

Being happy doesn't mean everything's perfect. It means you've decided to see beyond the imperfections.

## Notice on the Renewal

By Mama

Dear Family,

I love you each dearly! This is a very short note, but an important one.

You've all heard a little bit about the renewal from the "Forward, Always Forward!" GN, and likely many of you are already talking about it amongst yourselves. We're working right now on GNs for the renewal—which will include a special GN about how to explain the renewal to your children. We're trying to get these to you as fast as we can, but in the meantime I just want to remind you to please speak positively about the renewal, especially if conversing in front of your children or talking with them about it.

The ideal would be that you don't share the details of the renewal with your children or try to explain it to them until you receive the counsel we'll be sending you about it in the GNs. But if you have already mentioned things to them, or if they've overheard adult conversations, from this point on, please speak positively. Even if you're not feeling that positive about it yourself, please don't say anything negative to your children. In the long run, you're going to make things more difficult for you and your children if you get on a negative channel, because you won't be giving them the Lord's perspective—which, as you'll soon see, is extremely positive and inspiring.

Thank you so much for your patience, and for speaking faith and being positive—not just for your own sake, but for the sake of our precious children. And thank you for your prayers that we'll be able to finalize the GNs on the renewal soon, so that you'll be able to benefit from the tremendous jewels and counsel our Husband has poured forth.

Much love,  
Mama

## Further Info on Book Printing

BY THE WS LAYOUT DEPARTMENT

We've recently received a few questions from Homes who are organizing their libraries, binding loose pubs, or in the process of moving, who have asked if it would be possible to know what issue numbers the soon coming books will go up to, so that they can purge those extra pubs in the meantime.

We aren't able to give you a complete tally of all the books we're working on getting to you, since some are not yet completed, and others may not make it to you in *this* book printing, because of time and cost constraints. However, here is a run down on some of the books that will be printed for your reference:

### First batch of books:

*(These books are printed and should be coming to you shortly.)*

**Blade book:** Issues 1–21

**HTK books 2 and 3:** Issues 33–107

**linkUP book:** Issues 1–15

**MLK books 2, 3, and 4:** Issues 37–145

**Xn book 1:** Issues 1–16

There will be a number of *Lifelines* books included in the second batch of books as well (DV printed at the end of the year), but we don't yet know how many we'll be able to complete before the second batch is sent. *Lifelines* books 25–29 are in the works, and these cover up to GN 1001.

We are working on putting together *Eve* and *Kidland* books which will cover the first 30 issues or so of each magazine, and we will try to have these printed in this second batch as well.

As for the *Heaven's Library* books, they are being put together a little differently than other books. The stories have been divided by age groups (one YC book, two MC books, and, Lord willing, one or two OC books). Therefore the books don't cover a particular numbering of *HL* mags. These books will include the stories from most mags, up to the more current *HL* issues, or however many we can fit in.

Please continue to keep the book project in your prayers. Thanks so much! God bless you.

## "READ THIS! It may save your life!"

BY THE WS GP PUBS DEPARTMENT

Well, not *this*, but rather the tract by that title, ha! We've recently made a few small changes to the text of this tract, which is available via the Members Only and Family Web sites. The changes are in regards to the specific diseases mentioned (the tract was originally written during the SARS crisis)—the idea being to broaden its use, and make it more appropriate for both today and continuing on into the future. So take a look! We pray this tract has been and will continue to be of help to you in your witness and getting out the message.

## 12 FOUNDATION STONES TEACHERS' TIP By the International CGO board

### "Introducing the Family" Fact Sheets

If you haven't yet discovered the "Introducing the Family" and "Getting to Know the Family" fact sheets, check them out! You can find them on the MO site, in both text format and in laid out PDF format. The laid-out PDFs are part of the *12 Foundation Stones* Teacher's Supplement, found on the Activated section of the MO site, and are also posted separately on their own under the "Activated Training Course" heading.

These two leaflets are to help explain the Family in terms understandable to sheep, friends, Activated members, and the public in general. They are useful for introducing and explaining the Family to those who are going to take the Activated Training Course, but they have a broader use than that and

could be used with anyone who you are explaining the Family to.

"Introducing the Family" is milky, with pretty much the information that could be found on the Family's GP Web site, and is a good introduction that can be given to people almost as soon as you meet them.

"Getting to know the Family" is meatier, giving a brief explanation of the doctrines that distinguish us such as our extensive use of prophecy, prophets of the Endtime (Dad and Maria), Law of Love, Loving Jesus, persecution from our enemies, etc. You should pray and ask the Lord when would be the right time to present this to your sheep and friends. It would be good to read it with those going through the *12 Foundation Stones*, but they might not be ready for it right at the start.

# "Let's All Be Winners!"

By Melody (SGA), Brazil

This is actually a personal letter that I've been wanting to write to someone who encouraged me and through that encouragement helped me to hold on to my crown and precious calling. To explain a little bit, I live in Brazil, and a little over a year ago a friend invited me into one of those Internet chat sites. I never got into it much, but sometimes would write back and forth with a couple of people, one of these was a fellow SGA who lived in Japan. I explained to him a little bit about the situation in Brazil, and told him I was fighting and trying to do my best.

To be very honest, I was fighting, but not to stay. I was looking for a loophole, a way to get off the hook. I felt like I couldn't keep trying, that the discipleship standard asked of me was too high, the dedication too great. I felt I would never make it; I didn't even have the desire to make it anymore. I wanted to quit. But this was all unknown to my

new chat friend, so he wrote me back. It wasn't long, but what really stood out to me was that he said he was praying for us here in Brazil, that he didn't look down on us, and he would admire anyone who went through that and held on and came out a disciple in the end.

I'm not even sure if I ever wrote him back, as soon after I signed myself out of this chat site, but those words of encouragement and faith stayed with me the rest of those long six months. They stayed with me also in the months that passed while we waited for our reclassification. The Lord used other people, experiences, and challenges to bring me to where I am today, but I can say that that short letter stayed in my heart and helped me to stick. I don't think I told anyone about this, it was something very personal to me, but if you (the person who wrote me) read this, I want to say thank you for your prayers, for your encouragement, and for being the Lord's channel that day.

Our reclassification came on February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2004, and our Home was reclassified FD. I don't want credit or admiration for that, as for one it was the concerted effort of all the Home members, and of course we haven't arrived yet, we just signed into the race. But the difference for me is that now because of the Lord's mercy and this second chance, I have a desire to be a disciple and a winner no matter what the cost or what the Lord asks of me (by His grace).

I hope that writing this can be an encouragement to the person who wrote me, and to all the rest of you to keep fighting and hanging on to your crowns in the Family. If Jesus called us to serve Him, and gave us the opportunity to be in this special elite troop of the End, let's do our best. Let's be the best and give it everything we've got, not necessarily by what category we're in—FM, MM, or FD—but in our hearts and dedication. Let's all be winners!

## Shine On Stats

By the Grapevine

Dear Family,

We love you so much! We can't help but praise our wonderful Lover for all that you do to reach the world with His Words of Life! We are supporting you in our prayers, and know that the Lord will continue to bless you as you do His work.

Over the last few months a number of people have written in with questions regarding the "Shine On" section in the *Grapevine*. Some of these questions were answered previously in *GV #159*, but we're including them here once again with further details.

The main question we've received has been about why a Home's stats have not appeared in the "Shine On," when they technically should've due to the amount distributed. In *GV #159* we wrote, "To streamline the stats processing, per-adult shiner stats are programmatically computed from the stats and population counts in the incoming TeleTRF files. Thus, these charts [Shine On] don't include stats sent in on paper TRFs." So this is one of the main reasons why some of these stats are not listed in a month's final stats tally, as we don't include stats in "Shine On" that are sent in via paper TRFs.

Also as explained in previous GVs, only for those CM (FD) Homes who have at least four voting members and those MM or FM Homes that have at least two adults and two children, are eligible for "Shine On" per-adult shiner stats. The reason for this is that the per-adult average for a Home with only one adult, or a couple of adults with no kids would give it an unfair advantage over larger Homes.

A couple of Homes have written in pointing out that the wrong stat amount was

printed in the *Grapevine*. For example, a month's "Shine On" may list a Home's total number of CDs and tapes distributed as 4,650, but later it's brought to our attention that the correct amount was 465.

To explain this, in the TeleTRF the default value is zero in each field. TeleTRF Home Final 1 (released January 2002, which everyone should be using by now) included an improvement so that if you tab into a field, it selects the *entire* field, so it gets replaced by whatever you type. However, if you click into the field with your mouse, then it goes into insert mode, which means that unless you delete the zero it will be included in the amount you've typed in. In all cases, "what you see is what you get," so please be sure to check that you've entered the correct amount, and that a zero has not accidentally been included in the total. Thank you!

Some have asked why sometimes only one name appears rather than the teamwork. In most cases this is because the Home is FM. The FM TeleTRF does not ask for a teamwork name, as FM Homes are not required to have teamworks. So, the "Shine On" program uses the name in the signature field of the FM TeleTRF.

We pray that these brief explanations help you understand the process a bit better. Thank you for faithfully filling in your monthly stats. You're all doing a wonderful job, and we're happy to be able to put your name in lights for all your hard work and effort to get out our wonderful tools. We love you.

Praising our Husband for you,  
The *Grapevine* team

## LJ #7—Stay by Me

Singer/Music/Lyrics/Producer

### 1) I Belong with You

Katrina L./Katrina L./Katrina L./Francesco

### 2) Simple Words

Esther Wild Wind/Esther Wild Wind,  
Andrew/Esther Wild Wind/Andrew

### 3) Unearthly Love

Niki, Vas/Michael Piano/Beth, Michael  
Piano/Andrew

### 4) Your Magical Love

Sam/Sam/Sam/Johan

### 5) God of Brilliance

Katrina L./Katrina L./Katrina L./Francesco

### 6) Live to Love You

Rachelle Spring/Amie, Andrew/Andrew/  
Andrew

### 7) Stay by Me

Sam/Sam/Sam/Johan

### 8) You Are Perfect

Katrina L./Katrina L./Katrina L./Francesco

### 9) Pretending

Angelina/Michael F./Michael F., Jeremy/  
Michael F.

### 10) What Am I Worth to You?

Haven, Jerry/Haven/Haven/Andrew

### 11) My Prayer

Katrina L./Katrina L./Katrina L./Francesco

### 12) There Is Your Love

Niki/Beth, Michael Piano/Beth/Andrew

### 13) Tell Me You Love Me

Sam/Sam/Sam/Andrew

### 14) Sum of All Desire

Niki/Michael Piano/Michael Piano/Andrew

### 15) Loving You

Joni, Andrew/Andrew/Andrew/Andrew

### 16) Nothing Without Your Love

Katrina L./Sharon/Sharon, Lua/Andrew

# Tribute to the JT Boards and the One and Only Savior!

By Vicky (18, of Abner and Rosie), Denmark

Up until recently I thought that all camps held in the Family were pretty much the same. You know with the classes, talent night, dance night scenario, etc. That was until I attended the camp in Frankfurt, Germany, held by JT board members from two areas.

It wasn't certain that I would go to the camp until the last moment, as it was a senior teen camp, and I was 18. I thought I would feel sort of out of place, kind of like, "What are you doing here? Haven't you learned all these things yet?"

I put it in the Lord's hands to work out. If He wanted me to go, then He'd make it happen. So it was all a miracle of the Lord that I made it, and boy, it was really worth it! I took a bus from Bosnia where I had been visiting, to Frankfurt, and stayed at the Home there for a couple of days before the camp.

I'm not sure what I was expecting from this camp, but I tell you now that I got a lot more out of it than I thought I would. The first day of the camp, we had our morning class and it was all good. But then when the afternoon class came around, and there were some people in that class that just weren't tuning into what we were being taught. They were sitting drawing and doodling on their notes after countless times of being told not to. Even though I wasn't drawing, I don't think that I was taking the whole thing seriously enough. (The theme of the camp was discipleship.)

We had a break from our afternoon class, and during that break the board members were huddled together talking and praying. We couldn't figure out what was going on till after the break. When everyone returned from the break, the board members told us that they could feel in the spirit that people were just not taking it as seriously as they should, and I could see

by the way they were acting that they were dead serious. So we had prayer for everyone there that we would take things more seriously.

When the prayer was completed, the board members said that they were going to another room to continue our class, and that the ones that were truly serious could follow them. I'm not sure if anyone stayed behind, 'cause I was in the group of people pushing through the door to get to the other room.

So we got to the other room and the ones leading the class decided to have people tell testimonies of their victories, and what had made them certain of being in the Family. We also read the provisional Charter member contract. (Most of us in the room hadn't signed it yet, for whichever reason, and some didn't even know what it entailed.)

After the second half of the class most people were in tears. The class ended with a round of hugs for everyone. Something happened to the spirit of the entire place. It was so cool! I could feel that everyone was in it with their whole heart now, and that this was the place where they wanted to be.

On the last day of the camp, there were some people who were going through trials and spiritual battles, myself included. While I was scared of any more attacks from the Enemy, I knew deep down that it was good, 'cause the Enemy only attacks the "live" ones, right? So that put me a bit at ease.

The afternoon of the last day, we all got together in a circle and had united prayer. The board members were up front praying for individuals as we walked up and told them our request. Never before have I allowed myself to cry in front of people, and there I was at that meeting crying my eyes out in front of like 60-some people. The Spirit was just so strong that I couldn't help it. It was so amazing!

Now I'm back home and one of the first things I did when I got home was get rid of all my System music and get all the Family music on my computer. My music has always had a hold on me in some way, whether I could



All the area JT board members

see it or not. Whenever I got upset or frustrated I would turn to my music and not go to the Lord like I should have. But now that I've gotten rid of it, I know that there is only one place to turn—the Lord. So what this camp did for me was life changing.

This testimony is also a big thank-you to all the people who were involved in preparing this camp. I want to let you all know that I really appreciate all you do for us. And also a massive thanks to the One above Who made it all possible!

## backtracking...

By the WS layout department

We love you so much, and are so thankful and praise the Lord for your prayers which help the work keep moving forward.

It has come to our attention that there were print errors in some of the recent *Xns* sent out by your NPCs. If your printed copies of *Xn* #36, page 20, or pages 15, 26–27 in *Xn* #37 had large, black patches and no text, we wanted to let you know that that was a printing error. We are sorry if that error affected a printed copy that you may have received.

If this was the case for you, and you would like to view what those pages

were supposed to be like, you can find PDFs of both *Xns* on the MO site in the *Xn* section of "Pubs." You can also view the jpegs of those specific pages, which are in "Art and Photos," in the *Xn* section of "Artwork."

Thank you so much for upholding us and the print teams in your prayers. God bless you!



## Why I'm here!

**Anah Renee (19), Yugoslavia:** The praise GN cast praise more in an everyday light, and helped me visualize how to put it more into practice in exciting ways within our Home life and with our sheep.

The keys GNs covered a lot of questions that I have personally had, but that I had sort of “passed over,” and never really gave further thought to.

As I was praying about some of the points that I couldn't really grasp or comprehend, and which were a bit difficult to accept, the Lord gave me an encouraging message. (I'm also going to be rereading these GNs, and trying to come to a greater understanding of them.) In the message I received, the Lord asked me:

“Why are you in the Family? (This was in response to my questioning and having a hard time with this.) How would you put it to someone who has studied the Family and read all, or most, of your controversial literature? Why are you here?”

I took those questions and wrote up a response to the Lord. Here's what I wrote, honestly and without any cover-ups:

I'm in the Family because it's the one place I've found where—despite the doctrines I don't understand and its past and present mistakes and “human frailties”—I can be most effective as a professional disciple, dedicating all or most of my time, efforts and talents to teaching and disseminating the message of God's love for mankind, His plan and care in each of our lives and His soon coming return and the events surrounding it.

The Family also has many various freedoms and controversial beliefs that I personally find great satisfaction and personal liberty and joy in, and which I find help me to share the same with others, and help myself and others to be most effective and efficient in our labors. We live without many of the constraints imposed by modern and past ultra-strict organizations.

I am in the Family because I have been raised to be idealistic and to believe in and want the best for mankind and

for myself. Thus, now that I am an adult member of society, I cannot find it within myself to be content with a life of the self-centered and egocentric pursuit of temporal and physical wealth or success, but rather desire to embrace and invest my life and time into something worthwhile—something that will make an impact on the world around me during my life.

I am in the Family because the doctrines of the Family teach me regularly and continuously how I may have and attain a closer and more intimate relationship with Jesus, a deeper understanding of the workings of the spirit world, as well as providing me with sufficient freedom and responsibility to personally advance, pioneer new efforts, become self-sufficient and self-determining as an individual.

There are many reasons why I am, and choose to remain, of my own free will, under no coercion or pressure from any source, a member of the FD Family. I will gladly endorse the Family to all who ask, or may wish to know. I will do all in my power, by God's help, to teach and propagate the beliefs, unconventional and otherwise, of the Family. As well as advance to others the benefits and joys of serving God full time in the Family as well.

(Jesus:) If this is truly from your heart, then do not allow any of the doubts or questions of the Enemy to sway you from your purpose. Hold tight. Let none of those doubts, negativity, legalistic or carnal thoughts upset or destroy your usefulness to Me. I have been proud of you, allow Me to continue to be so and I will swear before all My Father's angels and the host of Heaven that you will never regret it. (End of message from Jesus.)

Thank you, Mama and Peter, for having the guts and conviction to share these things with us from the Lord. I know it is from the Lord, and admire you for your conviction. I hope to be here in the Family with you for a long time to come—DV, until Jesus comes back.

## The keys work on God's timetable

**Victor Faithful, Venezuela:** Reading the Feast GNs about the keys has been quite enlightening, and a big inspiration. It also helped me to put things in the right perspective as sometimes we snap our fingers, call on the keys and expect things to change right away. But as the Lord said, it has to be His time, His will, and the conditions have to be met. I guess I tend to get a little familiar with the Lord and His promises, knowing I am His bride and He wants to spoil us with His goodness. Which, of course, He always does, but we can't expect Him to fulfill our every wish instantly, since we don't know all the whys and reasons behind it all. It's good that the Lord kind of put us in our place, telling us not to question His wisdom.

This counsel came right on time, as I have been praying for a while for deliverance from an affliction I have had for a few months. Just before the Feast we had a few days of prayer and fasting, since the problem with my hernia had gotten worse, and the Lord told us to put a deadline on the miracle. We have been very desperate and claiming all the keys promises on healing, day and night, and were expecting a miracle. But the deadline passed and the affliction still was there. I couldn't believe it, and was very disappointed. I thought, *What about all these keys promises?*

The Lord told me that it was a “but if not” situation, and to put the matter in a bundle of faith and keep trusting. So the explanation in the GNs has been a great help to trust the Lord and to keep walking by faith, whatever the outcome.

## “A life-changing event”

**Mark, Argentina:** This year's Feast helped me to put things into healthy perspective. I suppose I have always had a problem with making commitments with the Lord, and then sticking to them. It has always been a battle for me, and lately I was beginning to feel like I didn't have what it took to be in the FD Family. As a result I got discouraged with myself and kind of went into a phase of not wanting to make any more commitments to the Lord for fear that I wouldn't be able to come through with them.

Little by little I was sort of convincing myself that I was going to have to leave and at least spend a little while outside the Family to get my act together.

This was not a light matter for me as I consider my place in the Family a place of honor! But I simply felt that I couldn't fulfill my role as a professional disciple, therefore wasn't fit to be in the FD Family.

After getting some encouraging counsel from my shepherds, and reading a few different GNs on the subject, I decided that I was at least willing to give it another try, if nothing else. I figured what better time to get my heart right with the Lord than the Feast. I would have to say that I was looking forward to it with quite a bit of anticipation.

The battle definitely wasn't over, but that was one of the "humps" I needed to get over. Then I got hit with doubts like, "Look how far behind I am. I've made commitments before and just fallen into the same old rut afterward. Why bother trying?"

When I actually got to the Feast it was a battle just to go to the Lord to ask Him the basic questions we had to ask before the Feast. Needless to say, I didn't put my whole heart into them.

Then halfway through the Feast, after we had already read the three GNs, I felt a strong conviction, and decided to read through the GN "Our Accountability" (ML #3452, GN 1037), like I should have done before the Feast and before asking the questions. It was kind of a revelation for me going through all the excerpts of the different Letters in there, and one thing that really spoke to me was in the excerpt of "The Year of the Bottom Line," where Dad says:

"There will be stretching and growing pains and adjustment blues, but we'll come through as finer gold. Anyone who *wants* to make it *will* make it! Every Family member can make it, if they'll only set their minds and hearts to making it. You don't have to be a spiritual giant to make it; you don't have to be a loving, concerned, outgoing person to make it; you don't have to be a topnotch witnesser to make it; you don't have to be a childcare genius to make it; you don't have to be a super 'people person' or shepherd to make it; you don't have to be a natural at anything. *All* you have to be is *willing*! God can change your heart, your mind, your life, your spirit, and your mode of operation in a flash. Nobody has any excuse! *Everyone* can make it!" (ML #3176:58, GN 781)

That was pretty much the confirmation I needed, but just in case I went to the Lord to re-ask the Feast

prep questions and go more in depth to hear what He wanted to tell me. The Lord confirmed that He did want me in the Family, and clearly marked what had been holding me back thus far. He explained to me that I had let the Enemy into my life through what He called "little" sins. He said that it was the little sins and compromises that I have been allowing into my life that have built a wall between Him and me. He also told me that these "little" things have been one of the main factors that have made it so difficult for me to stick to a commitment with Him, because by letting these compromises into my life, no matter how small, it was giving the Enemy a place to dwell in my heart, and He and the Devil aren't very good roommates, so He was in a sense pushed out of my life whenever I would compromise.

He also told me that what was needed was the conviction to say yes to Him.—And that from here on out I need to make a good solid commitment to get back on track.

If I get into all the details of everything He said this'll take up pages, so I'll just make a closing statement: This Feast was a life-changing event for me.

### Putting theory into action

**Cheerful, SEA:** I often feel inspired about a GN after reading it for the first time, but as the time goes by, it often gets forgotten before I implement it. This is my weakness, so as I reread the Feast GNs, I made a condo for easy reference, and during my prophecy time I asked the Lord to show me how I could apply them. The Lord told me that reading a GN is like studying a theory, but I need to learn to use it like a soldier who practices what he has learned, otherwise it won't help me. I have to take the humble step to obey what the Letters tell us to do, and not wait for others. The Lord is helping me to review the prophecies I get, and *implement* what He's shown me to do.

### Breaking old habits

**Joyful Free, India:** While reading the Feast GN on praise, our eleven-year-old jumped out of her seat for joy when she read that we were going to use other praises, and not just repetitive praise at the beginning of our prayers. She confessed that often she thought, *Here go the adults again! Isn't there another way to thank the Lord?*

It was convicting to hear that our kids look for something more in our praise, something more inspiring to start their prayers. So now we are concentrating on how to praise the Lord from our heart in the beginning of our prayers, without being repetitive. It will take some time to break old habits, but with the keys we know we will succeed.

### Exercising our spiritual muscles

**Tender Joy, Pakistan:** Just before the Feast I was having some personal battles to the point where I was pretty low. But battles equal spiritual exercises.—I like that expression! The things we have difficulties with somehow come more into perspective when seeing them for what they really are, which is to make us stronger in the spirit. So they are actually necessary and good for us, the same as physical exercise!

Suffice it to say, after reading and getting reminded once again about the very big importance of using praise as a weapon in the spirit, I took a walk to pray about the different questions in the GNs. It was a wonderful time! The more I started to thank the Lord specifically for my many blessings, as well as for some seemingly difficult parts of my life, it was like I could hear the Lord's voice within me, saying, "As long as you keep Me as your solid foundation, as long as you have Me in the center of your being, everything will work out just fine! Really get in there and make claiming the keys an automatic reaction and use praise with your whole heart, and you will see things in a much brighter perspective!"

I am sure there will still be battles to fight (otherwise my spiritual muscles would get flabby and weak!), but somehow it feels different now! Now I just have to put it all into practice—be a doer of the Word!

I also see how it's important to reread the Feast mailings over and over again, so they will be a solid part of my thinking-and-reaction pattern. It is so easy to get negative about this and that, but that doesn't help anybody! Of course, we can't be like the ostrich and put our head in the sand, trying to ignore that there are problems at times. But it definitely does help and makes things so much easier to have a positive, praiseful and optimistic approach to things! That's for sure!

# Trinkets & Treasures

By Kristia, Peter, and John, Thailand

Thanks to the suggestion in "Show Me the Money, Part 3," to share more and give to others by having an inter-Home free store, we enthusiastically had a clean-out of some long-term in-case-we-might-need-it items, white elephants, and just plain excess in our storage room.

When we brought it before our Master Planner, He showed us to host this free-store for the other Homes, but combine it with the Family Birthday celebration. First off, we sent off invitations to everyone asking for their participation (besides bringing their forsake-all) in planning games or hosting the inspiration and songs.

This was a theme party: Entry was by dress code, harking back to our Huntington Beach beginnings, with flower-power scarves, loopy earrings, and bellbottoms. Some of us were a sight to behold!

God bless Sam who helped organize and play with the little kids while the mommies and older teens went browsing amongst the goodies and forsake-all that were laid out. It was great to see folks finding their needs—teen girls thrilled with their new quilt blankets and pillows, childcare teamworkers picking up extra CLE books offered, and men finding some

nice shirts for outreach. The kids, of course, had fun rummaging through to pick their choice of toys. There was something for everyone!

With the free store, the games for the little ones and soccer for the teens, this seemed the height of a nice fellowship for the 30 Family brethren who attended. We also had an Indian businessman friend visiting, and he was thrilled with the warmth of the friendly folks around and the testimony of every witness he received from the different ones he spoke with.

We also had some good ol' Family inspiration, courtesy of Paul and Faith. They got everyone up and going with "Mountain Children" and "We Are Gypsies." God bless the new-bottle SGAs/FGAs who got up there and energized everyone else with our traditional Family caravan and Gypsy dancing! Even our visiting Indian friend joined in the dancing!

We sang our Family favorites till dusk came, then we adjourned to the playground, ready to tuck in to some delectable barbecued delights of chicken



Rollerblades, anyone?  
Sam seems interested in this pair.



"Come and join our Gypsy caravan!"

from the grill of Swedish chef Peter, along with traditional Thai *somtam* (salad), *pakthai* (fried noodles) from Thai Vicky's kitchen, and the irresistible fruit dessert that the Pavilion Home is famous for!

While we dined under the stars in our well-lit playground, our Indian visitor shared his observations of our Family and the Word/books that he has read. It was so inspiring to hear how the spirit of David has come alive in his heart through every word he's read in our GP pubs, so much so that he's memorized many quotes and stories from the *MOP* and

the *Good Thots*. We were so happy he was able to partake of this sample of the greater Family and as he said, our sample of love is something that has made an impression on him.

It was a sweet time of fellowship, and as long as we have the use of this big house and yard, we hope we can host more such inspiring get-togethers. Thank You, Jesus, for the keys—the magic that just makes beautiful things like this happen!

## ACTIVATED NEWS

### A mag of hope and strength

By the CEAD

A Romanian certified proofreader, who is a staunch Orthodox church member, has for the past three years been helping to final proofread the different Romanian publications we have—which has included some books, but mainly the *Activated* mags. We've been concerned as to whether she will want to continue helping us with this, as her husband, who is ultra Orthodox, has read some of our mags and doesn't like them and had forbidden her to continue proofing them. But she's continued to do this work at the university where she is one of the head professors. She recently wrote us saying:

"I'll try to proofread the next mag before the winter assessment session, when the examinations take all my time. Try to send me the mag no later than February 10<sup>th</sup>. I'd be glad to continue to collaborate; you can count on my services till the end of the year, as you wish, and even after that. It's a real pleasure for me to proofread these mags. Unlike the other projects I work on which bring me

considerable financial gains, only from these mags can I learn something. They encourage me and give me the strength to hope in a better world, though I still fight the destiny Jesus determined me to accept. (Note: She lost her leg in a car accident.) These are not mere polite words, please believe me. It's such a satisfaction that I can be a help."

### Our first Activated meeting

By Aaron (SGA, of Iona), Taiwan

Since moving here to this Home in November 2003, we weren't yet able to have many of our friends over for Christmas, as we were not yet fully set up in our new situation. So the Lord showed us to have an open house for our close friends and Activated members, to show them our new Home and introduce them to our new team, and also to each other.

The day the Lord showed us to have it on also happened to be our son Alvin's sixth birthday, so that was another great reason to have a house warming/birthday party! We put a lot of preparation into this event, as it was to be our Home's first Activated meeting to draw our friends in for more. We made an invitation flyer with a map to send and fax out. Also I spent

quite a bit of time to make a 10-minute VCD, which was a slideshow presentation of all the programs we did during Christmas with titles, effects, background music, credits, and a special thanks to our sponsors and supporters. This tool turned out to be very powerful, and we will continue to use it later!

The event started with a big barbeque in our compound's community area, and then we went to the house for singing and a time of reading with the adults, watching the VCD, and asking some icebreaker questions on the topic of the New Year. Meanwhile, Iona and the kids were all downstairs having a fun cake decorating activity! Then to finish it off, we all joined the kids on the first floor for the birthday party.

About 20 people came, and thank the Lord, the day was a success, with most of them saying they were interested in meeting on a regular basis, and some even called right afterwards to thank us and express what it meant to them. Although it was a sacrifice to invest one week of time into the Open House instead of fundraising before the Chinese New Year, it was a big step towards establishing our church, and we believe the Lord will make up for the finances.

# in My arms...

**Baby David** (of Gabriel and Luna) in Chile passed away on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004, after being born with Down syndrome. He also suffered from heart problems and digestive system difficulties. Gabriel and Luna saw a vision of Dad being there to receive him. Although they're heartbroken, they're praising the Lord for little David's liberation.

MESSAGE FROM JESUS

My sweet loves, so dear to My heart, I know that this time after baby David's Homegoing is difficult for you in many ways, even though you rejoice and are comforted by knowing that he is safe, here in My arms. So let the vision of his presence with Me be your joy. Think of him as happy, laughing, playing, gurgling with joy, doing all the things that sweet little babies do—only here with Me instead of there with you.

For as the children of the righteous are sanctified because of the faith of their parents, so your little child came straight to Heaven and was received here by your Father David. Then David placed him in My arms, where he is safe, secure, and content. Even now, as I say this, he is sleeping contentedly, joyful and secure in the knowledge that he has not only earthly parents who love him very much, but a whole score of heavenly beings to care for him and help him grow up into a ministering spirit who will attend to you and help you, and carry your prayers to Me.

So rest now and let Me comfort you. Lay your heads on My bosom and let Me put My strong arms around you, too, as you seek to learn of Me the way I perceive all these events. I have him here; safe, protected, healthy, and happy. I will also be with you, to help you make the transition from your life before he went to Heaven, to your life that now looks on him as being your heavenly representative. (End of excerpts of message.)

## news from the Activated desks, January 2004

### BRAZIL

**Subscriptions climbing again:** We closed January with 221 subscriptions. Though this number is a bit below the highs of the previous months, it is more than double the number we received in January of 2003. So far, in the first three months of the 2004 statistical year which started November 1<sup>st</sup>, we have 141% more subscriptions than during the same period of 2003.

### CHILE

**Majoring on "Mottos":** Due to different circumstances, in January 2004 we found ourselves severely lacking in other tools and products in our southern South America area. Right then, though, the printer finished the 5,000 Spanish "Mottos" he had set out to produce for us. This meant everyone had to concentrate on that item for distribution. It ended up being the Lord's setup in that it forced us to put "Mottos" distribution first place this summer here in Chile. Hundreds have been sold so far!

### INDIA

**"Mottos":** "Mottos" continues to be our bestselling product. Most of the Homes made their seed corn payments, which helped us to pay the printer for the previous "Mottos" production, and to start a new production of "Mottos." We had another larger retail order come in this month which is a blessing for us financially.

### JAPAN

**Mass marketing:** Homes that were involved in (consignment) mass marketing throughout the Christmas season got their final tallies in during January. There were some places that showed promise, and there were some establishments that invited the Homes to place their tools there on consignment again next Christmas season.

**Bimonthly *Activate* magazine:** The Japanese bimonthly *Activate* magazine launched into its second season (volume two).

### MEXICO

**More sponsored books:** One Mexican distributor met at the Guadalajara Fair sponsored 1,000 *Crecer Con Cuentos* (*Stories to Grow By*) books, and sweetly asked if his three children (from 10 to 12) could participate in some of our book distributions.

### PHILIPPINES

**Climbing subscriptions:** After a couple of slower months with the Christmas push, we started climbing again, with 90 subscriptions this month. We'll be having an Activated seminar to stir up the vision to bring our subscriptions back up to a minimum of 100 a month, especially with the added encouragement of some of the very high subscription rates some of the areas are getting now! We mailed a total of 1,043 mags this month.

### USA

**Mag of the Month:** This month our MOTM subscriptions are at 9,000 in English and 1,150 in Spanish, or a total of 10,150.

**Sponsored tools to North America and Mexico:** During 2003 the U.S. tool department sponsored a large number of free tools for CTP projects all across the U.S., as well as some in Mexico. While helping the needy with food, clothing or other necessities during the holiday season, Family missionaries also distributed these materials for free to those they ministered to, feeding and strengthening their spirits, as well as their bodies.

Here's what was distributed free of charge during the Christmas witnessing season: 8,700 audio cassettes and CDs, 1,400 books and booklets, 5,600 color posters, 6,000 Christmas cards, 12,000 *Activated* magazines. Thanks to everyone whose prayers, support, and fundraising efforts made this program possible and thus had a direct hand in the many ministries of comfort, encouragement and spiritual feeding these materials brought about.

**Winepress:** Our *Winepress* membership at the end of December was at 261, but our supporter mailing has gone from about 60-75, and over the month of January we received about three times the normal responses from our Winepressers!

## Because We Took the First Steps

By Phin, Joy, Zeb, and Kristy, Mexico

Our Home has been working through the "Show Me the Money" series trying to put into practice the counsel given. Recently, we received a large donation, which we believe was a direct result of not only doing our best to obey, but having the faith that as we do, the Lord would supply.

One of our Home members recently joined the area FED board. We found out that there were going to be

two days of meetings in Mexico City, and it was recommended that she attend. We also wanted to take advantage of the trip to send a couple of our teens along. The only snag was that our finances were tight, and we were trying to pray about how we could meet our bills and other obligations. But, by faith, we decided to send the team anyway trusting that the Lord would supply. The meetings were just three days away.

The next day we checked our U.S. bank account online, and discovered almost \$1,000 had been deposited! After jumping up and down, thanking the Lord for His miraculous supply, we tried to figure out who had given it. We made a couple of calls and found out it had come from the church of one of our regular supporters. He had made an appeal on our behalf, and the deposit was the result. The funds were enough to not only cover the trip and bills, but with plenty left over!

# SPIRITUALLY FEEDING THE POOR LEADS TO REACHING THE RICH

By Phoebe, Mexico

One afternoon, I received a phone call from an orphanage for which we have organized a number of programs over the past two years. The call was an invitation to come and receive an award for our help. I queried who the invitation came from, and was given a name I felt vaguely familiar with. I asked for a clarification, and was told it was the wife of the newly elected governor of Nuevo Leon, the state we live in. I inquired a third time, just to make sure I had gotten it right! And I had!

After confirming it with the Lord, and sending a prayer request around, three of us went two days later to attend the ceremony. About 50 guests had been invited, and in the humble setting of the orphanage we rubbed elbows with big names, banks, businesses, government officials, etc.

This orphanage is the biggest in our city of Monterrey, with 240 children, and is managed by a council composed of some of the top local businesspersons of the city, and presided upon by the wife of the governor, who is also the president of the State DIF (the government Social Services).

The governor's wife, flanked by a prominent businessman who is the Secretary of the Council, arrived with a small retinue, bodyguards and all, and sat at the table reserved for her. We had prepared a couple of envelopes with *Conéctate* mags and newsletters, and encouraged to do so by the man sitting next to me (a member of the Ministry of Education), I walked up to her table during a break in the program. I gave her and her companion each an envelope, and they listened very attentively to my explanation of our work. When I suggested that we could maybe meet again to see if there were any programs we could do together, she readily accepted and sent one of her aides to get her personal name card for me. At the end of the ceremony, as she was leaving, she came to me, gave me a hug and a kiss, and confirmed that she was looking forward to hearing from me and meeting again.

While at the ceremony, we tried to meet as many people as we could, and on our way out, I approached a lady who had been sitting at the counselors' table, right next to the governor's wife, during the presentation. I introduced myself briefly, and felt led to tell her about our book sponsorship program. She looked interested and said, "And you only do this program in

Nuevo Leon?" I answered that in fact I was had just come back from Chiapas, where we had distributed 1,000 books, and she lit up.

"My family has a foundation in Chiapas to help the indigenous Indians!" she said, and after I mentioned that I was looking for sponsorships for 7,000 books to go back to Chiapas, she gave me her personal phone number, and suggested that we meet over coffee to discuss what we can do together! When I read her name, I realized that she is from one of the most prominent and powerful families in Monterrey.

The Lord answered every one of our prayer requests for the event. One of the requests was that our presence there could be a testimony, and the Lord answered in a very sweet way. Out of the 240 kids of the orphanage, two of the girls I knew best attended the event. (I had taken them out recently for a special dinner at our friends' restaurant.) When they saw me, they came straight to me, and wouldn't let go. I asked permission that they sit at our table and permission was granted.

Amazingly, it seemed that of all the people attending the ceremony for helping the orphanage, few, if any, had had any personal contact with the kids, which is so sad, and the people at our table were super interested in talking with the girls. It was also a testimony to the counselors sitting at the table right next to ours, watching the two orphan girls engaged in lively conversation with the different guests sitting with us.

Here are a couple of tips I would like to share on how to make CTPs fruitful, from my few years in Monterrey:

- Work with one or two orphanages regularly and consistently, instead of spreading yourself too thin. We had chosen this orphanage because they are easy to work with, give us free rein with the kids, and are faithful to give us letters of appreciation.
- Pray and choose carefully the institution you will get involved with. I love giving Jesus' love and our



Phoebe with some of the kids who received books, Mexico

wonderful tools to poor kids and orphans. At the same time, I also try to keep in mind the PR possibilities of the institutions I get involved with, as this will greatly influence the future and the outcome of my ministry with the kids. In other words, if I have a choice, I will work with a well-known orphanage or a DIF orphanage, which brings more recognition from the community. Unfortunately, man looks on the outward appearance, and it is wise to keep this in mind, as it translates into more supporters, enabling us to reach more kids, and give out more message.

- Get the local community to help, get them involved and doing a lot of the work for you. They will feel good about it; it will give them good PR, as their patrons want to see them involved in the community; it will lessen your work load; and it will put you in touch with the type of people we want to reach. We have contacts with a couple of top restaurants and with a five-star hotel, who help to sponsor meals and events. We provide the entertainment, and use the events to distribute the books, but the hotel basically does all the hard work for us. We make sure to thank them profusely and to document the events for them. We offered this particular hotel two beautiful picture frames with a collage of photos from the events held at their place, and the frames (with our info, and a plug for the Book Sponsorship Program) hang in a prominent spot in their lobby, for all their customers to see.

- Really love the kids. Let the love of Christ constrain you, and be sincere in what you do with them, because the people responsible, directors of the orphanages, etc., can tell if you are genuine, or are only in it for the PR. If they find you sincere, they can be real keys in helping you meet the top, as was the case with this orphanage.
- Do something that counts with the kids. Give them our tools, and try to get them out of their closed,

sometimes gloomy environment. In the natural, our help, compared to that of the big companies who had donated thousands of dollars of goods and services, was minimal, but the orphanage director stated that all the socialization activities we had organized for the kids were unique, and were critical to their growth, and that put us right on the same level of importance as the sponsors who had contributed so much material help.

CTPs that promote our tools with underprivileged kids have been a very rewarding and fruitful way for me to spiritually feed the poor and to also reach the rich, and I just wanted to share these lessons gleaned over the years. I love you and pray the Lord will lead you, and reveal to you the special way He has for you to reach the rich where you are, and as you claim the keys, they will open the doors, and bring in wonderful fruits and blessings.

# GRAPES OF THANKFULNESS

I want to thank one very important person in my life, which would be **my mum, Priscilla!** Mum, though I have probably never said it through the years, I want to thank you for all that you have done for me. For bringing me into this world, and for caring for me and loving me no matter what I did.

Thank you for trusting me even though I definitely did not deserve to be trusted at times. Thank you for being the shoulder that I could cry on, the person who I could tell anything to and know that you would still love me despite everything; the person I could depend on no matter what.

Thank you for the times that you stood by me, trusted me, believed in me, tried to understand me, and yes, believe it or not, corrected me. I don't know how to thank you enough, and though this is just a little thing, I want you to know how much I love you and appreciate you!

Thank you so much! I couldn't have asked for a better mother! I definitely couldn't have been what I am today without you!

Much love always, your daughter,  
—JO-JO, MIDDLE EAST

A heartfelt thanks to **all who sent us donations to help us leave China** last April 2003 to be able to get back to Ecuador to assist our 26-year-old daughter, a former member, who was having kidney problems during her second pregnancy, and was hospitalized.

We arrived in time by a miracle and we were able to stay with her for a while to help her recuperate. She and the baby are in good health, thanks to your help and prayers, and we have been able to be by her side again for other crises in her life, which has brought her closer to the Lord and the Family. We are so grateful to all you dear ones who helped us make this emergency trip. Our daughter also sees this as a token of the Family's love for her.

We'd like to ask you for your continued prayers for her health and her and her husband's spiritual progress, their marriage and job situation, for more miraculous breakthroughs, and for our wisdom, love and strength to handle all that the Lord is going to use to answer prayers!

Thank you, dear mates,  
—PABLO AND ROSE, ECUADOR

Hi, I'd just like to say a big thank-you, and send lots of love to all the wonderful and very sweet people who helped me out in big and small ways while I was visiting in the States. I'd like to thank **Victor, Love, and Linda**. Thank you for the great time I was able to have with you guys and for being so sweet and having me. Also **Peter, David, Angelo, Anita, and the whole very sweet Home in North Carolina**. Lots of love coming your way. **Abel and Esther and Home**, thank you for taking me in and going out of your way to help me; I was very touched.

I'd also like to thank my sisters **Nina and Abi and their whole Home in California** for having me at their place, and making my time with them so special. I want to thank my **dad, mom, Nicky, Sebastien, and Nathalie** as well for all the fun we had together in California and the wonderful drive we had out there. I love you all so much and am keeping you in my prayers. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Much love,  
—RAYNE, DRC

We want to thank all the brethren who had a part in making things easier for us at the time of my surgery, as well as during my recuperation. First, I want to thank my sweet husband, **James**, who has been a faithful prayer companion during this whole experience. James and I extend a very special warm thank-you **to the rest of our team at the Campers Home in Monterrey**. Everyone was such

a big support to us both, and they were especially a support to James, taking up the slack with the kids when he had to be out so much.

A huge thanks to **Mig and Emma** (SGAs); you really laid down your lives for our kids during those many weeks after my surgery while I was away recuperating—that meant so much to both of us! **Lirio**, thank you for being such a pillar and encouragement to all, and for the ways you poured into our kids, too, being a mommy for them, even during the not-so-easy times!

Also **Yasuko and Angie**, thank you for your help in the many areas of keeping the Home running and clean during those first weeks! And thank you, **Melody**, for your staying on top of the laundry! You're a wonderful team and we're thankful to live with others who want to live the One Wife vision! May the Lord greatly reward you *all* for being the Lord's love for us!

We'd also like to say a very special thank you to the **Conéctate Home in Monterrey** for inviting me (and my teen helper, Summer) to stay at their Home for the time I needed to regain enough strength before returning home (about six weeks). Each one of you made our time there so special and we felt so welcome! We will never forget our time together and the support you all showed each and every day! Thanks to our sweet daughter, **Summer (15)**, for being my nursemaid, companion, and friend during those first difficult weeks, and for continuing to take care of me and trying to keep me from overdoing when I began to regain strength!

Thanks again to all who sent such sweet notes, cards, and flowers! We are so blessed to be part of such a wonderful Family! We love you!

Love,  
—JAMES AND CHRISTINA, MEXICO

# Pray!



**Healing key:** Praise your way to healing by wielding the keys and rejoicing in the miracles I promise to perform for you, My children.

## Testimonies of Answered Prayer

**Cristal (of Solomon and Belen), Mexico:** We want to thank everyone for your faithful prayers for our daughter, Cristal's, healing from a tumor that was found in her intestine. The Lord did a miracle through the power of the keys in our daughter's life.

When we got the news that the doctors had found a tumor after doing an ultrasound, we were desperate. Belen and I consulted with the Lord, and He told us to not worry, that He would heal Cristal, and that He was using this as a test for Cristal to get closer to Him.

The day before the analysis for Cristal, she called us saying that they would examine her intestines, to find out if the tumor was dangerous, and if she needs an operation.

I told her, "Have faith! Jesus said that He would heal you, and He will. Just like He healed me nine years ago when I had cancer, He will heal you too!" The Lord told me to tell her to get a glass of water, and for her to put her hands on it, and claim the power of the keys, asking Jesus to put in the water the heavenly medicine that she needed for this tumor to disappear.

So she did, and right away she felt a shiver run through her body. She started feeling a movement in her stomach that immediately made her go to the bathroom, like a laxative. When she went to the bathroom she deposited a weird thing from her body. The next day she had the enema, and they found out that her intestines were completely clean, that there was no sign of a tumor.

Praise the Lord, she has been healed! When the Lord promises something He accomplishes it, even though sometimes when we are going through the test we feel temporarily abandoned, He is always faithful. All glory to our marvelous miracle maker, Jesus. With the power of the keys, anything is possible!

**Ruth, Portugal:** I want to testify to the power of united prayer. The first month after publishing my prayer request for my digestive system disorders, I was in a desperate condition. As soon as I put my prayer request on the prayer list, I experienced instant healing for the entire

month. But then, I didn't renew my prayer request and the problems recurred. Then I realized that it was because I didn't continue to ask for prayer. So this month I made sure to put up my prayer request again and through the power of the keys and the prayers of my faithful Family, I am doing very well.

**Kaylee, Congo:** Thank you so much for praying for me for a total healing from a hernia. I'm not a doctor, but since asking for prayer I haven't had any pains or problems with my hernia. Thanks to the Lord and the keys!

**Lily (of Jon), Brazil:** I'd like to thank everyone who prayed for me when I asked for prayer against chronic pain in my uterus, heavy periods, and the recurrence of endometriosis. The pain and other symptoms are now gone and my medical tests show that I only have inflammation, which is common for women my age, and I don't need to take medication.

**Maggie (of Juan and Perla), Mexico:** The doctors had found an infection in Maggie that is practically impossible to cure. The infection could be bad for the baby if delivered naturally, and so they said she needed a cesarean. We asked for prayer and claimed the keys, and when Maggie went for the second checkup, the doctor discovered that there were no signs of the infection! He was really surprised. All glory and thanks to the Lord of the keys, and many thanks to you for your prayers for her!

**Davide and Joan, Italy:** Our daughter Stella (senior teen) was on the prayer list due to surgery to remove a cyst by her left eye. Thank you for your prayers, dear Family. The operation, which was quite delicate because of a main vein right in front of the cyst, was a success!

**Andy (19, of Gabriel and Ruth), Mexico:** After checking Andy's eye, the doctor was very encouraged by how much Andy is starting to see. He still has the natural oil inside to help the retina not to detach, but it is a miracle that he is starting to see which shows that the retina is not only attached, but is also healing. Please keep praying for Andy's full recovery and against the dormant toxoplasmosis, which caused the detachment. Thank you, dear Family, for your faithfulness in praying.

**Priscilla, USA:** Priscilla's surgery to repair a hernia was a total victory. Thanks to everyone's prayers and the power of the keys, the Lord had His hand upon the whole procedure, and it all went very smoothly. Also the surgery was completely paid for by the county medical insurance, as it was considered a medical emergency. Thank you all so much for your prayers!

**Steven, Cameroon:** After being sick for three weeks, Steven was healed from

a kidney infection through united prayer. The Lord encouraged him not to go to the doctor at all, but that He would take the infection away, and He did.

## Asia

**Meeky (SGA, of Jason):** I wanted to ask for prayer for my fifth pregnancy as I am quite physically weak and am experiencing early contractions, being only four months pregnant. Also for the relief of pain in my legs from varicose veins, that the Lord will give me the strength to carry it through to the end without any difficulty and that I will be able and fit to take care of the other four kids I have without bed rest.

## Europe and Africa

**Baruc (of Ruthie):** Thank you for your fervent prayers! It's been now almost one month since Baruc was diagnosed with brain tumors, beyond medical hope, and he is doing better now than he was one month ago! Please continue to pray against seizures, vomiting and headaches; that he doesn't lose any of his vital functions; that the swelling in the back of his head goes down (which is due to water edema from the tumors); for his memory to come back fully, as well as notion of time; that he regains full control of all his muscles, especially those connected to body elimination process. That the Lord will make clear to us anything else He wants us to do, any spiritual condition He wants us to meet, in order to receive complete healing.

**Ruthie (of Baruc):** Breast cancer; lump in my breast to go away; it's about the size of a walnut.

**Elisa East:** Cystitis, anemia, menopause symptoms, insomnia, etc., and for encouragement and strength.

**Martin (13, of Daniel and Rejoice):** Amoebas causing stomachaches and diarrhea. He started the treatment to get rid of them, but he had strong reactions to the medicine, so he had to stop the treatment. Pray for the Lord to rid him completely of these amoebas without the use of medication.

**Miguel:** Underwent a knee operation for a torn ligament; that his recovery will go well without any problems. Please also pray for his ear treatment. (Miguel lost his hearing in one ear and is losing it gradually in the other.)

**Rose:** Excessive untimely bleeding (menopause), against asthma and to learn to not rely on the asthma medication to be able to continue working, to not be so "arm of the flesh" type of accomplishment-oriented, but to rather trust the Lord for what I can or cannot do.

**Victoria:** Cancer. For continued healing; for nodules to disappear.

**Yuli** (of Pavel): Pregnant with number two. Against negative effects of a hormonal-related liver disorder where bile salts accumulate in the blood. To be able to sleep at night and for the medicine she's taking to help to improve her condition. Supply of funds for the medicine (as it is quite expensive) and supply of funds for the trip that she will be taking to her home country to deliver the baby.

### **North America**

**David** (14, of Ruth): Cerebral palsy.

**Elena** (2, of Sam and Becky): Continued healing for her liver.

**Lily** (of Stephen): Lymphatic cancer.

### **Pacific**

**Trevor** (10, of Jack and Jenny): Scleroderma (a crippling skin disease that affects skin, muscles, tissue and joints) in his arms and hands.

### **South America**

**Belem** (of Mateo): Benign tumor on her head; for supply for further exams; against very strong headaches.

**Christina Scribe** (of James): Recuperation from delicate surgery due to a complication from her hysterectomy some months ago; against any further complications.

**Clara Linda**: For the cysts in her

breasts to dissolve and for the biopsy to go well.

**Ismael** (newborn, of Marilene and Jorge): The delivery was difficult and the baby has a broken collarbone and has difficulty breathing. Please also pray for the baby to be able to breastfeed normally.

**Margie Peruvian**: Complete healing from recent surgery to remove a benign tumor on her ovary.

**Patti**: For a total recovery from her hysterectomy, that the stitches heal properly. The doctor said everything was doing fine, but that it looked like she was overdoing as her stitches weren't healing the way they should.

# entertainment

Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up

### **LOST IN TRANSLATION (2003)**

Bill Murray, Scarlett Johansson

An American film actor, far past his prime, visits Tokyo to appear in a liquor commercial, and meets up with the bored, newly married, young wife of a photographer.

(*Jesus:*) This movie is a bit odd, definitely more the artsy type. Yet it portrays a message by showing the sadness, emptiness, and loneliness of so many in the world.—Some will find parts of it humorous and entertaining in its own way.

It shows that no matter what the outward packaging, as the old saying goes “the heart of man is the same the world over” and everyone is looking for someone to love and be loved by. Everyone is looking for someone who understands them, who relates to them, who has compassion on them. Even those who seem to have it all, and maybe even appear snobby and crusty on the outside, have their secret sorrows—their innermost, intimate needs that cry out to be satisfied. This movie shows that clearly, though it doesn't really provide any answers—and it's not trying to. It shows in a way that love and understanding can make a difference, but it doesn't really follow that through.

The lack of answers, the focus on the emptiness and loneliness, and even the way the whole movie seems to meander without much of a definite storyline or conclusion, could be uninspiring for some. The intent of the filmmaker here wasn't to try to give any answers, or even direction of any kind; but rather to portray a feeling, a situation, an emptiness. The title really says it all—this movie is about people who are lost: lost souls, wandering, empty, seeking, searching for love.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

### **WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT (2004)**

Gene Hackman, Ray Romano

A former U.S. president returns to his hometown of Mooseport, Maine and decides to run for mayor against another local candidate.

(*Dad:*) This movie is an exposé on politics in a humorous way. It contrasts big, not-so-honest political campaigning tactics and an innocent small town campaign where everyone knows the local candidate personally. It's also somewhat of a love story, and there is a lot in this movie about honesty in relationships and friendships. It brings out the importance of standing up for the things you believe in, love, and making commitments.

There is not much bad language and no violence other than a fistfight, and there is not too much System influence. It majors on the good—on truth and dignity. Honesty and love win out in the end, which makes the story uplifting. The plot and behavior is pretty transparent, so it isn't one of those “try to figure things out” movies. It's just one to sit back and enjoy.

Movies Rated for JETTs and Up

### **FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS, THE (2003)**

Cuba Gooding Jr., Beyoncé Knowles

A New York advertising executive travels to a small Southern town to collect an inheritance, but finds he must create a Gospel choir and lead it to success before he can collect.

(*Jesus:*) On the whole, this is a sweet story, and has good, clear, life lessons—about self-righteousness, honesty, doing

things for the right reasons, and what really makes a happy life. There's lots of Gospel singing, if people like that. It's a sweet, down-home story. There isn't a lot of bad that is subtle or would be a negative influence—the bad is obvious and the good is obvious.

Movies Rated for OCs and Up

### **GOSPEL OF JOHN, THE (2003)**

Henry Ian Cusick, Christopher Plummer (narrator)

Dramatization of the story of Jesus' life as described in the Gospel of John. (Note: While the movie in full isn't suitable for young children, because of the scourging and crucifixion scenes, selected parts could be shown to children of all ages. Teachers and parents might want to show it in shorter segments, as part of the children's Word time.)

(*Dad:*) This is a good presentation of the Gospel of John. It stays very close to the Scripture. The narrative is from a different version of the Bible than you are used to, the *Good News Bible*, and not the King James Version. That's good for the people in the world who will see it, as they'll understand it better, and in a way it's good for the Family too, as it is presented to you in wording that you are not so familiar with, which helps you catch some details and shows you new ways of looking at some of the Scriptures you are familiar with.

This film is a good witness and an inspiring portrayal of the story according to John. It's not churchy, and Jesus is presented as a personable and true-to-life type of character. It's feeding to watch—like seeing a big skit of the Bible. It brings it to life for kids, and for everyone, and it's inspiring.

## Shine On — February 2004

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
<b>SOUL SHINERS FOR FEBRUARY 2004</b>		
Josue/Maria Fiel, Mexico	1,543	7,715
Rosita H.H., Mexico	1,250	2,500
Celeste/Daniel/Faithy/Mark/Premika, India	273	2,455
Gabriel/Melody/Mercy, Philippines	257	1,799
Peter/Kristia/John Piper, Thailand	224	1,120
Charity/Gideon/Happy/Joshua, India	159	1,434
Daniel/Lily/Melanie/Pawel, Brazil	158	946
Claire/David/Gabriela/Paul/Tirzah, Guatemala	149	1,342
Felipe/Marcos/Paulo/Vitória, Brazil	137	548
Angelina/Anisa/David/Jonathan, Thailand	116	695

TRACT SHINERS FOR FEBRUARY 2004	Per Adult	Total
David/Dream/Faye/Lovely/Nehemias, Italy	6,783	27,131
Alcides/Emmanuel/Heber/Stephen, Peru	3,929	27,500
Charity/James/Leyland/Spring, So. Africa	2,060	10,300
Josue/Maria Fiel, Mexico	2,021	10,105
Charity/Gideon/Happy/Joshua, India	2,000	18,000
Dulce/Matthew/Perola/Priscila, Brazil	1,857	13,000
Claire/David/Mia, USA	1,700	8,500
Angela/Anthony/Talitha, So. Africa	1,457	10,200
John/Sara, Germany	1,411	4,234
Josh/Joy/Philipp/Priscilla, Ivory Coast	1,350	5,400

ACTIVATED DISTRIBUTION SHINERS FOR FEBRUARY 2004	Per Adult	Total
Aneta/Ben/Christy, Botswana	1,250	5,000
Anaiki/Joy/Mike/Tiago, Brazil	932	6,524
Daniel/Penny/Renee, India	564	5,072
Andy/Mark/Nicole, Taiwan	466	5,122
Rose/Shine/Timothy, USA	333	4,332
Chris/Daniel/Shayna, India	244	2,200
Angeles/Joao/John, Portugal	211	843
Michelle/Phil/Rufina/Shiloh/Valerie, Ukraine	186	931
Angie/Isaac/Ruth, SEA	177	887
Susanne, United Kingdom	173	520

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
<b>ACTIVATED SUBSCRIPTION SHINERS FOR FEBRUARY 2004</b>		
Andrew/Mary/Michael/Simon, Kenya		55
Carina/Crystal/John/Jonathan/Sam, India		27
Prem/Ruth/Sharon/Simon, India		26
Hannah/Mary/Matthew/Sara, India		25
Andrew/Angel/Deepra/MaryAnn/Steven, India		24
Peter/Praise, Philippines		22
Amanecer/Emanuelle/Joao/Maria, Brazil		21
Andrew/Julia/Ruth/Spanish, India		21
Autumn/David/Rachel/Robin/Shannon, So. Africa		20
Hepsi/Jonatas/Micheala, Brazil		20

POSTER SHINERS FOR FEBRUARY 2004	Per Adult	Total
Spring Nightingale, Mexico	4,650	9,300
Rosita H.H., Mexico	1,100	2,200
Dust/Joy/Nathan/Rejoice, Japan	970	4,848
Daniel/Samuel/Sara, Mexico	725	2,900
Christian/Maria/Michael, Japan	690	3,450
Alma Fiel, Mexico	550	1,650
Angelo/David/Dawn/Peter, USA	420	2,938
Gabriel/Melody/Mercy, Philippines	414	2,900
Michelle/Phil/Rufina/Shiloh/Valerie, Ukraine	386	1,932
Hannah/Philip, Canada	350	700

TAPE/CD SHINERS FOR FEBRUARY 2004	Per Adult	Total
Aneta/Ben/Christy, Botswana	450	1,800
Hannah/Peter/Stephane, Reunion Is.	123	493
Charity/Claudia/Jane/Jeho, Chile	99	986
Katka/Rafael/Sarah, Mexico	90	628
Pedro Nazário, Portugal	78	155
Belem/David/Madalena/Mateo, Brazil	67	470
Angeles/Joao/John, Portugal	67	267
Natalia/Salomon, Mexico	58	115
Brian/Claire/Gabe/Joana, Brazil	57	398
BR244, Brazil	56	168

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
<b>BOOK SHINERS FOR FEBRUARY 2004</b>		
Felipe/Marcos/Paulo/Vitória, Brazil	260	1,039
Charity/Gideon/Happy/Joshua, India	222	2,000
Hannah/Peter/Stephane, Reunion Is.	153	613
Hannah/Mary/Matthew/Sara, India	117	1,638
Faithy/Lalo/Robyn/Ruth, Mexico	102	409
Pilar/Victor, Spain	73	146
Chris/Daniel/Shayna, India	73	655
Philip/Meekness, Namibia	71	141
Abner Christmas, Japan	71	141
Jan/Maria/Paul, Nigeria	68	341

VIDEO SHINERS FOR FEBRUARY 2004	Per Adult	Total
Maria/Philip/Svieta, Russia	52	361
Felipe/Marcos/Paulo/Vitória, Brazil	37	148
Peter, Kristia and John Piper, Thailand	28	141
Clara/Filipe/John/Lily, Brazil	26	184
Eisabeth/Emmanuel/Felicia/Simeon, Indonesia	21	82
Charity/Claudia/Jane/Jeho, Chile	20	200
Hannah/Philip, Canada	17	34
Alex/Amel/Dove/Jessica, Mexico	16	295
Angela/Elias, Spain	16	31
Angie/Isaac/Ruth, SEA	15	75

QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTION STATS BY DESK			
Activated Desk	December	January	February
Brazil	212	221	369
Chile	N/A	29	10
Colombia	64	34	38
EE and Russia	152	114	123
Europe/Africa	145	305	239
India	754	286	307
Japan	253	52	76
Mexico	46	88	88
N. America	26	27	12
Philippines	69	90	79
Taiwan	98	39	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,819</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>1,381</b>

# help wanted

We are **Peter and Natalie** (EE nationals), presently serving the Lord in Zambia, Africa. The Lord has shown us that it is His time for us to move to China, which has been our hearts' desire for a long time. We hope to start heading that direction by the end of July. That means we have about four months to raise around US\$3,000 for our big move, according to our rough estimation.

It sounds impossible, but the Lord is not limited! We will be trying our best to raise most of it on the field. Since Zambia isn't a rich country, we thought to appeal to our Family as well. If you happen to have a gift for missionaries, and don't know yet who to send it to, would you consider helping us towards our goal? We would be very grateful for any gifts, which can be sent via TRF to Peter and Natalie, ZM2043.

We will really appreciate all your prayers as well: for our preparations, for funds and finding the winning team to work with in China.

With love and prayers,  
Your fellow laborers, Peter and Natalie

We are **Marcos and Sara, Sam, Marco, two JETTs, one OC, and two kiddos**. We are currently living in South Africa, but a part of the team is preparing to move to Angola around May, Lord willing.

We are in need of funds for the house the Lord led us to, which is a beautiful house, but the landlady asks us to pay her six months in advance (approx. US\$15,000), plus there is also the money we need for moving the whole team there. So we need big miracles!

If the Lord lays on your heart to help us, we'd really appreciate it. Our e-mail is: [activesama@soft.co.za](mailto:activesama@soft.co.za). Thank you.

Much love,  
The Angola team

## Personals

Hi! This is Michelle. I'm looking for **Tim**, last heard of in Ireland. I lived with you when you were 18. I would like to get in touch. **Emma**, we met at the 1997 Washington D.C. camp, could you please also get in touch with me? I was writing to you, but I moved and I don't know where you are. I think you were in Canada last.

Also **Timmy**, I knew you in Taiwan in 1998, and haven't heard from you since. You can write me through crypt-o-heaven at: [Wmall@writeto.net](mailto:Wmall@writeto.net).

The deaf brethren in London would like to contact **Australian Mark**, who is also deaf. We last heard he was in Taiwan. If anyone knows his whereabouts, please let him know we'd love to hear from him. Thanks so much! He can contact us at: [tucks@beeb.net](mailto:tucks@beeb.net).

## former friends —seeking contact

Former member, Barak (Norwegian, Yngve Øggen), is wanting to get in contact with **Australian Crystal** (Deborah) concerning some legal paperwork. He can be reached at: [yngve@freesurf.no](mailto:yngve@freesurf.no).  
Phone #: (+47) 32 88 71 85  
Mobile phone: (+47) 92 83 34 62

The news and views from Family members published in the *Grapevine* do not necessarily reflect WS policy. Suggested reading age for this publication is 14 years and up. Selected portions may be read by or with those younger at parents' or shepherds' discretion. All Family members in China use pen names for their contributions to the *Grapevine*. The Grapevine Family, c/o TRIAG, Aussergrütstrasse 2, CH – 6319 Allenwinden, Switzerland. E-mail: [gv@wsfamily.com](mailto:gv@wsfamily.com) Copyright © 2004 by The Family