

The Grapevine

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No one can make you feel inferior without your consent. (MOP2 6:11)



JEREMY SPENCER 2000

It's very exciting to see the Lord's hand move in preparation for the Jeremy Spencer 2000 concerts. As we "ask Him everything," we've seen Him lead and guide in unexpected, yet miraculous ways. You can feel a definite excitement in the spirit, and already the Lord has been leading us in somewhat unconventional ways, as was indicated in one of the prophecies that came from Mama and Peter's Home.

For example, a couple of nights ago a small team of Jeremy, Michael Piano, Silas and Benny went to a local music store to pick up some CDs for Jeremy and the band to work with. While there, they noticed a poster advertising a jazz guitarist who was going to be playing at the store the next evening. In asking the Lord about it, He showed us that we should try to meet this guitarist, a woman named Leni Stern, who is quite a famous jazz guitarist and has been a recipient of the "Best Female Gibson Guitarist" award for the last five consecutive years.

To make a long story short, we were able to meet this woman the next night as she was holding a music workshop, and Jeremy was able to jam with her on a couple of numbers. In the course of our conversation with her, she told us that she was going to be participating in the International Jazz Yatra here in

Mumbai the next night. We later found out that this is the biggest jazz festival of its kind outside of the USA and Europe. It's the most important jazz festival in India and has been taking place for the last 27 years—falling only a few days after Jeremy arrived in India this particular year. (Actually, this festival was held at one of the same venues we performed at during the Jeremy Spencer '98 concerts.)

Leni Stern turned out to be quite a precious 47-year-old woman actually, who lives in New York though she is German. Though her music is jazz-flavored, it's more like folk music and is pretty meaningful with references to the Lord, Heaven and spiritual things of a Christian nature. She seems to have a real love for the people of India and was the main star for the 3-day festival here in Bombay.

This seemed like an open door and in taking it to the Lord, He indicated that we should check with the organizers of this festival to see if Jeremy could perhaps perform a couple of numbers. The Lord had said in prophecy that it would be a new, and again, a somewhat unconventional way to promote our upcoming shows here, just to raise the level of awareness, particularly being that the people attending these concerts are

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URGENT PRAYER REQUEST FOR FRENCH CASE

Dear Family,

We love you very much and are so thankful that we can call on you for this urgent prayer request. As you know, the final closing of the French case has been taking awhile. Our enemies in France seem determined to prolong the case and cause as much damage to The Family as possible through this. They are asking the judge to retract the Non-Lieu that he pronounced in January 1999 (which means he was ready to close it in our favor but ADFI appealed it). There is also a very negative new anti-cult law being voted on in France so in prolonging the case they are hoping that if this new law passes they will be able to use it against us. So it's going to be a fight to the finish! But we know Who is the Victor! Our precious Husband is right by our side and will never fail to come to our aid!

But we desperately need your help, dear Family, to fight beside us in prayer for the final victory! We would like to ask if on your monthly prayer day in February you can dedicate some time to this case and desperately pray that the Lord will give us the victory! Also if you could join with us in prayer specifically on February 23rd. The following are some of the specific requests we would like to bring before the Lord.

The Judge - please pray that he will not retract his ordinance of Non Lieu and will throw out ADFI's appeal, completely closing the case in our favor!

Our Lawyers - for their supernatural anointing and wisdom, especially that they will not be weary in well doing and will be clear with us as to what is happening.

Against ADFI – against their efforts to use accusations against someone who is not a Family member (but has been a friend) and his family difficulties against us. They are trying to make a connection between this person and the Family members.

For a mighty host of angelic warriors to fight on our behalf against the evil spiritual forces in France to defeat them and bring The Family the victory in this court case.

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Jeremy Spencer 2000

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some of the "top brass" in the city musically-speaking. The organizers were more than thrilled to have Jeremy participate in this event, as were the 2,500 people who showed up that night to watch him perform!

Apart from Leni Stern's set, some of the other music was pretty uninspired to say the least, so when Jeremy got on to play, it was electrifying—literally! Ha! Jeremy was able to perform two numbers alongside some of the best musicians in the country. Leni Stern sheepishly requested to play with him as well. The crowd reacted enthusiastically, wanting Jeremy to perform for as long as possible, though in following the Lord's counsel step by step, it was evident that we should keep it short—almost something like a movie trailer just to make sure everybody comes back for the movie, i.e. the full concerts in February. But he made news on the festival the next day, with Bombay music critics hailing Jeremy as "brilliant," and his guitar playing "phenomenal."

It seemed to be a very miraculous and encouraging way to kick off our time here—a result of following His direction through prophecy, which gave us the faith to try out some new and unconventional doors and methods. PTL!



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Ivory Coast

In the middle of a coup!

BY MARY MOM, DECEMBER 27, 1999

Abidjan has been a fun place to witness. It is more work than we all have done in years and life has changed so much for us all, but it has been so inspiring.

Now things are changing drastically. The day the coup happened our beautiful little area was completely looted. All our friends' shops were ransacked to the bone and brought to ruin in 24 hours. Much of the city is in the same condition. The good thing about the military takeover is that it has been a bloodless coup; we have heard of only a few deaths, which seem to have been accidental. The general is now making a public example of the main looters on his team and he says he wasn't in favor of all the looting.

The worst part of it was that Joyanna (16) and Mark were witnessing at the mall when the

GREECE – Gideon, Meekness and Chellie: We were invited to record a demo by a large recording company in Athens; now they want to cut an album of our kids' band!

soldiers began their display of strength. The soldiers entered the mall and began shooting their semi automatic weapons in the air. This was quite frightening for everyone. There was mass panic. Joy and Mark were ushered into the shop of a friend and laid on the floor for a few hours while the shooting

continued, feeling for sure they were going to get killed. Then a man rushed them out of the store and took them to his house. His house just happened to be situated between the military base and the camp of the rebels. The main road was blocked and all cars were being stopped. Occupants told to get out and walk, and the cars were all stolen.

Joy and Mark stayed there for some time, but in the night when the shooting died down, they prayed and the Lord told them to make a run for it on foot, so they did. They had some hairy experiences on the way, hiding behind a truck for some time, running and getting caught in a group of other runners, and that is when Joy got hit with the butt end of a gun which was terrifying for her. The soldiers in the meantime were shooting in the air continuously. They made it home in about 20 minutes and we were thankful they were safe.

The Lord has shown us to sit tight, but prepare in every way. Our main outreach and witnessing has come to a complete halt, but when we have to go out we get out posters. We have our flee bags ready to go in case we have to run. We are also packing our house and other belongings in case we need to make a complete move. We have also stocked up Y2K-style in case we have to hold up here in the apartment. Right now, anything could happen. The embassies are saying to stay put, but have taken our phone number in case they want to

evacuate all foreigners. Now with the former president out of the country, it is less likely there will be a war, but that is all uncertain right now. Please keep us in your prayers!

BY DOVE, MOTHER OF 12, IVORY COAST:

We are safe and the Lord is keeping us so far! The situation seems stable at this point. Of course we do not know what the new general will do from here on. Philip just went to the market this morning and had to come back because there were commando's there! So, no shopping, but TTL because of the Y2K we have enough food for a couple of weeks and even have a well in the yard for emergency water!

Benji (10) and I were down town the day it started (the 23rd) and somehow by a miracle we had just left the main area where it was all starting, soldiers were shooting in the air, robbing stores etc. We made it back safely and heard about it all in the car of the sweet French lady that gave us a ride home. She was getting out of town as fast as she could. She had been in Cameroon when there was a coup there, so she knew what to do. The soldiers were stopping cars on the roads and taking them away from people, blocking the two major bridges (the center of Abidjan is like Manhattan; it is a peninsula and is easy to block off from the rest of the city, actually the rest of the city is more like a big village).

We made it Home and everybody was thankful to see us. We had a lot of teams down town and all made it to safety. Some teens and YAs were ballooning in the main shopping center of Abidjan, the first one to get hit. One of the teens told us how the soldiers stormed into the center shooting in the air, telling everybody to lie down and then they started looting and getting all the money out of the cash registers. He said that everybody was dead quiet and the only thing you could hear was our Christmas tape playing! Ha! What a way to get the witness out!

We are listening to the BBC world news as the local TV and radio stations are off the air since the rebels took them over. The airport is also in their hands. I forgot to mention that most of the prisons have been opened so the country is being swarmed with freed prisoners. The main prison of IC is just 15 kilometer down the road. There are most likely 7,000 prisoners loose, so we are hiding all our valuables, etc. The Lord is going to have to do miracles and we know He will. We aren't worried!

Right now General Guiy is in charge and he sounds like a sweet older man. Actually, a Family couple that lived here in Abidjan hitchhiked to Guinea a few months ago with their two children and when they got stuck in the evening at the border to Guinea (here borders close when it gets dark!), they were picked up by a sweet man that took them to his house, fed them generously, gave them beds for the night and took them to the border the next morning. Can you guess who this sweet old

man, who got saved by the way was?—General Guiy! What a witness!

Life sure is exciting! It beats life in the dull West! Ha! I'm writing this on the porch of our Home and one thing that just struck me is how quiet it is today. I guess everybody around here is very careful. We have a big property with a high wall around it and heavy locked metal gates, so we can safely sit outside. Please keep us and the others here in your prayers, that the situation will return to normal.

This has been our first Christmas in Africa, which is actually really weird, because it is so super hot—the last thing on your mind is that it is actually Christmas. No winter coats, hats or scarves or frozen fingers. Only the bright and happy sunshine and people of Africa. There is one special thing about the Africans that do care to do something about Christmas, they put the decorations and all up, (only the Christian ones by the way, the many Muslims here don't) but then they somehow forget to take them down, till next Christmas comes around and all of a sudden you see the decorations change. The only way you can tell though is because instead of 1999 it now says 2000! Ha! The people that do care to decorate, figure they might as well leave them up all year since it's so pretty! How's that for saving money! ●

Hot item!—Pirated copies of "Countdown to Armageddon!"

BY VALOUR, UKRAINE

The Russian version of "Countdown to Armageddon" is available in every major Christian bookshop in Ukraine, and from what we understand most likely in Russia as well. The movie has been shown on several TV stations throughout Ukraine. Everybody is raving about it—Christians and non-Christians alike!

We found this out when we saw a pirate copy at a church we were invited to at Christmas time. It was sold in a beautifully designed cardboard box (in fact we saw two versions of the cover) with pictures from the video, including the Aurora copyright and the Family's Armageddon Web site address.

When exploring further we located one of the duplication companies in Kiev who assured us that they're not the only ones copying it. From there we went to Kharkov where it was also confirmed that the video was widely available.

One poor Baptist pastor we had brought some humanitarian aid to (for distribution in his village) showed us his own pirate copy and lamented that it was wearing out. He told us that *Countdown* had been shown two times in that region for an estimated audience of 10 million people! Although they are cheating us out of the royalties, the message sure is getting out!

We hope to follow up on this success story by mass marketing the book version *Future Foretold* as well as *Glimpses of Heaven* in Russian. Please pray for this project.

Nationwide TV Performance on Children's Day

BY SILAS, THAILAND

On Children's Day, SGA Andrew and the children from the Bangkok DF Home appeared on nationwide TV. It was by far the best TV appearance the children have ever made—a combination of our desperation and hearing from the Lord every step of the way.

A few weeks back, the producer of Channel 11 asked if the children could perform for Children's Day 2000. In seeking the Lord on this together, He confirmed that it was indeed His will and would be a sample to the nation of our becoming one with the Thai people.

We had some Thai dance teachers come over to our house the last couple of days to practice the children's Thai dance (the "coconut dance") with them. These teachers went out of their way to not only practice the dance with the kids, but they also provided the Thai costumes and did the children's hair and makeup on the day of the show, which turned out beautifully. (It ended up taking more than two hours to do the children's hair and makeup, as it was done very traditionally.)



Children's Day in Thailand falls on the second Saturday of January and is an important event here. Last year on Children's Day, the children's singing team from the Bangkok DF Home were invited to perform on Channel 11, which was broadcast live nationwide.

We had worked it out that Andrew would interview the children after their song, rather than the announcers doing it, so that the children would hopefully be more comfortable and not get nervous, as they would need to speak in Thai. The Lord anointed them as they gave their names and ages and spoke quite fluently in Thai with Andrew. I think the impression people were left with is that the Family in general has embraced Thai customs and culture, just by virtue of the fact that these foreign children were dressed in these very beautiful traditional Thai costumes, doing a Thai dance and conversing quite easily in Thai with Andrew,



who speaks Thai very fluently, even joking with the announcers, who were pretty quick with their comments and questions to him.

A few of our friends have told us that they watched the show and were very impressed, and we feel that this will have a big impact on the Family's work in Thailand. Thank the Lord for such wonderful golden opportunities!



Netsite

ASCRO Web Stats: As the end of 1999 rolled around, we had a phenomenal increase of activity on our Web sites, with over 100,000 visits on our 3 Web sites and a total of almost 1.7 million Web hits during December alone!

Visits to the *Countdown to Armageddon* site skyrocketed to around 73,569 visits during the month of December, with a new visitor every 12 seconds at the peak of activity! With the upcoming Jeremy Spencer 2000 concerts in India, there has been considerable interest in the Jeremy Spencer site, with over 40 megabytes of material downloaded. We updated our sites 4 or 5

times a week during the month of December. Below is a quick look at the Web stats for December:

Countdown to Armageddon:
73,569 visits
17,269 MB downloaded

Jeremy Spencer Web site:
15,238 visits
40,711 MB downloaded

Thai Family Web site:
9,796 visits
4,610 MB downloaded

B.I. Service Center seeking personnel

The Service Home in England is in need of some secretarial help. Are you the one? Their present ABM is moving to the field. There is also the need for someone to help with the *Activated!* Mail Ministry and the Mail Ministry to Africa. Quite a variety of exciting and fulfilling work! EC passport holders preferable. Either girl or guy, young or old, are all candidates welcome! For more details please write the ABM at: neurabm@exl.co.uk (attention Linda). Looking forward to hearing from you!

Conferences

The Parliament of World's Religions

By Rachel – Cape Town, South Africa,
December 1999

Attending the Parliament of World's Religions was an exciting experience for Gideon and myself. This was only the third time in history the World Parliament was held. The first one was in 1893, the second in 1993 in Chicago, and this was the first time it was to be held in Africa. When we arrived in Cape Town and found that there were 6,500 delegates, besides thousands more of the general public who would be attending for certain special sessions, we were slightly overwhelmed. Besides this there were special guests like the Dalai Lama and Nelson Mandela.

We were there to make contacts, especially amongst academics, who could act as objective observers of *The Family* if and when persecution arises in Africa. We were probably one of the smallest delegations from any religious group represented, and there were 800 speeches being given over a total of eight days. Where could we start? Well, thank the Lord we can call on Him for direction through prophecy. Desperation and prophecy were the keys.

The first day I went on the procession through Cape Town of all the religious groups in their different costumes. There was some opposition to the Parliament from a fringe Moslem group who wanted the Parliament to make political statements—which of course is not its purpose. I marched through Cape Town with a black African bishop on one side and a Moslem on the other, while also sharing our beliefs with some Catholics. I was first in line to shake hands and meet the mayor of Cape Town, who is a sweet and lovable character. Later on we met the author of "Chicken Soup for the Soul," (a worldwide bestseller) who seemed quite fascinated by our life and beliefs.

We started each day with prayer and prophecy as we didn't know which way to turn and didn't want to waste any opportunity the Lord wanted to put in our path. We particularly looked for African academics, media representatives and influential people. At every presentation we were able to give the Family's perspective on the topic—whether it be AIDS, religious freedom or education.

During one session, we were filmed by SABC talking about religion and its connection with war. It was a wonderful opportunity to introduce ourselves to any of the speakers. The Lord showed us to emphasize *The Family* and to use our personal family of 12 children as a testimony. This almost always brought gasps from the audience and was a great way to make an impression. We showed the photos of our CTP work and our children everywhere we went.

Community work

Some of the presentations we attended were regarding community projects throughout

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Dear Mama

[NOTE: FROM A
YOUNG PERSON
WHO JOINED MAMA'S
STAFF IN 1999.]

Dear Mama,

I guess my initial reaction was one of shock in finding out where I was. I was quite worried about whether there had been some mistake, but after making it to the house, I was pleasantly surprised by everyone's outgoing show of affection and concern for me and to see how normal everyone was.

The main thing that impressed me as I began to see a more detailed picture of the life in the Home was the two generations actually being able to work together. In my experience, it's very rare for the younger and older generations to communicate and live together, treating each other with the same amount of respect. That alone has encouraged me, as the answer was in the Word all along.—All it takes for smooth relations between anybody is a lot of humility and turning to the Lord when problems arise. Of course, I know the people here aren't perfect, and I'm not saying I've witnessed an example of perfection. But what I have seen are people who are trying to live the New Wine as best as they can, and are sold on Jesus, reading His Word, and prophecy.

As being here is a very big responsibility, I find myself a little apprehensive in the knowledge that the Enemy will try to fight me the best he can. However, it does provide some comfort to know that at least someone is going to make sure I'm not resting on my laurels but is there to keep me desperate day by day.

Africa and we attended to meet the presenters, but also because we thought that their presentation could be instructive on how to run successful CTPs in Africa. We met the Director for the Center of Creative Education for the Peoples of Africa. Here we were able to discuss our home schooling methods. We attended several presentations on AIDS and met some lovely Christians who are working in this field trying to educate and counsel AIDS victims. They gave us stacks of information which could be helpful to our work in Africa; this is such a need here as almost 25% of young people in Sub-Saharan Africa have AIDS or are HIV positive.

They were inspired to hear about our work and also how we have had some of our teenagers trained as AIDS educators. We attended a very useful talk by the Chief Executive Director of STREETS in South Africa—a charity working with children living on the streets, which could be used as a model for other projects.

Media

One of the first speeches we attended was given by the editor of the Cape Times, who gave an extremely good talk on encouraging religious tolerance, and showed how his newspaper acted responsibly in trying times so as not to whip up religious hysteria. We were able to bring up how media hysteria and stereotyping had led to our children being taken from our homes at gunpoint. This man is being promoted for his work on religious tolerance and will be spreading his campaign nationally.

Gideon went to a session specifically about religion and the media, and met the commissioning editor for SABC religious affairs, and the religious editor of the LA Times. When discussing the role of the media in religious persecution, he was able to give a brief outline of the newspapers' treatment of us in 1993,

and its results, which brought gasps of disbelief from the audience.

African academics

We were able to meet many South African academics in the field of religious studies. We were invited to have lunch with several professors from the University of Zululand, and we were able to go more deeply into our beliefs. We are keeping in touch with an Arabic Jew, who is the founder of the Ethiopian literacy Campaign and Chairman of the Peace and Development Committee for Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa. We were also able to meet academics from Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya, although unfortunately there were very few from this part of the world due to the expense of air travel within Africa.

Politicians

One of the most inspiring meetings was with the Deputy Defense Minister of South Africa, who is a Quaker. She is a Christian pacifist and her long-term vision is to help bring peace to Africa. Even though it seemed at first to her to be a contradiction to her beliefs to become Deputy Defense Minister, she believes it is God's will for her to effect a positive change. Already South Africa is taking a lead in peace negotiating in Africa. She was very humble and open and receptive and asking for suggestions to help her in policy making. We ended up hugging each other.

Whether speaking to politicians, media or academics or praying for the sweet taxi driver who had just lost his daughter in a car accident, it was a very inspiring and fulfilling eight days, a time which we pray has laid the foundation of our future media work in Africa.

Family Joys

By Jaz, WS

There are some joys that only Family living can bring you. I just had one of the most precious experiences that I have had in my life as a parent—a real “*babymania* moment.” It’s Parent Day, and the room has been appropriately darkened for the kiddos’ rest time. Pixie has been sleeping well, and Kimby (2 ½) is curled up in her trundle bed doing a notably less effortful attempt at the same. I don’t expect much in that department—she may have gotten over the naptime hurdle during the week, but Parent Day is an exception all its own.

Coming to a natural pause in whatever it was that I was doing at my desk, I came over to lay next to Kimby in her trundle bed for some sweet cuddle time—one of my favorite pastimes. After a while I wanted to get going again, so I decided to delay my departure in stages. First of all I weaned her from the little engine that she was zooming around in the air (maybe that will help her settle down for nap).

“You can play with your little train for one more minute, then I’m going to put it away so you can settle down for your nap.” That out of the way with no problem, I moved on to the next

step. “I’ll stay here with you for one more minute, then I need to go do some work.”

Kimby nodded, then she suddenly brought her hands together and looked over at me earnestly. “Shall we say a little prayer?”

I was touched. “Sure,” I said. She launched out fervently: “Jesus, please help us to have a good nap, in Jesus’ name, amen.” Pause. Then she looked over at me, “*You pray now.*”

Oops! I hadn’t realized this was conversational prayer. “Jesus, please help Pixie to sleep well and soundly, and bless Daddy as he’s working downstairs, in Jesus’ name.”

As I finished, Kimby began again, “And please give us lots of fun play time this afternoon.”

My turn. “Please bless Grandma and Grandpa and Auntie Lily and all of our friends around the world.”

Kimby’s eyes flickered a moment as she searched for a new topic. “Jesus, please help me not to get sick, in Jesus’ name, amen.”

We went back and forth a couple more times, and I really think she would have gone on (even if for no other reason than to delay her nap), but at that moment Pixie started crying, and so I kissed Kimby and went to replace Pixie’s pacifier and hope for the best.

Pixie settled; I sat down at my computer. I couldn’t help but smile—where else but in the Family can you have this kind of exchange—a heartfelt, conversational prayer with your two-and-a-half-year-old, and on her own initiative? What a life!

Cute kids



After hearing parts of the latest FTT tape, “Big Change Coming,” Nicole (4) was singing the chorus of “Date with an Angel.” “Was he a dream, was he a pharmacy...” to which Stephen (7) piped up, “No, Nicole! It says ‘Was he a dream, was he a Pharisee...’”! Ha!

—ELISE, INDONESIA

One day while getting ready to take photos with the tots, I was putting on make-up when Nikki (2) asked: What are you doing?

(Me:): “I’m trying to cover my pimples, ‘cause they make my face look ugly.”

(Nikki:): “You’re not ugly, you’re pretty. You look like a queen—like Queen Jezebel.”

—VICTORIA SGA, THAILAND

One day the electricity went out and the younger kids were watching the electricity repairman working on it across the street from the balcony. His truck was rather funky and was orange like the garbage truck.

Eventually the electricity came back on and Claire (3) exclaimed, “Look! The garbage man fixed the lights, and now the fan works too!”

—VICTORIA SGA, THAILAND

I was doing laundry one day when it was unusually quiet. I started getting worried about my two-year-old son, and wondered what he was up to since I couldn’t find him. Then I heard a funny noise and I quickly called for him to come out. When I didn’t get a reply I decided to proceed with the “1...2...3...” method to get him to come, but there was still no answer.

By this time, I had figured out where he was and what he was doing and I was a bit upset. I walked in on him and when he saw me he said, “Mommy, you can’t spank me because when I say ‘1...2...3...’ to you, you never come!”

—RACHEL (OF ALFREDO), BRAZIL

kidbits

the latest arrivals ...

Tommy, born to **Flor and Sam** on November 17. Brazil

Michael James, 5th child, born to **Gloria and Mark** on November 25.—Thailand

Nicole Kathleen, born to **Sara and Marcos** on November 28.—South Africa

Michelle, born to **Softy and Paul** on November 30.—Brazil

Paul Nicholas, 1st child, born to **Angie Flame and Ike** on December 6.—PACRO

Christopher Antony, born to **Tabitha and Pedro** on December 10. Brazil

Rodrigo, born to **Anisa and Abner** on January 2.—Brazil

Martin Len, 7th child, born to **Crystal and Paul** on January 3.—Philippines

expecting ...

Joanna (of Thai John) is pregnant with number 13.—Thailand

Sara (of Simon) is pregnant with number 10.—India

Crystal (of Paul) is pregnant with number 7.—Indonesia

Getting *Activated!*

From *Contato* (Brazil *Activated!* Desk):

Our Home has a mailing list of around 800 people who have written in over the last year or so, asking for posters, tracts, more information about the Family, etc. We prayed about integrating them into *Contato* and the Lord gave His word of confirmation on it. Last week we sent out a special Christmas mailing to each of them. The package included the first issue of *Contato*, a subscription form, and both the year-round and special Christmas tool flyers. We're praying for positive responses to that mailing.

This month we also sent another 1,000 magazines to the Family in Japan, as there is now another Home there who ministers to the people in the Brazilian/Japanese community in their city. We also sent some flyers and booklets in Portuguese, as the Homes want to buy stocks on a monthly basis, to be able to fill the need in Japan.

On a recent business trip to the main post office here in Sao Paulo, Matt gave free copies of the *Mottos for Success* calendar to the girls who normally help us with the large volume of mail we send off on a weekly basis. They've been very helpful, letting Matt in the door when it's closing time, for example. A week later the woman in charge of that department of the post office came up to Matt saying, "Where can I buy a copy of that calendar you gave to the girls? It's just what I've been looking for, and I want to integrate it as a part of our employee training program." It's incredible to realize what a goldmine of spiritual treasures we have in our witnessing tools—even the things we can sometimes take for granted and consider very mild and milky (like the calendar). Matt proceeded to give her a free copy of the calendar, which is certainly going to encourage them to keep giving us very good customer service!

FROM CONÉCTATE (MEXICO *ACTIVATED!* DESK):

The *Mottos for Success* calendar has been going very well, with the Homes ordering a fair quantity, and testifying how well they are selling. This is a totally new format for Mexico and people really like them! Since the calendars only arrived here at our base around the 20th of November, and being a new tool, the Homes are a bit cautious about ordering big quantities. But we heard from those who took a few to give it a try, that they were going fast, and folks were coming back to us to buy more. PTL!

[Editor: We also heard from Brazil that over 1,500 *Mottos for Success* sold there during the Christmas season!]

Signing up new sheep daily!

FROM DAVID (12, OF JOHN AND REJOICE), USA:

Activated! is great! I'm always so excited when someone signs up. We pray every day for both the *Activated!* desks and for people to want to subscribe. The response is very positive! The people here really like this kind of stuff. We offer

it mainly to people who we pray with. Most days we get at least two people signed up. Today three people subscribed. Another day we had six! Today we talked to two African-American girls who looked like they were about 20 years old. We prayed with both of them. We offered them the 3 free issues at first. The girl looked over the card and said, "No! I want to subscribe for the whole year!"

At home we have an *Activated!* bar graph on our bulletin board. You color in one square for everyone that signs up. So far, the average is about 16 per week, and this week we got about 25 people signed up! PTL! A lot of the people who receive the three free issues tell us that they would like to subscribe after the three free months of *Activated!*. PTL for *Activated!*, and special thanks to all of you Family who work on this fruitful project! I love you!

Getting out *Activated!* magazines like posters!

FROM DAN AND ESTHER, USA:

Dan has been using the *Activated!* magazines on outreach, getting them out like posters (by the way these are ones for which we paid the seedcorn). They go very well for him. Today we got a phone call from a Mexican man who received one and he requested Bible classes not only for him, but he has a group of 20 or more who want to attend our classes. This is very exciting for us!

[Editor: This is a great idea! You can order the *Activated!* magazines in unlimited quantities—the more that get out the better!]

Activated! a perfect complement to tool distribution

FROM HOSANNA, MARYANN, ANDREW, REJOICE, AND TIMOTHY, INDIA:

The Lord is blessing our outreach as we are trying to make a habit of pushing *Activated!* subscriptions in the course of our outreach. In the beginning we had some fears that by signing up people for *Activated!* we may get out less tools and therefore less income for our Home. All the outreach teams in the Home have made personal goals for how many *Activated!* subscriptions we would each like to sign up this month and the Lord has been helping us meet these goals.

We have found that as we focus more on *Activated!* and take every opportunity to explain about it to people, be they Christian or non-Christian, that we have been able to meet our tool goals as well as our *Activated!* goal. We have been following up on people who have previously taken tools and find that this is the perfect next step for them to keep growing, and often they sign up as well as take more tools.

We are looking forward to visiting these people after they have been receiving the *Activated!* magazine for sometime, as then we will know who has a vacuum for more Word and we feel these are the people who have potential to become monthly pledgers.

happenings

[Fruit of many prayers]

Sarah C., Thailand: About 1½ years ago, I was browsing through the newspaper one evening. I read an article about a man who is the owner of an international food company, telling a little about his life. In bed that night, I had the feeling that the Lord wanted me to write to this man and tell him about our work, and ask if he would like to support us in some way. The problem was that there was no address in the article, except the mention that he had a farm in Europe where he stayed on occasion.

I wrote him a letter and addressed it with what little info I had about his whereabouts. I began praying daily that he would receive it and help us. I felt led to pray for him personally also. The letter never came back so I figured someone must have received it. Over the next 1½ years I sent him a couple more newsletters in the same way, and kept praying. Sometimes I felt foolish praying so often for this one man and expecting his help. But the Lord kept reminding me of him! About two months ago, I shared this with the Home and asked for their prayers. I kept praying.

The other day we received an envelope with the same company's name on its return address. This dear man had sent \$500 and a short thank-you for my letter. Wow! What a miracle! Now I'm praying we can minister to him through the mail, and that the Lord will touch his heart to become a regular supporter.

[Answering another's prayer]

Rejoice (of John), Thailand: We have a friend who's a doctor in the army who we've known for a few years. He helps to sponsor and support our work and projects monthly.

Two years ago, he introduced us to his brother who was working in a bank. We only met his brother a few times, but he was very interested in our work and helped support us every time we saw him. After a while, this brother moved away to another town, and we lost contact with him. Then we heard from our army doctor friend not so long ago that his brother had been murdered. We were very thankful that his brother had received Jesus with us during the

short time that we knew him.

Last week when we were visiting our army doctor friend, he gave us a copy of his brother's funeral memorial book. We were looking through it, and found a copy of a letter to his family from an old missionary friend who had stayed with his brother in 1971 but had had to leave Thailand a couple years ago.

In the letter, this missionary was saying how thankful he was to have known him, but that he felt his job wasn't complete because this man hadn't yet prayed to accept Jesus as his Savior, but that he'd kept him in his prayers all these years. He was very saddened to hear of his death.

It was inspiring for us to read this letter and see how unbeknownst to us, the Lord had used us to answer this dear missionary's prayers for this man all these years, and that he is now safely in His Kingdom!

[Generator just in time]

Islamabad Home, Pakistan: While visiting a pledger four months back we were discussing Y2K and how we were getting prepared. We casually mentioned that all we needed was a generator, to which he amazingly replied, "Oh, don't worry. Our company has a brand new one that we don't need—you can have it." Three months went by and our friend remained busy and he kept forgetting about it. We were getting a little frantic as December was fast approaching and we needed to know if he was going to keep his promise or else we would have to do something else quick.

During the last week of November, we went by his office to drop off a Christmas invitation to our open house program. His finance director happened to walk by and as we talked the subject of the generator came up. The finance director said, "Oh, you want it now? Just wait, I'll go get it. It's stored in my house." He did and we were able to bring home a brand new Honda 4KV-generator worth \$1,200. Just what we needed! His delays are definitely not denials.

[Out of a hole, back on the field!]

Seth, Indonesia: After getting my clearance to come to the field, there were a few big mountains to climb by God's grace. I was \$15,000 in debt, our previous Home needed to be shut down and a new one opened, plus ticket funds and traveling funds needed to be raised. Sounds like a lot of money, doesn't it? It was! It took a lot of prayer each step of the way. The Lord was getting me ready for the field by making me super desperate!

It was amazing seeing God work! The big debt melted away when after a six-month delay, promises to help pay almost all the debt finally came in. Funds also came in to set up a new house as we all went on the attack as a Home to get those moving in and those still wanting to go to the field, set up. Also the Lord used friends and supporters to bring in my ticket money and traveling funds. This all happened during a time period of just a few months. I hope this is an encouragement to those still coming to the field and those trying to get support!

Now that's funny!

It's not what you say, But 'ow ze French say it....

When Charles de Gaulle decided to retire from public life, the British Ambassador and his wife threw a gala dinner party in his honor. At the dinner table, the ambassador's wife was talking with Madam DeGaulle.

"Your husband has been such a presence on the French and international scene for so many years! How quiet retirement will seem in comparison. What are you most looking forward to in these retirement years?"

"A penis," replied Madam de Gaulle. A hush fell over the table. Everyone had heard her answer...and no one knew what to say next.

Le Grand Charles leaned over to his wife and said, "*Mon Cherie*, I believe ze English pronounce that word, 'appiness!'"

—COURTESY OF MIKE D.

Christmas news

Picture tells 1000 words

John, Mary, Gideon and Joan, Taiwan: We came to this city six months ago. This Christmas we were able to do many CTP shows. We provisioned over 80 toys to give to the orphans. When we sang at the government hospital, reporters from four newspapers showed up; they all printed good articles about us in the papers the following day.



hanging on the sides of the room. So everyone had a pretty clear understanding of not just the Family, but our various CTP activities, Web sites, tools, performances and so forth.

ITV (a Thai cable network) filmed a good part of this show and told us that they would be airing a portion of it about *The Family* on either Christmas or New Year's Eve. The man who came is a famous television personality and was quite impressed with what he saw. Other

top people from Channel 3, Channel 5, Channel 7 and Channel 11, along with the several other TV representatives, attended. Representatives from two prominent music companies were also in attendance—one of whom is particularly keen on doing something with us and our singing team.



The overall show was so anointed. It was a combination of Christmas songs, Thai songs, popular Family songs and other songs. It went over supernaturally with the audience. Dear SGAs Andrew and Angelina did a tremendous job of MCing the program. They shared a beautiful Christmas message while at the same time connecting with the Thai audience because of their language abilities and knowledge of the Thai culture. It was nothing short of supernatural!

Xin Nian Kulle! **(Happy New Year, in Mandarin)**

Christmas witnessing on wheels

A. and J., China: While on a Christmas road trip in a new area, we were in a small supermarket searching for some snacks for our children's hungry tummies. Suddenly, we found ourselves tuning in to some distant music and commotion coming from somewhere in the building. Inquisitively, we began to follow the sound of the music to see where it was coming from and to our surprise we

came upon a roller skating rink packed full of young university students. After checking in with the Lord on what we should do with this neat discovery, He showed us to don on some rented skates (no blades here, sorry!) and witness on wheels!

While all of these young energetic students were zooming, zipping and falling down anywhere and everywhere, we skated alongside them and offered tracts. Pretty soon we were all puffed out and stopped to rest. When looking around the skating rink, we saw countless students sitting down quietly and studiously, reading the tracts. We then took the opportunity to personally witness to different ones and lead them to the Lord.

This skating rink was totally run by the students themselves. Apart from us being there the whole place was completely filled with young people, whooping it up and having a fun time. The rest of our road trip was super fruitful too and we witnessed to many others...and souls were added to the Kingdom!

Not limited by many or few!

By Ahlai, USA [en route to Mexico]: Though we only had a few weeks to paint and fix up this huge 14-bedroom house before moving out and heading to Mexico, the Lord told us to trust Him and witness our hearts out this Christmas! He gave us an "everyone out four days a week" schedule (we have lots of babies and kids!) and all of us did shop-to-shop with tapes, videos and posters, Christmas clowning, car washing, etc. It was so inspiring as all the new moms and their babies and toddlers got out regularly too, with lots of witnessing in Spanish, Japanese, Portuguese and other languages.

We also went Christmas caroling at a big indoor mall. This is an engagement that we have done for several Christmases now, but this year we tried to get out of it—Godfrey and Heidi are really the only singers left, and the rest of us just kind of wave, smile, sing

along and say Merry Christmas! We told them the real singers had gone to Mexico and our hearts were there too, etc., but the mall shop owners wanted us back so badly that they said they would pay us almost

double and throw in a Mexican dinner at a restaurant if we would just come! What could we say?!

Our caroling team turned out to be every able-bodied person, giving all of us a chance to be in the "DC Band" before it leaves DC, ha!—Including Eric and Cody (both 4) and Loren (toddler) who gave everyone posters from a shopping cart that we pushed along as we sang! It seemed everyone loved it, which is a miracle!

We felt bad that we couldn't pull off an official "Open House" this year, but the Lord



encouraged us in prophecy that He had a better plan for our dear friends. We invited them to our own homey Christmas dinner, and it indeed was so much closer and more special. After a lovely dinner, we gathered around the fire and each visitor and Home member took down their athletic sock off the hearth (we couldn't afford expensive stockings). Different items and gifts we had collected for our friends and family members included a candle for Y2K, provisioned power bars from the New York brethren and other little goodies. For our friends there were things like applications for *Activated!* memberships and the new Family books and materials from our order we had just received. Our friends were excited and grateful.



After dinner we had a little service, sang carols, and Gabe read from the *Time* magazine that had Jesus on the cover. I read from Isaiah 53, *Reflections* and we had some special time with the *Mottos for Success* calendar, which everyone liked. We took some time as a group to go around and share words of love and appreciation and acceptance with each other.

Now we are having the most meaningful time of all—our Family Feast. It starts tomorrow and we can hardly wait. We feel renewed already with the very good idea of bringing in the New Year in retreat with our wonderful Husband. None of us peeked either, but we know we love it, embrace it and believe in it! Thank you Mama and Peter for this wonderful change of schedule this year. We love it and look forward to joining with our worldwide Family in the Word, prayer, intimate fellowship and prophecy.

The Ambassadors ministry

Asaph (of Charity), Pakistan: Last year we sang at the best hotel in town for two nights during Christmas. This was arranged through a close friend who is a well-known TV personality. She also works at this hotel as the entertainment and special functions manager.

This year we were again invited to sing for two nights, and this hotel faxed all the Embassies to inform them about our performance at Christmas. As it is Ramadan and the fast is broken at 6.30 pm, the hotel changed our performance to be a little earlier so we could



reach the crowd before their meal. It went very well and our 11 kids did a fantastic job. (It also resulted in a newspaper article).

After singing, we offered our tools and met people. One man turned out to be the Dutch Ambassador. He was quite sad that he had missed our show, as the hotel didn't inform him about the change in time. During the conversation we mentioned that we could sing for him on another occasion, to which he invited us to an exclusive party he was holding the following day for four more Ambassadors at his residence. The occasion was Christmas and his wife's birthday!

To make a long story short, after praying about it, we accepted. Usually we avoid approaching people like this but the Lord said: "Be not afraid of their faces! This is a time to share My light with all, even with rulers and people in high places. How else can they be reached?"



After performing at the hotel the following day, we made our way (a total of 20 people) in a big hotel bus to the ambassador's residence. There were three other ambassadors (Australian, Argentinean and Canadian) there with their wives, the men dressed in tuxedos and all very proper. Because the wife of the Dutch ambassador was having her birthday, we bought a bouquet of flowers, a card, and the kids had made one of their friendship bands.

During the show, the host asked Stefan to explain about our work and we gave a rundown of our projects; they were all impressed and are interested to know more. After a few songs, we sang "Happy Birthday" to the man's wife, presented the gifts and all the kids hugged her, which really broke the ice. The show was a success; the stiff atmosphere was gone and the Lord's Spirit was very present.

Things happening in China

M., F. and family, China: This year, with still one month to go until Christmas, our singing team has been asked to perform for over 300 people at a Christmas banquet for one of the city's leading officials and at one of the leading universities.

We have been asked to help with a children's institution, which should be

finished late next year. We received a visit from another organization today who want to open a similar institution here and asked for our help. God has great plans for the children of China.



Some friends who are building a school in a poor rural district asked us today if we can arrange to bring some doctors to set up a free medical clinic in the countryside, at which we'd be free to engage in personal witnessing and soul-winning.

help wanted

We are **J. and C. & children**. We have been in China almost a year now! We love it here and the people are so sweet. Although the way to reach China is so different than other fields we have been in, we have slowly but surely established many friends and contacts here. We have four children who come regularly to our house to play and fellowship with our children. The parents of these children are from the upper class and are totally won over by our Family sample and are wanting us to tell them about raising children etc., which has opened a whole new door to minister to these people.

We have a handful of students coming over regularly to be fed. We also have a ministry with our neighbors and people we have met that come to our house for fellowship. Our children are also learning the language. It thrills our hearts with all the Lord is doing. The battles are intense sometimes but the fruit makes it worth it all.

Since we came to China we've had difficulties with our communication (mostly with letters and newsletters we were sending); then for the past two and half months we've had computer problems which means we were totally cut off from the few supporters we had, thus our support was lost. C. is four months pregnant and physically quite weak. It takes time and money here to build a home and only a few weeks ago we were finally able to get a fridge. We wanted to make a plea for anybody to help us with support either one time or on a regular basis to enable us to continue to stay here. Please send donations via your TRF. Please include your Home number and e-mail address as it makes it easier to stay in touch with you. Thanks so much!—J., C., and kiddos. (CN631)

Dear Family! My name is **Terry**. I am a Croatian national, a single mom of three little kids (ages 5, 3 and 1). My oldest will have to start going to public school this year, since home schooling is not legal here. There is an opportunity for us to go to another mission field, but we have no funds. I am living in Croatia at the moment with no support at all. Can you help us? We'd appreciate any and all help! You can reach us through the SEEC ABM! Thank you so much!

entertainment—



Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up

THIRTEENTH FLOOR, THE (1999)

Craig Bierko, Gretchen Mol, Vincent D'Onofrio

Suspenseful sci-fi drama about a computer programmer trying to unravel the mystery surrounding the murder of his boss. Beware of a change in tone and some unpleasant scenes towards the end of the movie.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

WAKING NED DEVINE (1998)

Ian Bannen, David Kelly

Offbeat comedy/character study about two elderly men in a tiny coastal village in Ireland who discover that someone in their village won the lottery, and set about to find out who he is.

Movies Rated for All

PRESCHOOL POWER (1990)

Half-hour, song-based show geared to helping 2-5 year olds learn to perform skills such as putting on a jacket, fastening a buckle, cracking an egg, and much more. Upbeat, lively presentation, and good ideas for parents and teachers as well! Interspersed with short breaks for stretching and movement.

Not Recommended:

THE MESSENGER: THE STORY OF JOAN OF ARC (Milla Jovovich, John Malkovich, Faye Dunaway, Dustin Hoffman; 1999)

(Note: This is a different movie than the one rated for JETTs and up in Grapevine 71, starring Leelee Sobieski.)



Thirteenth Floor, The

(Dad speaking:) There are some people out there in the world who see that things are getting way too controlled, and that the things they have grown to depend on and call normal really aren't normal. They try, through the medium of filmmaking, to warn others and expose the lie. But that's just why the Family is here. That's our job—to tell others about Jesus and His wonderful world ahead.

The world, and even some people in the Family, think that computers don't affect them. The reality is that whatever you spend your time doing affects what you are and who you are, whether you know it or not, and whether you see it or not. Often with these violent video and computer games folks play, which they call entertaining, they don't realize that all the while they are becoming more and more like those ungodly, unloving, and violent characters that they interact with in the game.

This is a good portrayal of where the world is headed with computers and the dangers of all this technology without the Lord. *(End of message from Dad.)*

Waking Ned Devine

(Jesus speaking:) This movie is fun, interesting, engaging. It shows the culture and habits of this type of folk—back in the isolated Irish countryside, a type of people that the Family does not often come in contact with. However, as the

If you haven't read it yet, be sure to check out FSM #345, "Re-enlisting in God's Elite Troops!" Four terrific testimonies from young people who have been to the System and back—telling their personal stories and explaining why they returned.

movie centers around some dishonesty, it's sad that no one feels any compunction or even a twinge of conscience for the lies.

It's sad that all that the people of the village have to spend their money on is more drinks at the pub, or perhaps a little bit better housing. They do not have unselfish or truly lofty and noble pursuits to give their lives to, such as you do.

Take this movie for what it is worth—not much—and enjoy it for the humor, if you choose to see it. It is a sweet, gentle look at people whose lives are simple, and who get happiness in simple ways. *(End of message from Jesus.)*

Preschool Power

(Dad speaking:) This video contains a good, positive message that will inspire and enthuse many of the young ones who want to learn to do some of these things on their own but think they are too young or too small. It will also provide parents and teachers with a renewed vision for how much little children really can accomplish if they are properly trained and taught how to do things. This video will be a good vision-increaser.

It can be best used not as a babysitting tool, but as part of a class time, with follow-up reinforcement of the activities shown. The video could be watched once through by the children, but although they will enjoy the viewing it won't do much as far as actually teaching them these skills. So parents or teachers could then sit down again and watch the video, segment by segment—maybe just taking one segment a day, and concentrating on learning that skill for the day. Have the children practice putting on their jackets, doing their buckles, and so on, and thus you can get excellent mileage out of this fun teaching tool.

One thing to be mindful of is the catchy theme song, "I Can Do It On My Own"—it would be good to point out to the children, who may be prone to go around singing this song, that while it is helpful to learn to do things oneself, that there is also many a time for asking the help of others, and especially the Lord.—And while we should do things on our own, we should never be too proud or too busy to ask when we need help. *(End of message from Dad.)*

letters to the editor

Re: "Reply to all" beware! (See *Grapevine #72*)

In support of this article, I would like to add the following. Some months ago, our country was having a major war on its border. In that month we received a non-encrypted newsletter from a well-meaning brother that none of us in the Home knew. He probably got our address from the FCF Web site. It was interesting to read about his work, see photos, etc. However there was mention about how the Enemy was fighting them getting to a place and how they had to fight back real hard, etc.

One could tell after reading it that it was a Christian newsletter. However, with our country at war, it could have easily been misunderstood. Being foreigners and living in a very volatile country, this sort of thing can easily jeopardize our security. Since this incident took place, the government has been overthrown by the military in a *coup d'etat* and from what we hear they are monitoring some people's e-mail. Thank you for thinking about our security.

—STEFAN, PAKISTAN

Mama on Movies

Dear Family,

We love you! You are so dear to Peter and me. I don't usually talk much about movies, at least not specific ones, but I want to comment on "Sixth Sense". This movie was rated in *Grapevine*#73, with a message from Dad.

Different people in WS watch movies at different times, some earlier than others. A number of people watched "Sixth Sense" and prayed about it and voted on its rating. Most people who saw the movie liked it very much. When more folks from our Home watched it, although they enjoyed the movie, and said it was very well done, intriguing, interesting, etc., they had further questions. I did not see the movie, as I don't watch movies. Peter did not see it either; he chose not to as he was very busy. (As I have mentioned before, Peter and I are not directly involved in the movie rating, other than prayerfully reading what is printed in the *Grapevine*.)

Considering that some people wondered about this particular movie, I had a few people pray about it further. Dad gave me insight on this movie, which is "the other side". The Lord also gave counsel containing some very helpful principles that relate to not just this movie but any questionable or highly spiritual movies.

(Dad speaking:) I'd like to give a little follow up talk on the movie, "Sixth Sense," because I see that some of you who have seen the movie have a few questions. Whenever you have questions, it pays to ask them. If you don't ask, you might miss the opportunity to hear the full counsel of God!

This is a movie with a message, there's no doubt about that. The main message in this movie is for the people of the world, who are ignorant of the realities of the spirit world.

There are pros and cons on both sides of this film. There are aspects in the film that I wouldn't necessarily deem expedient for most of our Family.

Here are a few more points to consider that may help you decide about this particular movie—to view or not to view:

I know you all enjoy movies, for different reasons. But the main thing you have to consider when praying about whether to see a certain movie, the first and foremost question to ask yourself should be: what effect will that movie have on my spirit?

This movie is great, in that it's well made, it's grabs you, it's interesting; it's also positive and sweet in some scenes, very touching. But it's not something you can swallow hook, line

and sinker. Although it has some interesting parallels with what I've taught you about the spirit world, you must keep in mind that it brings out the dark side of the spirit world. While it might be great for waking up those in the System with its shock effects, there is a lot of fear portrayed—for that reason alone, it may not be the best thing across the board for everyone to see.

This is why you need to ask the Lord, because you don't always realize right off all the ways a movie can affect you. Sometimes the effects a film will have on you are not apparent right away, but they show up later, and in ways you never expected.

I told you this film puts forth some ideas that go along with my Letters, and things about the spirit world which I've already taught you, that's true—but the other side of the coin is this—it's also mixed with a good deal of things that are twisted and distorted and just not so. It's not entirely on-target in the spiritual truths portrayed. You can't expect much more out of Hollywood.

As a result, if you're not very prayerful, you might find you're confused, which is what some of you who have seen the film have experienced. Sometimes you might not realize right off the confusion it's caused in your heart and mind, but sooner or later it's bound to surface. This is especially true with a film like this, that is well made, interesting, well acted, and with an almost airtight plot. You walk away thinking, "Wow, that was a great film," but then later on, and in sometimes very subtle ways, negative influence or attitudes in different areas begin to creep in, if you're not very prayerful and discerning.

That's why you must really pray. This is why you need to count the cost, and consider any damage control that may be necessary after viewing such a film.

Now, if you're on guard, pray desperately, and go straight to the Lord and ask Him all the questions that will arise in your mind as a result of seeing this film, if you'll get His answers on it, if you're diligent to ask Him to cleanse you from any ill effects, even the ones that aren't so outward or apparent, well then, it might be okay for you to see it, as long as you have your spiritual guard up.

So it pays to ask the Lord if it's really worth your time, and the effort it will take to eschew the evil. While the message in this film is good in some ways, because it wakes up the poor people of the world and helps them to be aware of the spirit world, simultaneously, for you, dear Family who are so well informed about the spirit world already, it has a good deal that

must be cast aside, and that will require a good amount of effort to do so. So take this into account when you're praying and asking the Lord if this is a film you should view. Pray and get the Lord's confirmation. (End of message from Dad.)

(Jesus speaking:) Different movies affect different people in different ways, and that's why it's so important, and why I've asked each of My children of David to make it a policy that they ask Me before each movie viewing. There are times when I allow My children to see these movies so they can be in touch with the "signs of the times" and so they can relate to the people of the world. There are times when I want the Children of David to be informed, educated and aware. This keeps you in touch with the pulse of the world. This shows you how things are heading and the direction the powerful industry of entertainment is moving. This shows you what I am allowing the world to see and know. This is part of My education to the worldings, and part of My mercy, as I give them what they can and will receive, in an effort to open their eyes.

So in some ways, it's beneficial for My children. But the benefits will only come to the light if you are prayerful and serious about the spirit world and the powers of darkness; not taking lightly the effects and laughing it off or blowing it off in pride, but seriously praying, asking Me, and seeking My answers.

There will be some "damage control" and clean up to do afterwards if you see this movie. It is a risk, but I will protect and cleanse you, if you will follow through with the guidelines I have given. You will have to be willing to pray desperately before and afterwards, take extra Word time, ask Me your questions, and have prayer against the Enemy's influence. (End of message from Jesus.)

Mama: Please consider these comments from Dad and this warning from the Lord and ask the Lord before seeing this movie. If you have seen this movie already, or if you choose to see it after reading this, then please remember the points the Lord asks of you, which should be applied to all movies that are of a highly spiritual or questionable nature:

- Pray desperately beforehand and afterwards.
- Take extra Word time.
- Ask the Lord any questions that you have about the spirit world as a result.
- Have united prayer in your Home against the Enemy's influence—either obvious or subtle.



Microsoft Windows 2000 – Should you upgrade?

BY THE WS COMPUTER TEAM

Microsoft's newest operating system, Windows 2000 Professional, will be released to the public on February 17th, 2000. The WS computer team has received several inquiries about whether we recommend upgrading to this new operating system or not, and we imagine that many others are probably wondering about this. This is a complicated issue because there are many different situations involved, so what is right for one may not be right for another.

Windows 2000 is a very major upgrade from Windows 9x (Windows 95 or Windows 98), so it is something that should be approached slowly and given a lot of prayer and advance planning. Windows 2000 has very high hardware and software requirements, plus many aspects of the operating system are very different from Windows 9x. These differences and their implications need to be understood and prayed about before upgrading to Windows 2000.

There may be some very computer literate

Family members that may benefit from Windows 2000 right away, but for most Family Home needs, you would probably be better off staying with Windows 9x for now. We are not saying that it would never be advisable to upgrade, but just make sure that you very prayerfully consider all aspects of the upgrade and get the Lord's go-ahead before switching to Windows 2000.

Most programs that WS has issued up until this time are *not* currently compatible with and will not run on Windows 2000. This includes all of the following programs:

The HomeARC
CpyWin
DOS TeleTRF
Cpy 96
Menu Extension
Wxpy

We are evaluating all of these programs as to how to best upgrade them for future use. In many cases there are other considerations to be made besides just getting them to run on Windows 2000. For instance, the HomeARC was developed for Windows 3.1 (now 3 major versions old), so there are many new technologies that need to be considered when updating it.

There are also many system programs that are not compatible with Windows 2000. Most disk utilities, anti-virus programs, and many games and other multimedia type programs, etc., are not compatible. Some programs may work with it but have certain issues or require certain updates to the program.

The hardware requirements for Windows 2000 are also much higher than for Windows 9x. Microsoft states the minimum hardware requirements as a Pentium 133 with 64mb of RAM and 2gb of hard disk space. Minimum hardware requirements do not normally give very satisfactory results, so it would probably be best to not even consider Windows 2000 unless you have a significantly faster computer than the minimum.

We are sorry that we can't give more definite recommendations than this, but since Windows 2000 is very new (the final version isn't even out yet), we don't have a lot of experience with it ourselves. However, we did want to make sure that everyone was aware of these considerations. We know that the Lord will lead and guide you in your specific situation when you take your questions to Him!

The Sixth Sense

(Mama:) Here is an example of some questions that someone had after watching "The Sixth Sense" and the Lord's explanations.

Question: Lord, what about the message of the movie—the dead people and what they do or want? Is that true? Can they hurt living people like they did the child? Is this some kind of strange "gift" or a "curse" that some people actually have?

(Jesus speaking:) Those who produced this movie were not completely on target in the spiritual truths they portrayed. That's part of the problem of this movie. It gives the dark kingdom too much power over innocent people. That is why the fear portrayed is so very great, because it leaves you thinking you can't do anything about their attacks, their power, their desires.

There are spirits who are trapped in what could be called a spiritual nether world. Some are consigned to a certain location as punishment, to watch the effects of their evil deeds. Others are trapped between two worlds because they refuse to move on. You have seen this in other movies such as "Always". Others do not move on because they have a job to do, a mission, something important that usually has something to do with their loved ones. I allow some to stay around in order to make amends with loved ones, get a message through to them, or somehow communicate an important lesson or warning or explanation.

I do this in love—not only for the dead, but also for the living. This is part of some dead people's punishment, and part of others' reward or path to peace through mercy.

So this movie is mostly based on the reality that there are dead people who are trapped "between worlds". But those spirits are not usually able to inflict pain or injury in the flesh on innocent people. They are not able to touch them physically, unless those living people desire it or unless they are overcome by extreme fear, which allow the evil spirits entrance to their being in the form of possession to harm them.

This child was innocent in that he did not know the truth, he had not been taught about God, Love and Me. So he was not accountable. However, although he was innocent for those reasons, he was not protected because of generations of evil on the side of his father. The sins of his father and his father's father were visited upon him. This indeed was a form of a curse.

When someone is cursed in this way, it is possible that they can sometimes see the spirits, and certainly feel their presence. And since they don't know the truth, they feel the fear very vividly. But they cannot be harmed physically by them, unless they open themselves up to be possessed by them, in which case the spirits can cause harm, injury, even suicide.

But spirits who mean harm to the living can only exercise such harm if the living person somehow invites them or wants them or allows them inside their body, as in

possession. Also, in some cases, as in the case of this child, because of his extreme fear and his lack of knowledge of Me, and because of the sins of his father, he was able to be possessed upon occasion by the spirits that haunted him. This is how they hurt him.

But these spirits cannot hurt you or your children. In My name, you have power over them and the fear. There is nothing, absolutely nothing for you to fear.

The spirits who have a mission to accomplish, those who have special "permission" you might say to perform some deed or pass on a message to loved ones, do find release when that mission is accomplished. And in some cases, such spirits, although they mean no harm, seek out those who are open to them, those in the world who can see them or feel them or have the faith to hear them. Your Father David heard many such spirits and he set them free either by telling their story or releasing them through his prayers. Such is the case of such letters as "Christmas Eve Massacre" or "Singapore Sailor".

I blind the eyes of most of My creation to the spirit world, for to constantly see "ghosts" would drive most people to ruin. I allow it on some rare occasions, and there are those who have a special intuition or "gift" for such sightings. But the people who see the "living dead", those trapped between two worlds, are rare, extremely rare. Such insight is not a blessing but indeed a curse, and something that is brought on through sin and generations of rejection of the truth. (End of message from Jesus.)

[Get-out at our age]

Seth, Indonesia: For all us middle-aged brethren and older, good health plays a vital part in our daily lives. I was noticing that I didn't seem to have much energy anymore. I blamed it all on ... "Well, we are getting older, aren't we?" But after praying, the Lord showed me that I needed to be a lot more faithful with my get-out; it was an area that I was really slacking in. I tried to get out of it by thinking I do have get-out—I go on outreach. But that wasn't enough steady exercise.

So I tried jogging on a regular basis—nothing strenuous, just on a regular basis. The hardest thing was scheduling it. But once I got going, I loved it and didn't want to stop. It made me feel a whole lot better, with a lot more energy than I had before. Others started commenting how they noticed a change in me, and I seemed to be healthier too!

Doctors and nurses were surprised when the Lord helped me to bounce back quickly after some bad stomach problems I had. They said, "If you hadn't been exercising, it would

have taken a lot longer to recover." They said that a lot of people have problems with their bodies simply because they are out of shape and don't exercise! So this lesson has been a big blessing to me and I'm sure there are others that can relate to it.

[Tips for the Family traveler ...]

A USA Home: We have had a few visiting brethren and have been a little disappointed that they haven't been that much of a blessing around the house, even though there has been a lot of Word about it lately. It has mostly been boys and perhaps they aren't so tuned into things like house cleanup, dishes, etc. But even so, if you are a traveler in the Family and are staying in someone else's house, please don't fail to offer to help on dishes, even if it seems there isn't a need.

You don't really know all that the Home is going through and the pressures that they have. It's always hard with children around to keep things neat and clean, and even more so when people are sleeping in the living room or other public areas. We spend a lot of time

doing those mundane things and would appreciate an extra hand so that we can do other projects. We'll love to have you back if you offer to help more!

[Rinse water for dishes]

Lynn, Pacific: Dad taught us to save water by rinsing dishes in the dishwasher basins and I believe many of us have made it a habit. I think it's great, but recently I've noticed that some Homes only use one tiny basin to rinse many dishes, without changing the water. In some cases, the water level is low and the water is not clean.

People may get sick from using plates that still have soap on them. I've heard it can damage your liver and other internal organs. I remember in our combo days we had pre-wash, wash, first rinse and second rinse basins. Now we have much smaller Homes and maybe that's why some people only use one basin, because there's no space for a big set up. But I feel we need to change the dishwasher and rinse water more often if we have many dishes to wash.

2nd trip to the Sahara refugee camps of Algeria

It was 4:30 in the morning when we (Pedro, Anabel and Victor F.) started driving in our old van to the airport where we would catch our plane to the one of the desert regions of Algeria. All of a sudden our van stopped working in the middle of the highway. We were supposed to be at the airport at 7:00 to catch our flight, so we got desperate and asked the Lord to do a miracle and fix our van. The Lord answered our prayers quickly; there was a gas station close by, and two policemen located a mechanic who got the van fixed. We arrived at the airport on time.

After a three-hour flight, we arrived in Tiduf, an Algerian town. From there we traveled in trucks to the reception camp, where we waited most of the day for the next set of trucks to bring us to the camp of Dajla. There we were introduced to the school director who wrote up a program for us to perform in all the schools. In Dajla there are 40,000 refugees from the land formerly known as Spanish Sahara who live in tents and houses made out of mud. We performed in two of the schools, each having about 800 students.

After the performance, we donated posters, videos and tapes in Spanish and English to the Schools. The schools don't have electricity or running water, and no tape recorders or video players, but they are hoping to get some equipment soon and in the meantime they'll borrow tape players from other villagers.

Their life is very difficult; being refugees, they can't establish themselves or have any kind of production. Everybody works as teachers, doctors, drivers, etc., but no one gets

a salary, as the government cannot pay them with money. They only get the portion of food and goods that they need for their survival. They have been in this situation for 20 years already, since they fought against Morocco for invading their lands when the Spanish pulled out of Western Sahara.

After two days in this camp, we moved to another camp (Aiun). To get there, we had to travel for more than 200 km in the back of a truck, sometimes traveling at 80-100 km/hr with no road! Every time the truck would hit a bump, we would be jolted up without knowing what piece of luggage we would land on! In the Aiun camp, we performed in one of the schools and also donated Family tapes, videos, toys and posters to all the children.

We are now trying to provision tape players for the nearly 25 schools that are in these refugee camps. In this part of the desert, there are no trees or grass, no electricity and almost no water (they bring water by truck from other places!). The kids don't have much to do for entertainment, so the teachers were very happy to have us entertain the kids and give them some happiness and love. Since we've started working with the Saharais we've shipped them two pallets of school material (notebooks, pencils, erasers, play dough, etc.), new shoes and clothing, glasses, sunglasses, medicines, etc. If you want to help us or know more about our work, please contact us at e-mail: Criptus@arrakis.es

Victor and Pilar (BS101)
Apartado 5177
29080 Malaga
España

crusading

tidbits

getting together ...

Andrew Blessed Assurance and Charity Newheart tied the knot on December 1st. Congratulations!—Turkey

Announcing another binding of hearts, tying the knot, walking the aisle, exchanging "I do's" ... by Darren and Claire, who were married October 10, 1999—NACRO

new laborers – GM

Abner Knight, (25, Indian) joined in India.—June

Ester (23, Brazilian) joined in Brazil.—December

Suzana (37, Brazilian) with her daughter, Gabriela, joined in Brazil.—December

new laborers – FM

Marta (43, Argentine), Juan Manuel (20, Argentine) and Vanesa (13, Argentine) joined in Argentina.—October

Gabriel (25, Argentine) and Angelica (23, Argentine) joined in Argentina.—October

Jeremias (30, Brazilian) joined in Brazil.—October

Joao (35, Brazilian) and Maria Isabel (35, Brazilian) with three children joined in Brazil.—December

Sao Paulo follow-up meetings

15 MINUTE PRESENTATIONS BY THE ATTENDEES

As was reported in *Grapevine* #74, in September, Peter held a one-week follow-up meeting in Sao Paulo, Brazil. To kick off the meetings, each of the attendees gave a 15-minute presentation about the follow-up in their Home or local area. This helped everyone to get acquainted and set the stage for the ensuing discussions, giving everyone a well-rounded picture of the various types of follow-up the Family is involved in. We're planning to print these presentations throughout coming *Grapevine* issues for you also, Lord willing—beginning with this issue. Hope you enjoy them!

By Phil, Russia

The needs of the Russian field are still great and many. Things are happening in different parts of the field, with various goals to reach for, depending on the vision and talents of each team. The biggest emphasis is being put on follow-up and training the NC's (National Churches). Work in some places have come to be more fruitful than others. For those fruitful places I think the key is that the brethren have been there for a while. The history of the work in Russia is that generally people come and stay for a period of time and then go out so it makes differences in places where the Homes have stuck it out and really invested time in their local work.

In our case, there are two Homes in our city. We work together as one Home, but live in two locations. The Lord gave us quite a big apartment (200 square meters). If you know anything at all about Russia, it is a real miracle. Most Russian apartments are very, very small, only two or three bedrooms each, and you cram 8-10 people in those two or three rooms. So the Lord did a big miracle in giving us such a huge place.

At the moment there are quite few LO and OW groups in cities where there are no CM Homes. This summer it worked out to invite a lot of these people to come for LO/OW meetings. Our Home was responsible to host this meeting and it was held in our large apartment.

The idea was to try to get these people connected to each other, so that if the Family for any reason would have to leave, these people would at least have something built up between them. We shared with them the Word on 3 major subjects that the Lord led us to teach them: working in love and unity in their small teams, understanding better the signs of the time that are happening around us, using more the gift of prophecy. People traveled for up to two days on train to attend.

Summer before that we also held a follow-up camp. We camped out in tents and from that a girl joined from a city where the Family Home had closed. This summer, after the camp I just mentioned, three more people started to work full time, helping our missionary work. So just in these two little periods, we've had six people starting their full time service for the Lord in our city!

A Russian brother from a city near ours has been going to a city above the Arctic

Circle. He has his own church going there. He made a month-and-a-half long follow-up trip with two others from our Home. Up there, it's light all day and night long! He had gone before in the winter when it was -45°! Somebody had donated a flat of Bibles, so they took Bibles and other literature up there. One of these Bibles ended up in the hands of a commander of a military base who got so turned on with the Bible that he has it read to his troops every morning. If you know Russia, this is unheard of!

Now it's summer and most of the people that we've been ministering to during the year have gone back to their home towns. Many have to stay home and help their parents work on their *dachas*, to grow food to get them through the winter. So it's a little difficult to follow up on people during the summer months, but when they come back we hold weekly Bible classes and go out witnessing with them again. We have a flock of about 12 that we minister to regularly.

A long-term follow-up ministry my wife and I have had is a mail ministry that we have kept up and which has pretty much supported us for the last 19 years. In praying about what we should do, the Lord has told us each year to go back to the West. We visit our children, some of whom have left the Family, and we make follow-up visits with these mail ministry people. In our case, it's been good to renew ties with these folks; they see concrete things that you're doing and it encourages them to keep helping. That's an aspect of follow-up that keeps us on the field. Some of these people have been giving for almost the entire 19 years! These are just little people that you meet on the street; they sign their little card and you start sending them your prayer letter and before you know it, they send you a check and it kind of goes from there..."

By John (of Ruby), Hungary

I have lived in Hungary for 12 years, and it has gone through a lot of changes. There was a time when there was just one very big Home called the BTC, with 80-100 members. A lot of people came and went from there, and there was a lot of postering, teams passing through from all over Europe, etc. That was also when the Mail Ministry also got going.

About four years ago, the BTC closed and little Homes all over Hungary opened up. I wasn't so happy to leave the big Home; I enjoyed the fellowship. As it turned out, I realized the benefits of a small Home later on—my wife was right! Actually, I find out very often that she's right, ha! Our Home now consists of four couples, one single and six children. My kids have all grown up and left home. Most of our Home members are young nationals.

The people in Hungary are very responsive; they enjoy it when you come for a follow-up visit. I mostly minister to businessmen in my age group, and they are very thankful. Even though we only have a half-hour with them and their phone rings every five minutes, or perhaps it doesn't come to giving a full class to people or sharing things that you would in a more organized setting, we just talk and fellowship. That's how I like to do it with people—getting to know them. They tell me a little bit about what they did on the weekend, and they get relaxed and it leads into a deep conversation. Suddenly they touch on a subject and I tell them, "Did you know the Bible says this and this about that?" and they almost fall over. It's encouraging to me that I'm giving them something worthwhile. I find that these people respond to just a tiny feeding. I like to use the *Reflections* which in Hungary are translated quite regularly, or *Mountain Streams*. These people enjoy small, short publications; they will hardly ever read something long.

A year ago, the *Treasures* book was published in Hungarian, which was a milestone of about eight years of desperate prayer. God bless Joash Printer, as that was his baby. It's become a tremendous tool. We made it with a new cover, in A5 size. Some of the nationals who have gone out videoing a lot wanted to do something different, so they started *Treasuring*—just getting them out to people. They enjoy it because it's the Word and you can get right into the witness with people. A lot of our friends and contacts comment that the *Treasures* book is right by their nightstand and they read it nightly. Maybe they don't read very much in one sitting; they fall asleep quickly because they're tired by the end of the day, but it's there and available.

We also give more organized classes to young people. That was originally done by a national who was in our Home, Douglas, now in Africa. He was very instrumental for about two years now, giving classes every Tuesday for any of our closer teenage contacts, potential disciples, etc.

Budapest is unique in that there are about five Homes in the city and the catacombers feel free to move between to any Home they choose. Sometimes they go to one Home for fellowship and a class, or they might come to our Home for fellowship—they sort of find

their place, which Home they fit into best.

A few years ago, the Family met some members of a hard rock band who were very popular in Hungary, called "Bedlam." Speaks for itself. One by one, a miraculous change happened in their lives. One joined the studio Home, two of them joined our Home and another joined another Home. It's really something to see how they love the Lord so much! They enjoy witnessing and they're learning about follow-up too.

Hungary is a very small country—only 10 million people. A lot of Family members in Hungary go outside of Hungary to fundraise—to Austria, Germany, etc. Our Home decided that we wouldn't do that because we prefer to try to raise the support locally. While you're raising support, you meet people, and maybe they don't help you in a big way to begin with, but when you make friends with people, in the long-run they do come through. It's taken years with some people, but they have become interested in our work and now every time we go follow up on them, they help. It's not like a regular thing that they send in the post; they're not used to that. They like to give a donation to you in person when you come. So in a sense, you've got to go meet them, and as often as we go, they'll help. It forces us to go meet them, and I think the young ones in our Home are noticing that that's a good way to do it; that they can raise support in their country even though it's not rich. There is plenty of wealth if you begin to look around; it just takes learning how to tap into it.

In our Home, we've learned to work together; we've been together for four years. It's fulfilling to see the young ones join in and grow and mature, learning about things like sharing, overcoming difficulties, etc. Some of the classes we've shared with the catacombers, like the Law of Love, for example, some of them choked on. I was surprised, because some of them come from rock band backgrounds, etc., but when it comes to something like that, they say, "No, I would never want to share my girlfriend or my wife." We've learned to go very slow when sharing these kinds of things with them; they learn and mature slowly. It's taken some people years of being catacombers before they could make a

decision and say, "Yes, I'm now ready to be a full-time, living-by faith Family member." It's worth it to wait and that's encouraged us a lot too; it just takes time with people.

In the early days of the Family, people would just join—like I did. I was an instant dropout! I met the Family and I joined the next day. But it seems that for people these days, it takes them longer before they really understand. They have to come over and see what the Family is like and learn from it. They see over time that they can actually live this life and that it's for them. As they become friends and learn more, slowly they melt right into the Family. ●

Shine On

—December '99

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
SOUL SHINERS FOR DECEMBER 1999		
Samuel/Rosita, Mexico	4,000	8,000
Daniel/Crystal/Steven/Claire, India	3,550	14,200
Lalo/Ruth, Mexico	2,740	13,700
Mark/Faithy, India	2,274	9,095
Francisco/Margarita/Vessel, Mexico	2,000	12,000
Madras Deaf Home, India	1,346	5,383
Promise/David, Costa Rica	1,000	2,000
Gideon/Ester/Jose, Venezuela	875	3,500
Job/Sharon, Mexico	833	5,000
Josiah/Joy/Confidence/Joy B., Romania	808	3,234
POSTER SHINERS FOR DECEMBER 1999		
Benjamin/Maggie, Brazil	10,000	50,000
Tommy/Serena, Cambodia	3,715	11,145
Daniel/Crystal/Steven/Claire, India	3,525	14,100
Peter/Crystal/Mary, USA	2,567	10,269
Luis/Vera, Brazil	2,000	4,000
Abner/Ester/Claire/Sharmini, South Africa	1,500	6,000
Magdalena/Amanecer, Mexico	1,500	3,000
Abel/Angel, Japan	1,360	4,081
Claire/Daniel/Charity/Ginna, USA	1,272	10,175
Madras Deaf Home, India	1,262	5,048
TAPE SHINERS FOR DECEMBER 1999		
Juan F./Ester/Pedro/Daniela/Suzana, Brazil	540	3,780
Joao/Clara/Marcos, Brazil	524	2,621
Promise/David, Costa Rica	350	700
Marcos/Abby, Brazil	347	695
Josue/Abigail/Caleb, Costa Rica	315	1,576
Jenny/Charity/Daniel, Brazil	269	1,888
JP, Brazil	210	420
Sam/Maria, Brazil	185	371
Pablo/Joao/Cielo, Brazil	183	550
David/Stephen/Marita/Amor, Peru	175	1,579
VIDEO SHINERS FOR DECEMBER 1999		
Ben/Meekness, Botswana	150	300
Andrew/Lena/Angie, Swaziland	124	498
Robin/Honey, Japan	76	2,600
David/Esperanza, Peru	75	150
John Beloved/Mary Beloved, Japan	58	351
Mateo/Martin/Steven/Grace, Chile	42	127
Jesse/Maria Clara, Brazil	41	250
Ezequiel/Ester/Taines, Brazil	36	109
Victor/Pilar, Spain	36	108
Felipe/Vitoria, Brazil	33	166

A NewDayZ DISHLINE DRAMA -- A LAMENTABLE LIQUID-SOAP OPERA...



The news and views from Family members published in the *Grapevine* are not intended to 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 shepherd's discretion.
The Grapevine, PO Box 4938, Orange, CA 92863 USA e-mail: grape@ibm.net
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Personals

We received a letter via a Zurich postfach address, PO Box 153, for a **Frau Leonhard**. It's from Dorothea Photiades, in Greece. If you know who this letter is for, please notify EURCRO. Thanks!

Christina (of Willing and Mary) would like to get in touch with **Natasha (of Paul)**, last heard of you were in South Africa and then moved to England. I also would like to contact **Christy (of Amos)**, last time we met was in Holland. My e-mail is: steinways@hotmail.com or marymeek@wanadoo.be

Sophia Jo, last heard of in Chiba (Japan) please write Marie at e-mail: Arie174.yahoo.com. Happy Birthday!

Anna Joy (from Tahiti) is looking for **Brian (from Belgium)**. We met at the HCS and did childcare together for a little while, remember? I would like to get in touch with you if you still remember me. E-mail: annajoy@mail.pf.

Melody (Elodie) is looking for **Stella (Helene), Isabella (Lydia), Liz (of French Phillipe) and Precious (Joy)**. E-mail: deejay@plug-in.com.br or add: CP 101, CEP. 90001-970, Porto Alegre-RS, Brazil.

Aurora (of Pedro Montanha, Brazil) and Samuel SGA (of Jonathan and Persis); last I heard you were on your way to Africa from Toronto) please contact Faithy at e-mail: tananik@m-web.za or P.O. Box 4196 Petersburg, South Africa 0700.

Joy Bamboo (Mandolina, Mexican) is looking for **Esther YA (of Lirio), JB (YA, of Abi), and Sweety and Joseph** (both Yucatecos). We were living together in Cuemacaca when I joined in 1995 with my daughter Deborah (Mexicans). Also looking for **Steven and Lamb (American and Panamanian), David and Almita and Josue Fe (Mexicans)**. We were together in Mexico. I would like to be in touch with you asap. E-mail: Baiaphon@sintec.ro.

Arguedas family, how can I get in touch with **Manny**? I lived with him in Siberia. Please write Abigail at: deejay@plug-in.com.br or: Caixa Postal: 101 Porto Alegre – RS – Brazil CEP: 90001-970.

DJ (Russian Tim) would like to get in touch with **Argentinean Happy, Nina and Augustin, Italian Aaron and Rose, German Daniel and Brazilian Joan**. E-mail: Clement.crimea.com.

Could **Miguel (Snowflake's shepherd)** please contact Stephen at e-mail: future98@prodigy.net.mx (about video tapes). Thanks.

JP is looking for **Ahavila (last heard of in Italy)**. Please contact him as soon as you can. E-mail: jp4habsfan@yahoo.com.

Christmas 1999 Stats

*What are the gifts
I'm most pleased with, My
loves? Your love for the lost, as I
have loved you. Your desire to give
them My gift of eternal life,
as I have given you. Your
faithfulness to give My
Word to those I bring
across your path, that
you might lead them
to Me. These are
the gifts I most
long for!*

(ML #3261:34,36)



Souls Won

204,010 souls were saved over December of 1999, that's the 6th highest for Christmas in our Family's history! The shiner country was INDIA accounting for 30% of souls won, or 62,126. MOZAMBIQUE was the Per Adult shiner with 190 souls won per adult Family Member!

Total Witness

The Family had a Total Witness by all means possible of 158 million. That's more than the entire population of Russia! INDIA had a total witness of 50 million, and The Family in CHINA had a total witness of 253,000 per adult!

Videos

13,593 videos were distributed by The Family in the month of December. The Family in JAPAN got out the most with 3,308. The Family in SWAZILAND distributed 200 per adult!

Literature

Literature distributed (Tracts, books, etc.) totalled 1,737,169 pieces. 233,131 pieces of lit were distributed in the PHILIPPINES, the most in The Family for December. Per adult distribution was 8,000 in MADAGASCAR, double that of any other country!

Tapes

As a whole, The Family distributed 105,501 Tapes. That is the most Tapes distributed in one month this decade! BRASIL distributed 46% of that amount (48,433) while COSTA RICA topped per adult distribution with 143 tapes out per adult!

Posters

There were 605,476 posters distributed in December of 1999. That's nearly 16 posters distributed every minute over the Yuletide season! The country with the most posters distributed was BRASIL which got out 104,375 posters. MOZAMBIQUE was the shiner in Per Adult posters distributed with 3,874!

Personal Witness

Over this Christmas season The Family was able to personally witness 866,217 times. If we look at souls won over this same period, we can see that for every four times The Family personally witnessed, one soul was saved. Praise the Lord! The Family in BRASIL personally witnessed 129,275 times and the brethren in ICELAND witnessed on a personal level 2,638 times per adult!

