every area if we are obedient to the vision of the moving of His Spirit through the New Wine.

**Q: Since the launch of Chinese Activated, your Home has consistently been the top shiner in the country. Can you tell us how you've achieved this? As a Home did you have a strategy or plan of attack?**

**A:** (Christina:) One of the main reasons has been that Johnny has so many friends, and has activated them. I believe one reason is because Johnny is a faithful shepherd and feeder of the sheep. He is faithful to follow up on his friends and read the Word and pray with them, and continues to keep up an amazing mail ministry. Now, he is faithful with the next step—Activated!

Micah and Mary in our Home are also faithful. They are constantly witnessing—instant witnesses, and strive to learn the language and feed the sheep. They are new bottles, always talking about Activated and always out there promoting it.

Sunny activates all her friends, and activates whomever she can—such as

Johnny giving a class with Alison to Taipei club members



the parents of the kids who come over to our neighborhood weekly kids' Bible flannelgraph class.

**Q: Have most of your subscriptions been from follow-up and folks you already knew? Is it easier to get those you know to subscribe as opposed to brand new people?**

**A:** (Johnny:) For me, yes, it has been easier, as the ones I already know are already used to receiving Word from me. It is still relatively easy, I think, to activate new friends and contacts, as it [the mag] is such a nice, presentable piece of lit, and it carries legitimacy. It actually enhances my approach to new friends as far as introducing the idea of receiving reading material in the mail for training.

(Christina:) The first people I subscribed were people who were helping me on a monthly basis, or at least occasionally. That was comparatively simple; almost every one of them subscribed. I haven't had all that great success with activating new people on the spot, although it has happened a couple of times. During the week, I try to call people whom I have met within the last year or so, whose card I kept. If I have enough phone time each week, and the Lord does the miracle, I line up people to visit that witnessing day and they often subscribe.

**Q: Can you tell us what is your "sales pitch" to get someone subscribed to Activated?**

**A:** (Johnny:) If this new contact or potential subscriber answers with a yes to my question of whether he or she is interested in learning more about the Lord, then I proceed to introduce the idea of subscribing to the Activated magazine. It's pretty basic from there, explaining about the price, and then get-

ting their address. I also mention that it is a training course, which helps them to learn more about Jesus and how He can help them in their lives step by step.

(Christina:) I usually talk to them over the phone. (Pray first, claiming the power of the keys for the Lord to move their hearts to be receptive.)

I say something like this, "Hi, this is \_\_\_\_\_. Do you remember me? I met you with my son last \_\_\_\_\_. I'm the missionary you bought a CD from. We wanted to ask you a little question. We have a beautiful new magazine that our group puts out internationally, called Activated. We have just finished translating it into Chinese and we are trying to get it to all our friends—in fact, to everybody in Taiwan. It's Christian, but it is made for the people in Taiwan, and China, and for Chinese speakers around the world. It's all about faith, hope, and love. It's a motivational magazine, and is really inspiring. For one year's subscription, 12 magazines, it costs 600NT. My son and I are going to Taipei on Friday, and we wanted to know if you had five or ten minutes for us—so we can visit you and show it to you, and see if you would like to get it."

If they have time and the spirit is right, this works for me! Claim the power of the keys and see Him do the miracles!

**Q: Any words of advice or helpful tips on how to get people to subscribe?**

**A:** (Johnny:) Get excited, and they will be too!

(Christina:) Keep it simple. Sometimes people are a bit skeptical of it being a "Christian" mag; however, if you give them the impression that "everyone is getting it," just like we do with the CDs and other products, they get into it.

# CHANGING OUR PART OF THE WORLD

BY ANDREW, MIRACLE, AND ROSE, KOSOVO

We were able to participate in the annual UN-sponsored multi-ethnic winter camp that is held at the ski resort high in the mountains that border Kosovo and Macedonia. The children attending, who ranged from 12 to 17, participated in the ski camp and other activities that were intended to foster reconciliation and tolerance of the other ethnic groups. We were again this year one of the highlights of the week, as our fun, Spirit-filled, Word-based activities reached the hearts of the children and teens.

One of the days we centered on our rendition of the "Change the World" story, which was acted out by Andrew and Rose. At the end of each performance, young people would come up to us to thank us for such an inspiring message, and we were able to collect a lot of names and e-mail addresses to follow up on later.

During the last week of the camp, a group of VIPs from the UN, OSCE, and KFOR came to visit the project. They walked into our activity room right while we were singing "St. Francis's Prayer" with the teens from the different ethnic groups. It was so powerful, as these kids were singing these encouraging words so wholeheartedly! It made a big impression on these high-ranking officials, that they decided to stay longer with us, and watched our "Change the World" story. Over lunch, several speeches were made, and one official mentioned three times how he wanted all the young people to go change the world when the camp finishes!

Living in a war-torn country, or should we say more recently, a "mafia war-torn" country, saddens us. The Kosovar people are discouraged by many recent incidents, with several assassinations at the beginning of the year—first a close advisor to President

Rugova (as well as three members of his family who were killed in the attack), followed by the assassination of the Prime Minister of Serbia. These events have caused an increased heart-searching and a huge vacuum for the spiritual in the lives of these people who just want to lead normal lives. Reaching "normality" in former Yugoslavia may require the second coming of our Lord!

We were giving out aid in a small village when an elderly couple invited us to their house for coffee (a very common tradition). During our time with them they told us their war story. One night they were sleeping, and a shell was fired through their bedroom window. It exploded next to their bed and everything in the room was destroyed, but they survived without a scratch! They showed us the shrapnel marks that remained, and professed that it was the mercy of God! We were so happy to share Jesus with them as their Comforter and Savior!

A big miracle is that we received a grant that we had requested over 10 months ago that would supply us with funds to upgrade our sound system for our school show. The red tape surrounding this grant request was monumental, but the Lord did it for us! So now we have a brand-new setup that includes power speakers, a mixing board, and microphones. We were also able to get a new plug-in guitar, a generator (for when the electricity cuts, which is quite often), and a digital video camera. We give the Lord all the glory for helping this to come through, as it was certainly nothing of ourselves!



One of the groups from the multi-ethnic ski camp

The new MLK, "He's the Picture—We're the Frame!" (MLK #177) has an accompanying color page, which you will find on the MO site. You can find this coloring page in the MLK sub-section at <http://www.familymembers.com/pubspages/search.php3?searchpub=13>. We love you!

## "Every soul is precious in His eyes"

BY PAUL (OF REBECCA), ITALY

I was restaurant singing in Rome, and I went into one of the restaurants to ask the owner if I could sing there. As soon as I opened the door, I saw a very famous and popular Italian rock singer, Luciano Ligabue, sitting with a group of people. He looked towards me, with a stern expression on his face, and then ignored me and carried on talking to his friends. I was intimidated by him at the beginning and was wondering whether "little old me" should sing in front of such a famous star.

To be honest, I didn't personally like him as he'd written a song called, "Do You Have a Moment, God?" in which he questions God about all the evils in this world. But after being welcomed to sing by the owner of the restaurant, I prayed and asked the Lord to give me the courage to sing. After getting out my guitar I started singing a few country songs. When the ice was broken, I went straight to Luciano, shook his hand and asked him if I could dedicate a song to him. He was a bit surprised, but said yes with a smile.

I told him this song that I was going to sing to him in Italian could be very well called, "Do You Have a Minute, Luciano?" but that it was really the story of each one of us here. I started singing "The Prodigal Son" in Italian. At first he looked at me suspiciously, wondering if I was mocking him, but as the song progressed the expression on his face completely changed and became softer, and he started drinking in every word of the song.

When I finished, he thanked me and I gave him a "Somebody Loves You" tract, which I believe answers his questions, and better yet the Italian tract has a picture of a man that looks very much like him, running into God's arms.

Later on, as I was driving back home, I was moved to tears, thanking the Lord for this wonderful answer to prayer, and for teaching me the lesson that every soul is precious in His eyes. I pray that God becomes part of his life.

# forum

## Making "thank you" a common practice

**FGA woman, Europe:** Something came to my attention lately that I wanted to bring up as I know that if not dealt with it can cause a lot of hurt and eventually lead to disunity between the Homes. While it's a common practice to pick up provisioning from a Home when you pass through on a road trip, it's often not a common practice to thank the Home in any other way other than writing a thank-you letter or saying thank you when leaving. While, of course, that is a good thing to do, it is often not enough.

I remember one time my sister, who used to provision for an area, said to me, "People often don't know they are thanked unless you say it five to seven times." I think that while we might do that for outsiders, we often forget our own brethren. It's a sad thing when people who do provisioning get burnt out and don't want to do it any more, one of the main reasons being that they don't feel appreciated enough.

Following are a few points people have mentioned to me that would help people feel more appreciated:

1. When writing testimonies (such as in newsletters) be sure to mention the names and places (security permitting) that you have received things from to aid your work or project.

2. Publish testimonies on the GP Web site that mention the people who helped with provisioning and aid so they can use it in their PR brochures.

3. Faithfully thank those who have helped you, and give what you can to help that Home financially (like giving a donation for the food, gas, time, etc., that they used), as often times what they pick up is worth quite a lot (and if the Home

doesn't have any help it will be more difficult for them to be able to continue). Also, when you pass through the Home to pick things up and you end up staying and not only use the Home's time, but resources as well.

4. When Homes that do provisioning ask the receiving Home for PR material (e.g., videos, photos, updates on the work, etc.) it would be nice if the receiving Homes make it a priority to send it, as it not only aids in the provisioning of more goods, but also it shows the Home doing the provisioning that the receiving Home cares and appreciate the help they receive.

I know that we have the "Grapes of Thankfulness" and quite a few people are faithful to write in to that, but when it comes to PR brochures it just doesn't cut it. It would be nice to encourage each other to make an effort to go out of our way to make the people who do provisioning for us feel like they are helping something worthwhile, and that they are not just getting the raw end of the deal. Many of our dear provisioners sacrifice a lot to provision for others on poorer fields.

## Closed and open fields

**An FGA, Ukraine:** We've been struggling lately with a constant lack of personnel in our Home and area to be able to take on the projects that we would like to, and what we feel the Lord wants us to do also. It's a problem to find more personnel nowadays in general, and not just in our situation. While one solution for this would be to unite efforts with the other Homes in the area and work together on different projects, sometimes it can be only a partial solution, due to lack of personnel in neighboring Homes as well.

A lot of people have left the Ukraine over the last couple of years and there haven't been many new people coming in to replace the ones that have left. I have gathered from talking with different people who've passed through or who've come for visits, that the mentality many have is that the Ukraine and Russia is basically the same. However, while the Ukraine and Russia are very similar in certain things, the big difference is that the Ukraine is really open to the message, there are no laws against any religious activities, as there are in Russia, and the people here are very sweet, hospitable and receptive to the message.

There is so much to do here, the sky is the limit really, but the sad thing is that there are so few here left to

do the job. Even though we are trying our best, we are barely scratching the surface. We would like to do so much more, especially knowing that now is the time, and only God knows how long the doors will remain open in this country.

We are trying to encourage all our live-outs and outside witnessers to help us to reap the harvest, but even with their help we don't seem to be hitting the mark. The Ukraine is an open country and you can burn free here according to your faith! Maybe if people would realize this, it would help to change their mindsets and help them be more open to the idea of coming over to help us to reap the harvest here. Even if they would come only for a SWIFT it would be a great blessing!

## Discovering the power of keys promises

BY LILAC, GUINEA

When we got the keys promises, I barely glanced at them, as I couldn't see the need for memorizing them. I believe in the power of the keys, I know there is one for anything and everything I could want or need, and I know that they work. What's the use for memorizing them?

However, the Lord constantly checked me about the "obedience" factor, as Mama had strongly recommended that we memorize keys promises, so finally I made up my mind to give it a try. I decided to go through all the promises and to choose a bunch to copy in my memorization notebook. When I started getting into them, wow! I was astonished! Just reading through them, it was like changing dimensions! The keys were sparkling with so much beauty and strength and faith-lifting power! There were even keys for things I would have never thought of claiming them for, like, "When you use the power of the keys, you are in the midst of the fountain of youth, truth, beauty, love and power!" (I'm 45!)

Now that I memorize them, I can *feel* the difference. For example, I can simply pray, "Lord, I claim the power of the keys to put on Your mind today" or I can claim a promise: "Call on the keys and My thoughts will rule and reign over your spirit." I can pray, "I claim the power of the keys to be able to do Your will" or I can claim, "The keys empower you to do My will with greater ease and My full anointing!"

There is a difference in praying without the keys and praying *with* the keys! There is so much more depth and definite power in the wording of the key promises compared to what I could pray on my own! I am sold on them now! They're real!

## e-mail reactions from the Family GP Web site

**From Jeff:** Hello to all! I joined [the Family] in Cincinnati when the Home was on Macgregor St. Sunshine witnessed to me and I got saved and I was able to join a year later.

I was reading an article on CNN.com when I saw an article about alternate faiths, and from there I arrived here. I had to do a bit of searching but I found you. Nice site, by the way.

In spite of having been gone for over a decade and not even being a practicing Christian, I have never lost my affection for Dad or for all the good that happened to me while in the Family. I'd like to keep up with the news whenever I can.

My names in the Family were Nehemiah Free, Lazarus, and Michael. Besides being in the States, I was in Costa Rica, Argentina, Brazil, Nicaragua, and the rest of Central America. I spent the majority of my time in the Family in Argentina, got married and had six children, three of which are still there.

Well, this was just a note to say hello. Take care.

**From Jason:** I am very impressed by all the work you are doing, and am very interested in meeting some of you. My name is Jason, I'm 26. I have been traveling the U.S. for the last six years, wandering here and there,

always having a hard time with the world—its ways, its "social matrix," its philosophy, and pretty much everything.

I consider myself a seeker; looking for the meaning of life, I guess. Never really content. I have yet to run into you. I have spent most of the six years in art hippy communes, Hare Krishna temples, "nomadic" Christian groups, and Rainbow gatherings (I heard you go to those, but have never seen you yet).

From your Web site I was really impressed with the scope of your ministry. I had no idea it was so large and worldwide! I am currently in Portland, Oregon. I'm really looking forward to hearing from you. Peace.

**From Steven S.:** I feel the Family would be helpful to me in my spiritual journey. I am a recently reborn Christian who is finding it very difficult locating a Christian group that is both full of ebullient Holy Spirit, but not toxically conservative. From what I've seen of the history of the Family, I could fit in well.

I love the early teachings of MO that I have read. I am traveling the East Coast of Australia this year. Are there any members in our States Victoria, New South Wales or Queensland I could meet or phone on the way?

**From Phil:** One of the things that interests me in what I have heard about the Family is that love conquers all, and that this is very much demonstrated amongst Family members. Is this correct?

I am personally a very tactile, affectionate, and amorous person. I was brought up in the Exclusive Brethren and left them when I was about 25 because they were so unloving and so strict (that was 25 years ago).

I look forward to hearing from you and from your UK branch.

Dear Friends,

After reviewing your Web page this past week I have decided that this is where I will learn to grow in the love of God. What I need foremost is fellowship among a body of believers so that I may strengthen my faith in the Lord.... Your stand and teachings on the community is very New Testament. I can't remember any church I have visited in the past that preached on this power of unity. The Enemy knows all too well the success of "divide and conquer," and we see this plague among Christendom very prevalent today.

At the age of 40 I am rededicating my life back to God as my 19 years of marriage comes to an end. Our house is up for sale, and as soon as it is sold we will be apart for good. Our divorce is civil and we are parting as friends. She wishes to pursue a career while I wish to pursue a spiritual life with God at the helm. Our individual wants and desires were in contrast to one another and with the many years of night work, our lives grew further apart. In a way I feel set free to serve God with 100% attention. This is why I have been searching on the Net for something out there where I am being called to par-

ticipate. Unknowingly, almost a week back, I stumbled upon your Web page after waking up from my sleep. Since then I have been glued to the many articles and teachings presented there. This Family of God surely walks the walk and talks the talk. It is here where I know I will be able to grow and be nurtured in the Lord.

I can't remember how I stumbled upon your Web site, I just did. I began to skim through this vast wealth of information and was taken by the simple message of love. I never found this in any of the Christian churches that I had attended in the past. I guess this is why I too gave up on Christianity. I've been involved in many other things and still am very empty inside. I tried to push the thought of contacting you folks behind me as just another church with another message. I even shut down my PC, but found myself turning it back on and writing you an e-mail because the restlessness inside seemed to deepen even more. Maybe the promptings of the Holy Spirit; if so, then maybe there is still hope for me.

—Richard

It has been great seeing what has been happening with the Family after all these years. I remember with fondness my time with a Colony down in Texas years ago. I still have and read the Letters now and then. I have most of them bound, the old Colony copies—imitation leather—looks like a small Bible. Keep up the work!

—Al (Jonathan)

## Youth clubs joint fellowship

BY LILY, TAIWAN

Johnny and Nat, from the Taipei and Taichung Clubs, prayed and received the idea of having both clubs meet together with their Active members for a united gathering so all the club members could see and meet each other and see that they aren't the only ones. It consisted of fellowship at the beginning, followed by an inspiration, games, a skit, and ended with a game of soccer.

The club members had a blast seeing all the Family teens there getting out of themselves and screaming "Revolution for Jesus" with the three fingers, wondering if somehow they got it wrong with the normal two fingers sign for peace. But



Noah doing a skit for the Taichung and Taipei club members and AMs



Amber, Joyce and Ken (AM) during a united game at the Taichung Club

before long, they were introduced to what that sign *really* meant. We weren't crazy after all, phew!

All that to say, it was successful and a wonderful way for us to get out of ourselves and unite. Thank you, Johnny, Nat, Noah, Amber, and all you other organizers who helped to make it possible. What a Family!

# homeschooling corner

## Juggling and teaching

BY SUSANNA, BRAZIL

Almost everyone has seen at a circus or elsewhere a juggling act. Isn't it amazing how the juggler can juggle so many things at once? He has balls flying through the air, rings on his arms and legs and sometimes even a dish on a stick twirling on his head! Well, when he first started out, he had to begin by mastering one thing at a time.

In many ways this is similar to teaching. You can't master everything at once, you have to start with one thing at a time. Once you master one, then you can go on to the next, and sooner or later you'll have your own juggling act!

Should I explain? So you have a bunch of kids. Maybe you have a whole group of them—from younger kids to JETTs or junior teens, or maybe just several around the same age, but they are on such different levels scholastically. What do you do for school?

There are lots of suggestions and ideas about what to do, but first you have to choose what you *want* to do. Of course, we need to teach all the subjects, but what if you haven't been teaching or just can't seem to manage all of this?

If you can teach anything all together (for example, science or social studies) it's a plus, but if not, there are other ways. One thing that will help is seeing exactly what each child can do with minimum supervision, and what will require your full attention (as a teacher) to help the child. This will let you have some of the kids work on their workbooks (or do some work they can do on their own), and you give one individual your full attention (or should I say, most of your attention). Then you can rotate each child according to the time and need.

Begin with one subject for each child that requires your full supervision and work on that. Be consistent and after a while you will see that things move into a routine and it will be easier. Then that's when you can add another subject. It's like juggling—soon you'll find that you have a lot of balls you are juggling and none are falling! Bravo!

I've found when things get too stressed or I've tried to take on too much, to go back and give things like coloring activities (for the smaller ones), and working on spelling words or math tables (memory work) is great for the

older ones. If you don't have anything up your sleeve, then things can take a toll. A secret is making a routine and being consistent in it. This helps you to establish order with the kids and allows you to juggle the different kids and their subjects. Once you have established this routine, then you can (every now and then) throw it out the window and do something real different!

## The CVC certificates work!

BY SARAH, SEA

Here the authorities are getting stricter with the requirements for teachers. Most of our full-time missionaries teach English here for one day a week; this way they are able to obtain very good visas to stay in the country for a year at a time.

Now schools are requiring a bachelor's degree before hiring anyone to teach English in the schools (which hardly any of the FGAs have!). Recently two of our SGAs applied at a local school for a teaching job, one with a CLE high school certificate and one with a CVC high school certificate, and also both of them had "Teaching English as a Second Language" CVC certificate. At first we were told the paperwork would take a long time, as it had to go to a higher board to approve the paperwork, as they did not have a bachelor's degree.

Then about a week later we heard they had been accepted only because they had "Teaching English as a Second Language" included in their portfolio. They had accepted the CVC certificate in place of a bachelor's degree!

What a wonderful proof that we have the best to offer! We just have to be able to present it in the right way.

## Does SOS issue official diplomas?

ANSWER BY ALPHA OMEGA

We do not issue official certificates unless the student has been enrolled in our accredited academy. We do have diplomas available for purchase; however, these are not official, the parent fills them in for private use only. We can provide invoices of purchases. We do have an online academy that handles international accounts. The registration fee is \$100. This includes testing and placing. The tuition for this academy is \$900 for grades 3–6,

\$1,000 for grades 7–8, and \$1,100 for grades 9–12. This includes the curriculum.

You can visit the academy Web site at [www.welcometoclass.com](http://www.welcometoclass.com) for more information on this. Your student can earn official credits and receive a diploma if all credits are fulfilled. This would be something you would need to discuss with the academy directly.

## Back up your computer schoolwork!

BY PRAISE, ROMANIA

Dany's computer crashed and he lost his SOS schoolwork, and he didn't have a backup. So we learned a very important lesson. If you do SOS school via CD on computer, be sure you have it backed up, or you have to start your whole year from the beginning again, as you cannot start in the middle.

The Lord helped us to find a solution, but it would have been best and simpler if from the beginning we had been faithful to backup his work.

## Math and language arts—the basis for science and social studies

BY LOVE, TAIWAN

Math and language arts can be more work for some, but they are the basis for science and social studies. After we've had our Word time, I have my students work on math as the first school topic of the day, when it is easier for them to concentrate. It took awhile to get used to, but now they know that they just start with math. Then they go on to language arts, next comes science and social studies. It is easier to catch up on science and social studies if one gets behind, than the other subjects.

I read that one weak point of homeschoolers is math because it takes more discipline. Even though I am not a great math person, I've always stressed math. However, I didn't like math when I was in elementary school, so it gives me more of a heart for the poor student who feels stuck on one problem. Personally, I recommend that teachers add daily math drill work to their curriculum. Drill work pages/books can be bought in a local bookstore, even in the local language, or made at home. The daily time slot for

it can be really short, but if kept daily it pays off in the end.

When it comes to creation science, I've found some fabulous Web sites on this subject, and they are exciting to teach with. My husband used them with our kids during the summer. Here is one that we found interesting about the dinosaur mystery: <http://www.christiananswers.net>.

[Editor: Please keep in mind if you view such sites as this one that is suggested, that not all that is included or taught on the site (especially the overall christiananswers.net) is always in line with the truth of the Word that we have in the Family. The Lord has given us

*so much above and beyond what the normal Christian believes and is taught, so please be prayerful, and ask the Lord's counsel on any site you choose to peruse.]*

## New schoolroom set up

BY MICAH 6:8, THAILAND

This past month we were able to buy two new computer desks and two nice combination shelves/drawers for our schoolroom. We also took one day to purge a lot of unnecessary things out, consolidate, paint, and rearrange things so that now our main classroom looks *much* nicer, more like a proper

schoolroom. We've also been able to make progress on our children's portfolios, which is a result of Tiago and Leah's visit a while back.

## FED/CP progress

BY MARIE (OF BYRON), PHILIPPINES

It's been a blessing to receive the videos from the Thai CP/FED meetings and be able to see and benefit from them. I was very inspired to have a meeting with Joy from the FED and Maria (of Simon) where we were able to see some of the videos with the moms and work on our portfolios together. It's persecution prep progress.



**Healing key:** Heaven's gift of healing is at your disposal as you call on the keys. Use the keys, and you will be blessed to see the miracles that I have promised through their power.

## Testimonies of Answered Prayer

**Anah Renee (YA), Albania:** I asked for prayer for a nasty skin problem that I've had all over my head ever since I was nine. I caught it from a sick animal that had it, and no matter what I tried, it had never healed up completely. It's stayed the same for over nine years now. I must admit I didn't have much faith that it would actually heal, but I guess the Lord had mercy, because it did get healed! One of the guys here has the gift of healing and we all prayed together for it too.

I forgot about it for around a week, until one day I felt one spot that has always been the worst infected of all and it was clear. The trace remained for a few more weeks, but now I don't have a spot on my head that's not perfectly clear. It's definitely a miracle of the keys because there's just no other explanation for it!

**Carina, Croatia:** Thanks to all the prayers and the power of the keys, Carina hasn't had any more asthma attacks! She's also healed from her bronchitis, and the Lord is daily giving her more and more strength. Thanks to all who prayed for her!

## Asia

**Polish Matthew (of Magda):** After having a heart operation when I was three, my heart has always been weak; however, now it looks like I'll need a double heart-pace-maker in order to sustain my heartbeat, as otherwise, the doctors say my heart might stop altogether.

Please pray for complete healing of my heart, so that I don't need an operation or a

pacemaker. Or if the Lord indicates that I do need one, that He will lead me to the right hospital and doctors and also supply the finances I'll need for both the operation and the pacemaker. Thank you so much for your prayers!

## Europe and Africa

**Diamond:** PG with her eighth child, and the doctor diagnosed her with placenta previa. Please pray that the placenta will move to the right place and that she won't have any complications. For a natural delivery.

**Joy (of Tim), Tanzania:** Most of us in our Home have had malaria, causing many of us to get rundown and weak. A few have had secondary infections in their lungs and throat and when we asked the Lord about it, He told us that the Enemy is very mad at our Home for being in here and reaching the people of this country. Please pray for a complete renewal of strength and healing through the keys.

**Masha:** PG. Has had problems with her kidneys in her childhood, and she's been fine since then, but during recent pregnancies has started to have kidney problems again. Please pray that the Lord will help her kidneys to work properly and that it won't cause any problems in her pregnancy. For total healing.

**Michael:** Several years ago doctors found out about a serious problem in my eyes and suggested I have a laser operation to lessen the problem. At the time, the Lord showed me to trust Him and stand on His promises. I decided not to go for the operation, and sent my prayer request to the prayer list at the time, and I'd like to thank everybody for your prayers, as the Lord has kept my eyes safe till this day.

Recently I went for another checkup on my eyes, and though that particular ailment hasn't progressed, there is now an erosion of the eye tissue. The doctors are suggesting I have an operation, as this problem is more serious. Please do pray for a complete healing, and for faith to follow how the Lord wants to lead me next in regards to the operation. My eyes are very sore, and it limits what I can do.

**Noelle (7, of Steve and Ruth):** Noelle is scheduled for more treatment on her cysts in her neck and also laser surgery on her tongue. Please pray that the treatment and surgery will go well; for wisdom in all the decisions that need to be made, and Noelle's grace for it.

**Victor (18, of Luke and Joy):** Involved in a car accident, sustained numerous cuts on his legs, and about 30 stitches in all. One of the cuts severed a nerve so that he is not able to make certain movements, and it's been difficult for him learning to walk again. Pray that the Lord raises up a good doctor to give Victor all the help and therapy and advice he needs (he may need a small operation on the leg as well) and that the Lord will completely heal him, so that he can walk properly.

## North America

**Clare (20):** Recovering from a third reconstructive surgery. Complete healing of her leg and also her foot, which is partially paralyzed because nerves were damaged during a previous surgery.

## South America

**Angie (of Simon):** Emergency surgery after a burst fallopian tube pregnancy. She had already had a transfusion and full anesthesia in a misdiagnosed treatment of the symptoms, so she is in very serious condition now, after more general anesthesia and transfusions. Pray for her miraculous recovery and also for a favorable financial arrangement in view of the previous intervention being due to an incorrect diagnosis.

**Margie's (of Jerry) Home:** Three children in our Home have scarlet fever. Only one had a pretty serious case, but we have 13 children (12 years old and younger) plus three babies and six teens, who are most at risk. Scarlet fever is very contagious and can be very serious, so please pray for quick deliverance and for light cases for those who may still come down with it.

**Tyndale:** The retina of his left eye is dislocated and the doctors told him that he won't have sight in that eye anymore. For miraculous healing of his eye through the keys.

## **When all seemed lost...**

BY THE CALCUTTA DEAF HOME, INDIA

On Tuesday morning at 8 AM, we received a call. "Sorry, sir," the man calling said, "but we cannot give your team the permit for Nagaland."

Thirty minutes later a second call: "I don't think we can help you with the free accommodations after all." Which was followed by a third call. "My friend told me she cannot help you with the accommodations or with helping to arrange your program."

The fourth call came in five minutes later. "Are you the former COG?" asked the caller. After affirming the question, the anonymous caller said to not come to Dimapur, as that group had a bad name and would not be received well by the churches and schools. They wanted to keep themselves "pure." So better not go through the trouble and come all the way to Nagaland.

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### **"My daughter grew up with the Kiddie Viddies. She knows them all by heart!"**

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Discouraged by this string of calls, we questioned if we'd been wrong and had not heard clearly what the Lord had told us about going to Nagaland. "Didn't You tell us that it would be fruitful? That we should go?" I prayed in desperation. My eyes fell on the quote in our bathroom: "Only He can see all the hidden factors in the equation." That helped to calm me down a bit. Out came our prophecy books, but again He told us to still go, but to go in quietly, hear more from Him on all the details, try another way to get our permits, and to be prepared to answer controversial questions. So we did!

Three weeks later we entered Nagaland, quietly, like He'd said. First one team of three adults, one teen, and one JETT, followed a few days later by the mothers and younger children.

The first team had already been able to give out 50 tapes in a few days. We had openings to give seminars and most people we met were thankful and happy to meet us. The magazines went like hotcakes. Subscriptions were coming in. The mornings were mostly devoted to seminars and in the afternoon the adults went DTD with the kids.

When going DTD we came across a family who had lost their son one week earlier. The wife was crying uncontrollably in the back room. I asked the husband if she could come so I could pray for her. She was brought in, and as I put my hand on her and started praying for her,

she calmed down. I showed her some verses from the Bible, which was a great comfort to her, shared some stories, and gave her a *Glimpses of Heaven*. Before leaving she said, "I believe God brought you today." How happy I was we had listened to Him and not given up. Moments like those made it worth it all.

One day Aaron and his team met a lady who had cancer. The team put their prayer power to work and the lady told them that God sent them to pray for her. The lady's 14-year-old daughter was delighted to meet us. "My daughter grew up with the *Kiddie Viddies*. She knows them all by heart!" the mother exclaimed! She then bought many of our newer tools. Luis decided to go in to a church, and although met by some antagonistic people, one person sincerely wanted to know who we were, in spite of what he had heard.

A touching event after one seminar was the reaction of the kids. It was a poorer school and we had ended our show with a skit of Sophie. They prayed and then gave us an envelope with some money they had collected. They had gotten the point and already put into practice what they had just learned!

The following week we went up to Kohima, the capital of Nagaland. Quietly again. We had not set up any shows there and called one principal, Mr. A., who came to see us right away. He happened to be the president of an organization for all the schools. He said he would set up a lot of programs for us. Wow!

The first program was at Mr. A.'s school, and he was very happy with our program and bought almost everything we had brought with us. We would do another show a few days later for the younger ones, since there hadn't been enough space for the whole school to view our show.

The second time we came, he acted a bit different. He asked Paul for a copy of all the different magazines he was giving out at the back, and while we were doing our program Mr. A. thoroughly studied each one carefully. It looked like he'd received a negative call. When we asked him to subscribe, he said he wanted to look through all our books to see if they were Scriptural. Just a few days earlier we had heard through a friend that the ones who had told us not to come were planning to put a negative article about us in the newspaper. We were ready for a fight! At that time the Lord told us to have a prayer day and to not do anything yet, but to keep ministering to our friends and strengthening them.

Thankfully, Mr. A. continued to set up programs for us. Each school gave us a beautiful letter of thanks. Here are some comments:

"The program deserves special mention for its spiritual and moral values."

"We are privileged to meet such wonderful people who spread the fragrance of love and peace."

"The children of Baptist High and Northfield are much benefited from the easy to understand messages in songs and skits."

"We were even more blessed to have young children singing and playing creative skits which carried meanings and insights for us."

Our dear friend T. stood up to our enemies, telling them not to hinder our ministry and not print the article. They decided not to. However, the day after we left Nagaland, *The Nagaland Post* printed a short editorial about our four-week stay in Nagaland. It was negative, based on Deborah's book, and urging people not to entertain us in their houses and schools, also questioning if we were real Christians. However, the introduction was positive, as they couldn't deny that our shows and seminars were full of happy songs, skits, etc., performed by a happy bunch of kids.

It was printed the day after we arrived back in Calcutta and with the help of the media desk, we rebutted it with a 14-page article, wondering if they would print it in the first place, let alone the whole thing.

The editor—a church leader—was skeptical on the phone and did not want to say whether he was going to print it. However, we've since heard that they had already used parts of our article in three editions, and would continue every Sunday till all 14 pages were printed.

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### **"We are privileged to meet such wonderful people who spread the fragrance of love and peace."**

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The Lord had told us to go in quietly, and our dear friend who stood firm through it all and stood up for us said: "Well, next time you can't come quietly anymore!"

Was the Lord right when He said we were going to be fruitful? Yes!—1,200 magazines, 34 subscriptions, 250 tapes, 64 VCDs, and lots of *Activated* books distributed! And 3,700 souls saved, many people prayed for, precious people met, and two girls ready to join as well! Due to the article, our mass witness of 46,310 was upped to 100,000, thanks to *The Nagaland Post*.

Did the Lord see all the hidden factors in the equation? Yes. He knew all the victories He had in store, in spite of some seeming defeats and delays at the beginning.

## PRAYER VIGIL IDEAS

BY MARY, EUROPE

In light of us all working towards being more faithful with our 30-minute daily prayer vigil and spending time for our loved ones in intercessory prayer, here are a few ideas and suggestions that have been a help to me in getting some variety in my prayer vigil times.

- Take an atlas (or a map) and go around the world and pray for the people you know there, pushes and projects you've read about in the *Grapevines*, etc. You'd be surprised how much time you can spend praying for just a few countries. I did this for one week of prayer vigils, covering a different continent every day.
- Sit down at your computer with the keys promises files and read

through a few sections of keys, adapting your prayers to fit the situation the keys promise is referring to (rather than the other way around, of looking for a key to go with your prayer). Try the same with your *Memory Book*.

- Divide your 30 minutes into three ten-minute slots, each one to cover a different topic for prayer.
- Look at your to-do list and say a prayer for everything on there.
- Have one day a week that you dedicate to specific, detailed prayer for your children, grandchildren, relatives, and close friends in the Family.
- Take the latest *Grapevine* or a recent testimony *FSM* and pray for the people, situations, and countries you read about.

- Have one day a week when you pray for each individual in your Home, your friends and contacts, your Home's needs, any pushes you're working on in the Home (follow-up or *Activated*, unity, a memory push, etc.).
- Walking prayer vigils: Go for a one-hour walk and include your prayer vigil during this time. If you're somewhere quiet you can also sing softly (or in your heart), take some praise time and Loving Jesus time, and even ask the Lord for answers to questions, etc.
- Post a short prayer vigil list next to your bed, and change it once a week, that way you can do a few minutes of prayer vigil every night and morning when you first wake up and before you go to bed.

## The “Adam” Files

***Groundbreaking study on adolescent courtship rituals in the seventies reveals ... um ... lots of ... er ... different things!***

BY DAVID KOMIC, THAILAND

Recently, during the course of some research, I came across Kevin Kanwayte's (Kanway... huh? ... OH! ... I get it! Kan Wait!! ... Like CAN WAIT!) groundbreaking article on pneumatic drills. (Get it? Pneumatic drill? Groundbreaking?) Actually, it was his groundbreaking article in *Xn* #16 (“Local Stud Rethinks Female Acquisition Strategy”) on guys and the WFS (Walking Funny Syndrome) or WFIAETIGS (Walking Funny in an Effort to Impress Girls Syndrome) that grabbed my attention. I was stunned.

I posed myself the following questions: “Why am I posing questions to myself?” “Is anyone watching?” and “Did I have WFS when I and other FGA guys was/were an/some adolescent/adolescents?”

To explore these questions I decided to employ the extremely scientific method of TRHTR (Trying *Really* Hard to Remember) and came up with some startling findings. No, back then we didn't have WFS. I personally am SURE that I DIDN'T succumb at any time—no way!—to altering MY perambulatory pedestrianizations in any effort to impress members of the opposite sex.

Things were A LOT different when I was an adolescent.

But the question still remained: Even if WFS was unheard of back then, did adolescent guys in the seventies undergo any kind of strange behavioral transformations when coming within a 10-mile radius of adolescent girls?

To find the answer we must explore “adolescent courting rituals in the seventies.” I want to talk to you about the part that I—as an adolescent—played in adolescent courting rituals in the seventies, in the hope that it may be a help to the roughly one to two percent of adolescents who may be possibly even remotely interested in the topic of adolescent courting rituals.

When I became an adolescent I discovered that I was absolutely irresistible to women who shamelessly threw themselves at me wherever I went (in a completely non-gender-stereotypical, politically correct, non-sexist way). I attributed this mainly to my Beatles haircut, and the large amounts of “heavy metal” orthodontic equipment in my mouth (“We have the technology! We can rebuild him!”), as well as an *extremely* fertile hormone-powered imagination.

I was not safe on the streets. Women would accost me as if I was their sole hope of the very continuation of the entire human race. I remember many a time fleeing for my very LIFE as highly procreation-focused women pursued me (in an *extremely* non-gender-stereotypical, politically correct, non-sexist way), tearing the very shirt off my bronzed be-muscled back. . . .

Then I woke up.

This dream recurred every night for the entire duration of my adolescent years.

My real waking-hours life, however, was a marked contrast. Oh, I was still absolutely irresistible to women, yes! But in REAL LIFE women showed an incredible, almost superhuman amount of self-control and restraint around me. In fact, women would show SUCH iron-willed, superhuman self-control and restraint when around me (despite the flames of passion and desire burning within them) that I deduced that they could only be playing “Hard-to-Get” (one of the most exasperating of all human courtship rituals of the seventies known to man).

But I soon learned that, no, women weren't playing hard to get. They were playing *impossible* to get! And it didn't take long for me to realize why.

It was because of the disease. Frozen Mouth Disease (FMD).

To be continued...



David Komic

# entertainment

Movies Rated for YAs and Up

## **ANTWONE FISHER (2001)**

Denzel Washington, Derek Luke

A sailor prone to violent outbursts is sent to a naval psychiatrist for help. Through the guidance of his doctor, he confronts his painful past. (Cautionary note: This movie includes scenes dealing with issues of child abuse.)

(Jesus:) This drama provides good insight into the hearts of those who are caged in bitterness, hate, frustration, shame and a lack of love. It's based on a true story, and is indicative of the lives of many poor folks today. Though it is in the vein of thinking mainly of the black underdog ghetto children, this same sadness and mistreatment prevails now around the world.

This movie has substance and good lessons on honesty, facing your fears and overcoming the past. There's a lot to reflect on, especially if you're facing hard times and need to get over issues and situations. It can be done, but it takes being honest and being willing to do the "hard" things.

The main character talks to a psychiatrist, but if you're open with Me and bring your doubts and hurts to Me, I can bring about your healing even quicker.

People who are sensitive to child abuse themes, or those who had a particularly difficult childhood, might find this movie depressing. Even though the victories were worth the fight, for some people the general theme and reflections back to his childhood might not be the best viewing. Pray and ask Me specifically if this is the movie for you.

This movie should make you thankful for the wonderful lives you all lead compared to the poor people out there, like this young man, who have suffered so much, yet they have nothing and no one to turn to, and so like him become angry, violent and full of frustration and hatred. At least he found someone who could help him, and who in turn he also helped. It is a beautiful movie about helping someone reach his full potential and be all that he could.

You, My children, are greatly blessed and protected and surrounded with an aura of love and peace and purity, so it's sometimes easy to forget what others have to suffer through, and not only that, but they have to face their trials and heartbreaks all alone.

There are so, so many broken hearts in your dark and discouraging world. This movie should convict you and motivate you to reach out and to love all those who I put across your way. Pray for wisdom when witnessing to people who have deep hurts, and I can show you how to help them see that they can rise above and forgive and love and gain the ability to receive love.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

## **THE TRUTH ABOUT CHARLIE (2002)**

Mark Wahlberg, Thandie Newton

Artsy suspense/thriller. A woman returns home from a vacation to find that her husband is dead, and several people seem to be after her. (Remake of the film *Charade* with Cary Grant and Audrey Hepburn.)

(Jesus:) This movie has an intriguing plot that keeps you guessing, with twists and turns along the way. Those of you who have lived in Paris might find it especially interesting as it was filmed there. While this movie doesn't necessarily have "lessons" that you could apply, it's decent entertainment, without foul language, which is a plus, and the violence isn't anything gross or gory or gratuitous. Of course the plot is not entirely believable and not true-to-life, but that is the case with the majority of the movies these days.

## **JOHNNY STECCHINO (1991)**

Roberto Benigni, Nicoletta Braschi

A good-hearted but not very worldly-wise school bus driver finds himself in a series of unexpected situations and a victim of mistaken identity. (In Italian with English subtitles)

(Jesus:) This movie is cute, funny in parts, and while it doesn't have a lot of message, it is sweet and good for some laughs. It is a bit offbeat, but nonetheless fine to view for those who would like to see it. It's a simple story, and is simply made.

Movies Rated FOR OCs and Up

## **DINOTOPIA (2002)**

Erik von Detten, Shiloh Strong, Georgina Rylance

Six-hour miniseries about a pair of teenaged half brothers who crashed their father's plane into the ocean and were washed ashore on an uncharted continent, a hidden civilization where human beings and dinosaurs peacefully

co-exist. (Mixture of live action and animation.)

(Jesus:) This is a fantasy and imaginary story, but through this movie that will probably appeal to many children, the author was able to give insight into the life of some young people learning lessons of yieldedness and humility, of facing their fears and not giving up, of obedience and trust, about perseverance. It is a well-done movie, fun and full of adventure and action, and also done in a positive way.

You must filter out the usual allusion to evolution and some New Age concepts, and help your children filter these out, but you can build on the principle that My light is what keeps things alive and well. Without My light, the world would die. To keep My light bright, you must dig in the Word and fight the Enemy.

## OTHER MOVIES

### **BASIC (2002)**

John Travolta, Samuel L. Jackson

A DEA agent investigates the disappearance of a legendary army ranger drill sergeant and several of his cadets during a training exercise gone severely awry.

(Dad:) This movie has quite a plot with so many twists and turns and replays of the same flashback scenes from many different people's perspectives that it's very difficult to keep up with all that is happening. It's certainly a mind-bender, and you're not sure who the good guys or bad guys are.

The main motive of the movie seems to be to play games with the audience by trying to take the most likely unexpected twist, but there gets to be so many unexpected turns that you don't have time to even think if they are plausible or not.

It doesn't really have any moral value or meaning. It also has some rough language as well as graphic scenes, so it wouldn't be good for those who are sensitive along those lines.

God is not the author of confusion, and when you walk away from a movie feeling more confused about the story and plot than when you began, then it's not really worth your time. While this movie and the acting and story are enjoyable to a certain extent, it isn't even worth trying to figure out the plot because ultimately, it doesn't really all fit together or make much sense.

## TIPS ON SCHEDULING

BY ANGELA (OF STEVEN), CROATIA

Back in the good old days of the maxi combos, scheduling was of utmost importance, scrupulously and faithfully done by one or more of the teamworkers. Then, with the advent of smaller Homes, it seemed that the schedule was one of the first things to be discarded, and for a while we survived without it, more or less.

A couple of years ago, after having gone through various stages of no schedule, too much schedule, addiction to schedule, throwing away the schedule, half-hearted scheduling, one day I got convicted to pick up this lost art again. I did some studying on the subject, and realized how much calmer and happier everyone is in the Home if there's a good schedule, not to mention how much more we can accomplish for the Lord. I'd daresay that the schedule is one of the things that can make or break a Home, and is responsible for a good part of the Home's fruitfulness.

These are a few practical tips from our Home:

\* More and more we've been learning the importance of scheduling and planning ahead. We went from barely making the schedule the night before for the following day, to planning a whole week ahead, and for the past two years to even having a yearly planner posted on the wall. This is not so we can preplan and decide everything ahead of time in a routine, dry and unchangeable way, LHU, but so that we can learn the value of time, assess our responsibilities, and see our goals and commitments clearly.

Things are always subject to changes, but it's easier to make changes when you have a basic framework rather than just nothing or confusion to work on. We have a very busy Home, with lots of activities, trips, visitors coming, etc., so seeing all these things on a planner helps us to make more prayerful and mature decisions. It's not so effective if only a few people in the Home are aware of upcoming activities and obligations, even though naturally at first it may be only the few more involved and motivated to push things and be constantly aware of them, but slowly it spreads.

\* We have regular outreach meetings where we pray about and plan activities, retreats, shows, etc., trying to catch the vision for these events at least three or four months ahead.

Our Home meets every Sunday night for a planning meeting for the coming week. We have a weekly schedule, and on that night the main events get filled

out, following a checklist for the "constant factors" such as Home meetings, night activities, CVC, local language classes, pickups, witnessing teams, Bible classes, prayer day, W&R days, devotions, etc.

Then we write down any other fixed appointments, such as follow-up, doctor visits, trips, and shows (some of this info comes from the yearly planner).

We also decide together on major todos, such as handyman jobs or any deep cleaning that needs to be done, and place it in the weekly schedule.

After deciding the "big stones" we start filling the small ones, such as daily JJT, cooking, childcare (in our case we don't have a lot of kids, so in a bigger childcare situation this could very well be a "big stone" instead), and the other small details of the daily running of the Home.

The difference is that instead of getting lost in little details, we start off with

the big picture, the vision, the main reason why we are here, and then the rest follows. It's much easier for all to do their part and sacrifice if they can see the overall plan and why certain duties are needed.

\* While filling out the daily schedule, it's helpful to have a list of the personnel handy, especially if you have a good-sized Home. It's amazing otherwise how sometimes you can completely forget a person! Going down the list person by person I also try to make sure everyone has their precious private Word time, no one is too free or overworked (although you can't always tell by the schedule how much people work, as some go above the call of duty, GBT!).

It's interesting and at the same time a responsibility to administer people's time, at least basically, but it's for sure worth the time!

## HELP WANTED

**O**ver the past four years we have sent out a number of prayer requests for protection from rebel attacks that have been aimed at the present Liberian government. At different times the rebels have gotten so close to the capital that we have been able to hear the sound of heavy gunfire and mortar explosions.

Since the beginning of this year the situation in Liberia has worsened, where recently an internal displacement camp was attacked by government forces disguised as rebels, to loot and steal provisions. This was done because the president doesn't pay his soldiers or police for months and months at a time. So the capital is being squeezed into a very desperate situation.

Recently, through prophecy the Lord has told us that He would soon have us leave Liberia. Liberia is a very poor and a difficult field to live in, and we have not been able to put aside much of a flee fund. Now that it is time to leave we still find ourselves far short of our goal.

We really need your help with any sort of financial gift you feel you could send us. Our e-mail address is, activatedliberia@yahoo.com.au. Or if you prefer, just send any donations via the TRF to LR1546.

Thank you so much, we would super appreciate any help you could send. Much love and many prayers to you and yours.

**Stephen for the Liberian team**

**W**e are Sam and Samantha, and we have been living and working in the wonderful field of China for three years now. As you know, most of us need to work here for support and for our visas, but after living in the same apartment and working at the same school for three years, we feel we need a change in our situation. We desperately need to have more time available for the sheep and witnessing!

We also want to move nearer to the other Home here, so that we can work closer together with them and have more fellowship. Moving out and working less hours means we'll take a cut in pay and also start paying our own rent. We'll also need to provide our own furnishings. We can't provision here so the Lord has led us to ask you, our dear Family, for help.

Can you help us? Any gifts large or small will go a long way here. You can contact us via PACRO; our Home number is CN637. Please also send us your name and Home number so we can thank you. We could also use your prayers as we make this change.

Love in our loving Mate,  
**Sam and Samantha**

TEAMWORK SOUL SHINERS FOR MARCH 2003	Per Adult	Total
Rosita, Mexico	2,750	5,500
Josue/Maria, Mexico	708	7,076
Pablo Testificador, Ecuador	640	1,280
Andrew/Miracle/Rose, Yugoslavia	284	1,418
Joshua/Lily/Nathaniel, India	214	1,500
Charity/Happy/Joshua, India	168	675
Jose/Ester, Colombia	163	325
Paulo/Celia, Brazil	140	700
Angela/Deborah/Gloria/Michael, Romania	128	511
Galina/Daniel/Ruth, Russia	125	375
<b>POSTER SHINERS FOR MARCH 2003</b>		
Meekness/Philip, Namibia	1,233	3,700
Jeremy/Milah/Sarah, USA	1,072	5,358
<b>Rosita, Mexico</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>1,883</b>
Dan/Hannah/JD/Kathy/Rafael, Mexico	667	6,000
Peniel, Mexico	667	2,000
Andre/Maria/Martin, Mozambique	519	2,597
Heber/Maria/Stephen, Peru	469	3,750
Christian/Maria/Michael, Japan	414	2,488
Dust/Joy/Nathan/Rejoice, Japan	413	2,067
Daniel/Dora/Maria, Kenya	286	2,005
<b>TAPE SHINERS FOR MARCH 2003</b>		
Aneta/Ben/Kelvin/Natalie/Peter, Botswana	380	1,900
Andrew/Esther/Iсаac, So. Africa	151	1,513
David/Dove, United Kingdom	123	370
David/David/Madalena, Brazil	100	300
Claire/Joanna/Joe, Brazil	89	531
Faithy/Lalo/Natalia/Sarah, Mexico	70	419
Sweetie, Mexico	66	131
Nina/Jay, USA	63	190
Dove/Maria/Svieta, Russia	61	429
Andres/Blanca/Sara, Chile	59	235
<b>VIDEO SHINERS FOR MARCH 2003</b>		
Chris/Ginny/Pablo/Paula, USA	107	1,179
Elisabeth/Simeon, Indonesia	40	162
Francesco/Gentleness/Tiago, Brazil	37	258
Charity/Happy/Joshua, India	35	140
Faithy/Lalo/Natalia/Sarah, Mexico	29	171
Estrella C., Colombia	27	54
Emanuel/Joy, Venezuela	24	97
Dove/Maria/Svieta, Russia	21	149
Pablo/Paciencia/Samuel/Sara, Mexico	21	106
Alissa/Ivan/Virginia, Russia	18	71

## Activated Quarterly Report

TEAMWORK ACTIVATED! SHINERS FOR JANUARY TO MARCH 2003	Per Adult	Total
Aaron/Becky/Lisa, Tanzania	3,500	14,000
Joy/Matthias/Mike/Tiago, Brazil	1,448	11,583
<b>Rose/Shine/Timothy, USA</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>9,817</b>
Aneta/Ben/Kelvin/Natalie/Peter, Botswana	780	3,900
Charity/Happy/Joshua, India	560	2,600
Joan/Joy/Simon, Nigeria	480	3,360
Shemaiyah, USA	437	437
Dominic/Paloma/Rose, United Kingdom	377	3,018
Dulce/Matthew/Perola, Brazil	367	1,100
Angelo/Crystal/David/Dawn/Peter, USA	352	3,163
<b>BOOK SHINERS FOR JANUARY TO MARCH 2003</b>		
Charity/Happy/Joshua, India	1,023	4,940
João/Clara, Brazil	760	2,280
Jan/Maria/Paul, Nigeria	628	2,510
Apollos/Priscilla/Tiago, Brazil	564	2,888
Meekness Nightengale, United Kingdom	351	701
Amaris, Russia	320	639
Abner/Delight, Italy	231	895
Abigail Helper, India	219	428
Faithy/Lalo/Natalia/Sarah, Mexico	216	1,293
Peter Livingstone, Indonesia	200	1,001

TRACT SHINERS FOR JANUARY TO MARCH 2003	Per Adult	Total
Heber/Maria/Stephen, Peru	10,513	96,450
Crystal/Leyland/Spring, So. Africa	9,786	69,000
Gideon Servant, Italy	4,500	4,500
Maria Fiel, Mexico	3,901	37,782
Carole/Daniel/Nora, So. Africa	3,750	15,000
Christian/Maria/Michael, Japan	3,595	14,854
Eric/Ester, USA	3,417	12,000
Charity/Happy/Joshua, India	3,000	12,000
Angela/Anthony/Michaela/Talitha, So. Africa	2,745	24,260
Abel, Japan	2,633	7,898

## "Mottos" in Holland

BY CEPHAS, TURKEY (TEMPORARILY IN HOLLAND)

It's been a wonderful feeling to be part of the Muslim ministry in European countries where there is such a large population of Muslims. Though we missed the chance to supply companies with calendars for the New Year as company presentations, since most substantial companies place these orders four to six months in advance, we found a demand and vacuum for the calendars in places we had never thought of—in prisons and asylum centers for immigrants.

Immigrants are a hot topic in European politics and everyday life. I read a newspaper article that mentioned that a major percentage of prison inmates are immigrants and often speak Arabic and other languages including Turkish. I got in touch with three organizations that visit prisons and offered Arabic and Turkish "Mottos." The response was quite enthusiastic. One businessman who visits prisons in Belgium for about 20 hours a week mentioned the difficulty he encounters in trying to minister to Muslim immigrants, so explaining a calendar geared toward Muslims was an eye opener for these people, as usually they distribute churchy stuff, mostly too evangelical, and the Muslims just stay away. There are organizations that honestly do good work in prisons, but they are really at a loss when it comes to Muslims.

Within no time we were in contact with people who have jail ministries and who wanted the calendars. Many of them had special programs and visits before Christmas, so for them this was a Godsend. One organization told us they had already distributed all the calendars and wanted more.

Holland also has around 70 asylum centers for immigrants. I visited a couple of them and they are wonderful places for witnessing. In one place I stayed for three and a half hours giving calendars to people from Sudan, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Armenia, and other countries. I was quite surprised how many people speak Arabic.

## More "Mottos" raves

BY MATTHEW GREEK, GREECE

We got very good reactions from the public both for the "Mottos" in Greek and *The Christmas Secret* in Greek. People absolutely loved them and have asked for more. One lady who saw one of them on my brother's desk exclaimed: "These are words full of wisdom! Can I please have it? It doesn't matter if it's last year's!"

## Personals

Hi, Joe! Just saw you in a recent *FSM* and would like to reestablish contact. I was visiting from Russia and knew you briefly in California. Write me at: Bushfire16@yahoo.com. Joanna (Australian)

Noelle looking for Anita (in Nepal) who was fundraising in New York City with me about two years ago. Please write me, girlie, at Stormswift12@yahoo.com.

## letters to the editor

### Re: "Pray" section in *Grapevines*

BY TENDER JOY, ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

I wanted to write and say thank you so much for printing the answered prayers! We now are having intercessory prayers much more regularly and on a more private, personal, day-to-day basis, and the brethren who are on the prayer list somehow become so much closer to me as I pray for them often. Sometimes I wonder how they are doing, how it's going for them, etc. They become part of the closer circle of people I am concerned about.

Then when seeing testimonies of answered prayer such as healing, or whatever the prayer request is about, I get so happy and thankful, like, "Wow, they are healed! Prayer works!" I see, though, that even if we don't see or hear about immediate results to our prayers, we have to continue to pray. God's delays are not denials. He has His perfect timing for everything.

**Demonstration photos on the MO site.** Check out the MO site for more photos on the Prague and D.C. peace rallies that the Family in those areas participated in! [http://www.familymembers.com/artphotos/thms.php?cat\\_id=124](http://www.familymembers.com/artphotos/thms.php?cat_id=124) and [http://www.familymembers.com/artphotos/thms.php?cat\\_id=98](http://www.familymembers.com/artphotos/thms.php?cat_id=98)