

The Grapewine



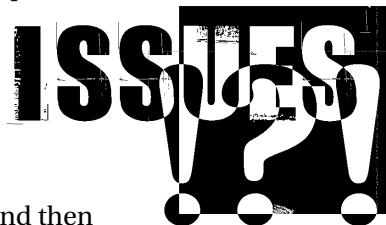
Coming soon to a
P.O. Box near you...

ISSUES

A new GN series approaching all kinds of intriguing matters in brief question-and-answer style format. Check it out! Hear what The Boss and queen have to say on topics like...

- ⌚ Sexuality and membership
- ⌚ Aliens?
- ⌚ Oral power!
- ⌚ What's it all for?
- ⌚ A real friend
- ⌚ Intimidated?
- ⌚ Soul mates in Heaven

...and more, and yet more, and then some where that came from!



CRO rest days

By Mama

Your CROs have recently been asked by the Lord and by Peter and me to take more time in the temple, reading the Word and hearing from Jesus in prophecy, than they have been. This is what will ensure that they have the strength and wisdom they need for their taxing jobs, and that they are doing what the Lord wants them to do and the way He wants them to do it, so as to be able to rightly lead and direct the Family.

We have asked each CRO to set aside a full day once a week—aside from their freeday and parent day—to spend “in conference with the Boss,” as the Lord put it. This provides time for them to not only get ahold of the Lord personally and stay “tuned up” spiritually, but also to bring questions about the work and needs and problems in the area before the Lord and receive His directions, answers and solutions.

It's somewhat of a sacrifice for them, as it requires faith to put aside the natural worries of getting behind in their work, as well as to trust the Lord that He will anoint others to make prayerful decisions in their absence. Some of them may have a place they can “get away” to, but many times they will have to take this day of quiet and prayer in the Office or Service Home where they live, or the Home they are visiting at the time.

We'd like to ask your help and cooperation to make these days a success. I know there are always a lot of important things going on, and those of you who work closely with your CROs or communicate with them regularly understandably hope for quick answers. It is, however, of the utmost importance that the CROs get this quiet undisturbed time one day a week to hear from the Lord, so please try to make it easy for them to do what they need to do.—You'll benefit from the results.

Much love,
Mama

“Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark. Professionals built the Titanic.—Sydney Morning Herald”

Update: Situation in Moldova

Written April 10, 2000, by the Moldova Home

Since March 1st the city has been without heating. It's been cold and we've been wearing snowsuits inside the house, but it is getting better—spring is definitely here. For a few days when it was really cold we all slept in one room which we heated well with an electric heater. Praise the Lord, the electricity situation is solved for now.

God likes to do things in unexpected ways to show us that with Him nothing is impossible: Emanuel (1 ½) has had a cough for months. All the treatments and prayers didn't do the trick until during these cold days, when he was healed! It was a big encouragement and a sign that the Lord is still with us and that everything is in His hands.

For almost a month the city has been without gas, so we've been using a large gas bottle from Y2K prep. We were prepared to “survive” due to Y2K prep!

Miraculously, we've begun to get hot water—a blessing we haven't had for eight months. Considering the situation here, it was hard to believe that we would ever have hot water again, but our God is a God of miracles and we really enjoy this miracle!

Right now the situation is stagnating: Moldova manages to pay a little bit every month to Russia, Ukraine and Romania (the ones supplying its electricity, gas, etc.), but every month there are threats from these countries that if Moldova will not pay in full, they will stop their supply. Everything is in the air and depends on prayer. We are trying to build a good survival for the dark days, funds permitting.

The prices are going up steadily. These peaceful people, who have been taking all the hardships pretty well until now, are starting to go on strikes and protest. Please pray for this. Otherwise we are fine and happy, and I think we treasure all the more the privilege of serving the Lord in this country, knowing that things might change pretty soon. It is a blessing to be here.

Please keep us in your prayers!

Members Only Password

www.familymembers.com

May UserID: may

May Password: got-lit?

headlines

post its

help wanted

We are James and Julie (**Mark and Honesty**) with six children. We have been on the field in India and Pakistan for 18 years and are now intent on moving to Africa. We wanted to ask if you would help us, in whatever way you can, big or small, prayer or financial (as we don't have any home support)—to help us off to our new destination, or even monthly support—since we are starting from scratch and are in a hurry not to miss God's bus. Please send any donations via ASCRO to James/Julie (PK06) for Africa move. TX!

My name is **Gloria (Russia national)**. It's not my first time to write and ask for help. Thank you to each of you for your prayers and special appreciation to you who already helped me. I'm on my way to China—only one problem keeping me here: it is money. I need \$2,000 (I really want to study there and know that this is God's will). Please, I need your help. I cannot fundraise now because of my health but I can pray and believe that Lord will supply my needs. "Ask and it shall be given unto you!" You can send donations through Russian ABM for Russian Gloria P. (RU037). THANK YOU!!

legal and media

SWEDEN – Steven: We saw a very favorable program about the Family on a documentary on religious groups. It showed 5-10 minutes of the Family singing and witnessing in Dallas, and a short interview on FFing, etc. The Family did very well answering questions and being a good sample of personal witnessing.

MADAGASCAR – Emman, Paul and Charity: There was a TV show on the main Malagady TV station running the 1997 French "Envoyé Spécial" show on sects. There was no backlash or much interest afterwards in the media.

Prayer request for Matthew (see *Grapevine #82*)

We pray the testimony of precious Matthew was an inspiration to you. He read the testimony before it was published and was very happy about sharing it with the Family. Shortly thereafter, the battles intensified, with the Enemy fighting his testimony, resulting in his already complicated personal situation becoming more delicate. We can only thank our wonderful Husband for all that Matthew learned regarding hearing from the Lord and Dad which we know is a great comfort to him at this time. He has been comforted by the words of encouragement he has received from Family members in response to his testimony, as well as our continued communications with him.

Please pray for dear Matthew, that the Lord will lead and guide him as to the best way to serve Him in his unusual and delicate situation and be a testimony of his faith. Please pray for his continued growth in the Word and hearing from the Lord in prophecy.

WS Family and Education Department needs help

By WS FED

WS FED wants to make this an "Era of Action" in Family education too! There is so much that can and needs to be done to help make education and vocational training all it needs to be in the Family—exciting, free, fun and readily available for all who need and want it.

Family education would like to have a presence on the WEB; the CVC 2000 program needs youthful visionary oversight; Homes need more educational materials and help to make home schooling easier; young people need more travel, training and envisioning learning opportunities! And beyond our needs within the Family, is a world of System children, young people and parents needing attention and training in all kinds of personal, practical and spiritual areas.

Would you like to work in WS FED? Has the Lord laid the vision for helping your worldwide Family not only meet the needs of our own children and young people, but to have the tools in hand to reach out and help others?

- ⇒ Do you like pubs work?
- ⇒ Are you a creative thinker who likes challenges and tackling jobs beyond your present skills and abilities?
- ⇒ Are you able to work comfortably with older and younger Family members?
- ⇒ Would you have the courage to tackle a task that you know may take months or even years to accomplish?
- ⇒ Are you okay with not being seen a lot or known personally to other Family members?

This call to help could be the change and challenge you need. The job is not easy and obviously not for everyone. Your every skill and experience will be called upon in this ministry: your Word, prayer, prophecy, faith, work, endurance, commitment, vision, willingness, courage, determination, typing, teaching, computer skills, artwork, layout, editing, learning new programs, research, writing letters, working with database files, concern for kids, creativity, scanning, planning, manning the fort, ability to learn, and determination to keep going—some or all of these are needed!

If you survived this ad—that is very good! Pray about it and if you are the one (or ones) or think you might be, let us know. And let us know even if you want to help us from where you are. Thanks!

Chinese Lit-Pic CM/FM Web site

By the Chinese Lit-Pic

NEW! Chinese Lit-Pic now has a CM/FM Web site. Use this site to download the latest GP files in Simplified and Traditional Chinese. Includes the latest Reflections, FARs, Treasures and others. Point your browser to:

<http://chinafamily.org/clp>

When prompted, use the same password as the English Members Only site. This site is for the most recent files. For older, more GP stuff check out the English Members Only site, under Chinese downloads. WLY!

WORLD NEWS

Wrap up of Jeremy's tour—Delhi Concert

By Anne, ASCRO

As was the case in every concert, the final victory and outcome was nothing short of a miracle. But to me it seemed even more magnified in Delhi, perhaps because of what seemed like a relatively shorter amount of time to get it all together. The dear Family folks working on it put so much into the concerts, raising the sponsorship, working on housing for our team, and all the other zillions of details that go into making such an event a reality, GBT!

Delhi is notoriously a tough city to crack; it's known as the city in India with the most red-tape and bureaucracy—where you practically need 10 different permissions from various government sectors to walk across the floor in a government owned convention hall (*slight* exaggeration), ha!

When we arrived there, 4 days before the concert date, there were some things that were well underway, and yet other important things that weren't even touched yet. When we heard from the Lord, He told us that every battle was going to be won through prayer, and that those who were staying back needed to back those on the front lines through vigils and their prayers. This turned out to be a pivotal point in the many victories that were won.

For instance, one team was having a hard time getting the final 4-5 police permissions that were needed to even hold the concerts at all. It was nearing the weekend, so it was very

important for these to come through that day. We started a prayer vigil chain for those out, and within an hour everything had come through.

Another miracle had to do with the stage design—there was a fairly elaborate design for the stage, mainly in extras that were needed to make "ambiance," which included park benches, streetlights, etc. For some reason we just came up against a brick wall when trying to get some of these things going. Again, our prayer teams went into action, and the answer to our prayers was actually just 500 meters from where we were staying. The neighboring villa owner actually worked in rod-iron, and was able to provide the exact props and things we needed for our stage set. What a miracle!

Another thing that made us desperate before these concerts is that Angelina got very sick just 2 days before the concert date. She is 5 months pregnant as well, so it was no small deal that she was very sick in bed, with fever and what we thought was a bad flu (it turned out to be strep throat). We prayed for her desperately, anointed her with oil, and claimed her healing.

However, as the time drew near she didn't show signs of recovery, so we came before the Lord to see what we should do, and if we needed to prepare a contingency—this was the day before the concert, mind you. The Lord gave wonderful promises, that He would be able to do a mighty miracle,

but that we also needed to have a "plan B." So it was decided that I would work on learning all the songs (15 in total) and prepare to replace Angelina on backups, if needed! Oh wow, ha! The Lord said that either way it was going to take a miracle—raising Ang up, or helping me to learn everything that I needed to, both vocally and movement wise in just a day and a half.

The Lord fulfilled His word, He did raise her up enough that she could sit on stage and sing, and He also helped me to learn everything I needed to, in order to team up with Christy to do the backups for the show, while not needing to focus on the vocal side as much, since Ang was there. But that kept us all desperate until the last second!

On the media front, there were a good many interviews as well, both with newspaper and television. There was one live interview at about 10:30 at night with Star News, and one other TV interview. A TV interview with "Channel V" (MTV's competitor in Asia) aired a full hour interview that Jeremy had filmed while in Bombay, but it was aired a few days before the Delhi concert. It was a terrific interview, and served to help advertise the concert in Delhi.

So our last concert in Delhi turned out to once again be a tremendous success! It was a convention hall that sat 2,000 people, and it was filled to capacity, with at least a hundred people standing. The audience was so responsive, and just loved the music. They were a challenging crowd to handle, as among other things I've mentioned, the Delhi crowd is known to be pretty tough to please—but the Lord really anointed Jeremy. Afterwards we had dinner in the restaurant of the hotel that we had just performed in, and so many people came up to Jeremy, congratulating him and thanking him for a terrific performance.

academics

Eileen Barker visits the HCS

By Robin

Dr. Eileen Barker visited us recently. She heard the testimonies from the visiting Ivory Coast team (Paul and Jan), and from Lydia who shared how thankful she is for the gift of cancer, and the number of beautiful doors for witnessing it's opened.

Mike and April were a tremendous testimony. They hadn't gotten around to watching videos much at all for a number of months but didn't care. They'd had a group of five teen girls and seven boys and it was thrilling hearing how Jesus led them in unconventional ways in Madras. They were led to go to top Members Only discos (invited and paid for), and by going regularly each week and following up on

the many folks they met there, they ended up leading many of them to the Lord, giving solid Bible classes and doing a great deal with methods that were exciting and fruitful for their group of teens. They helped in the existing CTPs in the city they were in and it was thrilling seeing this young family of three and soon-to-be four kiddos so solid in the Lord. They have a big trailer and van in storage in the US (raised through weekend clowning!) and are getting ready to go to Mexico.

Eileen got to speak to them, plus some of our own young people (Sonia who studied in university in China for over a year). The Lord timed things so well. She was interested to hear more about the Activated program, seeing Sharon's art work, hearing the new music and all.

getting

Update from Europe/Africa *Activated!* Desk

The subscriptions have been coming in slowly but surely. Some Homes are very faithful and some are still just getting started. Several Homes have written us letting us know that their sheep are thrilled with the magazines. One man said that he reads a little of the magazine every night before he goes to bed, and one night he couldn't find it and had to go find his wife so she could get it for him.

Some Homes are starting to order more books and a few Homes have made large orders. One home in South Africa, one in Norway, and a sister in Germany are looking into the mass marketing of books in their areas.

Learning to be a shepherd

From *Conéctate!* (Mexico *Activated!* Desk):

We received a phone call at our 1-800 number from someone whose friend received a copy of *Conéctate!* (*Activated!*) from a Family member.

This man read the magazine and was so turned on that he called to find out more about us. He is very interested in receiving the magazine himself and subscribed right away. He lives in a small village in Mexico, and although he is not a pastor as such, in the little community where he lives, he is considered a "spiritual leader" and many people come to him for shepherding, counseling and so on. He says he needs the magazines so that he'll learn more about being a shepherd so that he can in turn take care of the "flock" the Lord has given him.

Activated! books open doors!

James (of Ruth), India:

Now that we have all the *Activated* products, we are out every day trying to get subscriptions. We are very thrilled to see the response we are receiving from people. One bookshop owner was flipped out to see the products. She has ordered a few samples that she wants to keep on her display counter. One priest bought the *Keys to*

Happier Living and *Bible Basics* and *Feed My Lambs* series on the spot. People that we are meeting are all buying something from us and they are also giving us referrals. We have also had a good success with the sailors from the Philippines. We are now going to display in the local churches after mass. These books are opening many doors for us!

Selling *Activated!* books by sets!

Steffi (19, of Matthew and Marie), India:

We were looking for a way to start getting out these great *Activated* books by the sets. What about schools? Most of them have our tools—but not our books. So we started phoning around to the Christian schools to make appointments. The Lord encouraged us as the first one was super interested. The principal was very sweet and explained that she had already bought their library books for the school year, so would only be able to take a few. When we went to see her, the books sold themselves. She selected some and then the librarian, who was poring over them, kept putting more on the pile. Her favorite one was *Prayer Power*. They ended up taking eight books, mostly the ones on the subject of a Christian's relationship with the Lord. They liked them so much they asked us to come back at the beginning of the school year in June for their

studio tidbit

On "Big Change Comin"

By John Listen, Japan

The song "Big Change Comin'" (on the FTT by the same name) was quite a marriage of three studios and two generations of musicians. On top of that, I believe it was Jimi Hendrix who gave the song, so maybe that's *three* generations. I got the riffs and lyrics soon after having received a message from him. The "big change comin'" phrase is from that message. Any of you familiar with his style probably hear the musical influence.

I went to the Tokyo Studio Home to record the music. Philip (Brother Sun) FGA came to contribute his unique electric rhythm and lead work. (Philip and I were old Hendrix fans, ha.) The Studio Home's resident musicians, Josh and Mike D (both YAs at that time) played the bass and drums respectively. We all worked out the arrangement together—everyone added significant ideas to make the song what it is now.

We then sent the music track to the DCS, who returned to us lead vocals sung by both Byron and Vas. Byron did a great job, too, but we chose Vas's as it fit the rock style better. Finally at the HCS, Francesco, Caleb and I threw on the backup vocals, and I added the organ. All in all, it was a neat united effort, PTL! Thanks, guys!

tip of the day

Free E-mail—A False Sense of Security?

By L., Japan

I wonder if there are some misconceptions about free e-mail services. I see many Family members using free e-mail accounts such as those provided by Hotmail, Yahoo, SoftHome, etc. It's a blessing to be able to get free e-mail accounts but I wonder if quite a few of those who use these type of e-mail accounts realize that they should be encrypting their messages too.

Perhaps some folks think that these free e-mail accounts are OK to use for open e-mail communication, thinking they don't need to code them because they read and send mail from browsers, instead of mailers? They may not be aware that regardless of whether you send e-mail via a Web browser or an e-mail program and even if your name and address used when obtaining a free e-mail account may be fake, your IP address is not! This IP address can be used to identify you, your Home and even the computer you are using. It shows where you are and which provider you (or your Home) is using. Also, for many hackers it's a piece of cake to break your passwords.

I have seen so many open e-mail messages in recent months, particularly from those using these free e-mail accounts. I have become concerned that not only are we slipping in our vigilance but we seem to be getting used to this and becoming blind to the realities of the dangers, not to mention developing bad habits that will be harder to break when we will certainly need to be even more vigilant in the days ahead.

My advice to everyone is: We must remember that using free e-mail services is not an excuse for not coding our messages, especially between Homes. You may say it's just chit-chat, nothing serious, but have you ever had an experience that when you started typing some chit-chat, you couldn't stop until you ended up typing a long message with all sorts of juicy information? I think we need to remind everyone that **ALL** e-mail communications should be done prayerfully so that we don't endanger our Homes' security.

next order. They had such a vacuum for Christian lit, and though they find it here and there, ours are the best. It was inspiring to see that these books will go and you know that you're feeding people "the real stuff."

Saving up for *Activated!*

Marie (of Matthew), India:

We were blessed to receive a starter *Activated!* kit and are so inspired to have these wonderful tools to feed people the meat of the Word. One precious lady we have been ministering to since Christmas, who faces marriage problems, flipped out when she saw the *Activated* books. She right away wanted to take *Obstacles are for Overcoming* and the next time we met her, she was quoting whole portions of it. She was testifying how much this book helped her in the battles she is facing, to see the Lord's hand in her life. The whole time we were ministering to her, her 9-year-old son got totally absorbed in the *Praisin' U* series.

She wants to save up her money so she can purchase a book each time we come. She wants to get *Hearing from Heaven* next, as she has been getting things from the Lord. Seeing we had a whole book just on that subject really encouraged her and she can't wait to get her hands on it. We are very excited about the potential these tools have, as they really feed people the

meat of the Word and the Words of David. There are many sincere Christians here in India who are suffering persecution and who desperately need the strength contained in these books.
TYJ for *Activated!*

A letter of thanks

Phil, Marie and Mercy, USA:

We're real inspired about the ministry and follow-up potential via *Activated!* Here is a short testimony about someone who's been on our mailing list for years and who we've told about *Activated*, and her enthusiasm about it. The letter reads as follows:

Dear Phil and Marie,

Thanks so much for being ever so faithful to feed me. I really do appreciate it! It's always a joy to receive your Prayer letter. God bless you all for your faithful work for the Lord.

It's been busy for me with the kids. TTL, it keeps me alert and on my toes. Though my letter is short, because the little ones are around, I want to enclose a little gift that I've been meaning to

send and "thanks" for the recent subscription card to Activated, which I can't wait to get and to receive my first issue!

The Word and the Family are always around and are the only place where you get truly fed spiritually!

Love Always, B.

Mottos for Success a success with business community

Dan and Abi, USA:

The *Mottos for Success* calendars are beautiful and everyone who's received one raves about it. We sold one to the owner of a factory and he likes the quotes so much he writes them on a big board every morning next to where the employees punch in for work so they can all read the new quote everyday before starting work. Another manager at the airport says it's his inspiration for the day and calls us to tell us about each day's quote and what it means to him. We're so glad we ordered them as they are a great gift for important contacts and are easy to sell too!

activated

Dear Mama,

My name is C. I live in Brazil and have been a live-out for the past 12 years. I've been married for 11 years now and have 3 kids. My husband is still not a Christian (he is Catholic by tradition), and I go through many battles because of this. But the Lord has done many wonderful miracles to encourage me.

I have been working with some Family brethren in my city and we're starting a work with new disciples and also a Church of Love. It has been very edifying for all of us and we're learning a lot, thank the Lord.

Even though I can't count on encouragement from my husband for the missionary work that I do, the Lord has used me to support some brethren in China and now in Africa. In whatever way possible, I also want to help the brethren near me. Jesus has shown me to "go into all the world and preach the Gospel of His love to every creature." Every day is a miracle, to be able to serve Him 100%, because living in the System is pretty draining. I've been wanting to become FM for some time now, but the Lord has shown me that He would like to use me in the System. I'm completing a technical course on being a nurse, and I've been able to lead many to the Lord!

Every month I send in a report of my witnessing activities together with the local FM Home's TRF. I also receive all my witnessing material (tapes, posters and devotionals) from them.

My children have the entire collection of *Treasure Attic*, several CDs, *Kidz mags*, *Life with Grandpa's*, etc. As much as possible, I take them to have fellowship with the Homes. My oldest son has already won some souls for Jesus. This creates problems for him at school, but I try to strengthen him by giving

him the vision. I try to instruct my children daily in the way of the Lord, through Bible classes, the videos and the reading material that the brethren have shared with me. Above all, I try to give them a living sample of the love of God and love for one another.

Dear Mama, approximately three years ago I had an experience with Dad. This is how it happened: I was witnessing to some street children (my main ministry) and that day I was very discouraged, really needing to receive something from the Lord. Suddenly, this sweet and cheerful older man with gray hair stopped by us. He looked at us and said, "Listen to what she's telling you because she's a messenger sent from God." I looked at him, touched and a bit perplexed. I thanked him with a smile, and he went on his way. I lingered a bit longer with the street children, and then I also left.

A few days later, when visiting a Home, I told the brethren of that touching experience. Then a sister asked me if I had ever seen a picture of Dad, and I answered that I hadn't. She then showed me the GN with the picture of him on the front. I was speechless and started weeping. It was the same face of the man I had met on the street a few days earlier! I realized that I had seen Dad after his "death." Hallelujah! We all praised and thanked the Lord! I felt very loved and honored to have met Dad.

I've tried to exercise, although a bit timidly, my gift of prophecy. The Lord has used me to give messages to some of the brethren that I'm closer to. Most of all, I have tried to exercise the gift of showing more love to others and to yield a bit more to Jesus every day. It's so amazing, but I can't live without Him, and each day He teaches me to love Him more intensely.

—WITH LOVE, C. AND KIDS, BRAZIL

tidbits

NEW LABORERS

- ⇒ **Paul Little** (24, Romanian) joined in Romania.—January
- ⇒ **Elia** (22, Russian) joined in Russia.—February
- ⇒ **Marta** (27, Russian) joined in Russia.—February
- ⇒ **Fay** (17, Greek, of Dust/Diamond), former member, rejoined in Romania.—February

Q Is there is anything in the works regarding updating the Statements for *Religious Persecution* and *Our Origins*? In our recent outreach meeting we discussed the subject of preparing our friends, and we realized that we don't have anything very updated available.

—REJOICE SGA, THAILAND



A The *Religious Persecution*, and *Law of Love* Statements are presently at the NPCs, and you should be receiving them shortly. We're considering updating *Our Origins* to cover just the Family history and what we've gone through as a group, but please do not use the old one anymore as it is outdated. Thanks.

w w w - e - m a i l - d o t . c o m - h t t p

WEB WITNESS

netscape

Abe and Mercy, China Vision Home, Taiwan: Visit our website for fotos, news articles and media clips! The URL is
<http://members.xoom.com/abemcy/>

Indian Garden Home:
<http://www.crosswinds.net/~gateway/india>

Wine Press reactions

Ruthie – I just read the book *In Armageddon's Wake!* It gives a wonderful vision of what the beginning of the millennium will be like. It's a wonderful book! I've read it twice already!

Edward – Something very exciting took place on December 29, 1999, just days before the new year! First my daughter came by to visit and she testified that the Lord had poured His Spirit on her over the last couple of days and without any human influence she compulsively began receiving and writing down prophecies from the Lord for the first time in her life! She also said that she has been writing one new song after another on the keyboard and acknowledged this as a manifestation of God's Spirit—exactly as the Lord said He would do at this time! I also had a similar experience of receiving new songs and prophecies which have increased my faith in the way the Lord is leading us to exercise the gift of hearing from Him!

Sister Kitoye, Port Harcourt, Nigeria – I am so happy to write you because through you I was able to talk to my grandmother about the love of God and I am happy to say that she is now in the family of God (Christian). She is so happy that God loves and has forgiven her sin long ago. Thank you so much for enlightening me about the love of Christ.

Mary, Goa, India – I visit your website every day and take printouts of the Daily Word and share it with my mom and sister and kids. I also go to the *Activated* website every day.

Chiara, Rome, Italy – I heard about your organization through two young girls (Maria and Sara) in Rome. I'm Italian and would really like to join one of your missions in Africa or South America. I'm a journalist and a poet. I'm a university graduate in foreign languages and literature. Please let me know asap what can I do to join you.

Rahul, India – I am writing from India. I live in Delhi. I met your missionary (Family) members here in India. I was highly inspired by those people. As far as I know they were French people. That day we talked for more than one and a half hours. They nurtured me, they taught me values, they molded my character. With such a solid foundation, I'm confident that I'll be able to face and overcome all of life's trials and tribulations. For this, I'm extremely grateful. From that day I started to read the Bible every day. I have finally decided that I want to join the missionaries. I'll be highly grateful if you will send the e-mail address of that missionary from France.

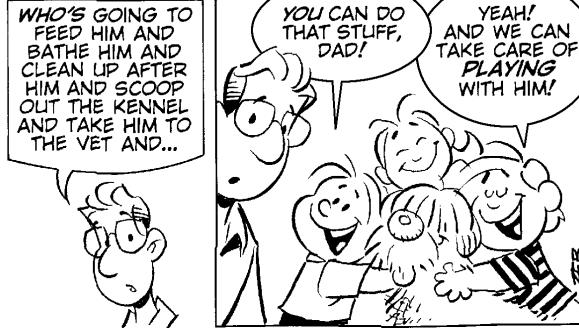
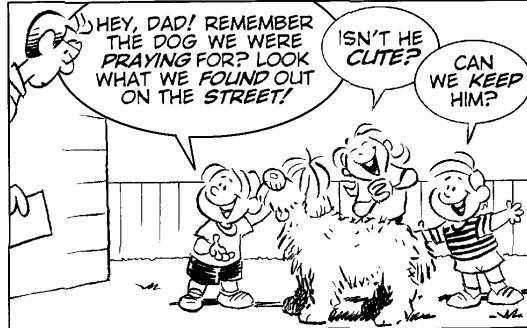
Cynthia, Maine, USA – I am interested

in finding out more about how to become involved in missionary work as a teacher. I am 52 and have run my own private school for about 20 years serving children who did not fit into conventional US education programs. Our program was personalized to the needs of each child to make him or her a confident, contributing member of society regardless of academic prowess. I love working with children, and now that my own children are successfully on their own, I would like to serve other children who may be not so fortunate as the children in this country.

It has always been a dream of mine to work as a missionary and be of service to others and not be concerned about making money. Though I do not belong to a specific church, I am a baptized Christian and fully believe that I am alert to and follow God's will. I feel I have much to offer your missionary group. I thought I would write you and see what the possibilities are.

Douglas, NC, USA – I am a 40-year-old man who lost his very attractive and sensual 23-year-old wife in an automobile crash three years ago. I've spent three long years with a broken and bleeding heart where minutes seem like days, days seem like weeks, weeks seem like months, and months seem like years. I have been retired since age 32 and have nothing to fill my life with ... I think your heart understands. I have found in the past three years that love has truly grown cold in the hearts of women and men. Even though my contact with the Family has been limited so far, what I have had I find to be warm, and compassionate. I sit here at 40 with a guaranteed tax free income for the rest of my life and just need a direction to focus my life on. When I began, a few years

PECULIAR PEOPLE



Check out the full scoop of what's hopping at the Hilltop Home. *Praisin' Works! And More Fruit.*—Only on the MO site!

ago, to mention God's name, everybody that I ever knew from family to friends disappeared from my life. But I have stuck to being alone rather than to give up God the Creator.

Bobby, USA – I would love to hear from people in your church. I must confess the more I read your web pages, the more interest I have in the Family. I am not sure if you understand what it means to really be alone in this life. I have no wife or children. At Christmas I am mostly alone.

I have one central question. I am confused about the concept of sharing. I have read about the history and the ideas of David Berg. Please explain to me how you are allowed to share with a person from a sexual standpoint? I was always taught that sex was bad and not to be discussed. Yet the Family believes in just the opposite of that. I want you to understand that I am not some nut, looking for a good time. However the more I study the principles of the Family, the more logical it becomes to me.

Once again thank you for talking to me. You have been a good friend to someone in need.

Selina, Tanzania – Thank you for introducing me to Family Europe. I am very happy to inform you that the Family Europe have been very helpful to me, they have shown a very high cooperation. For sure I can say they know how to deal with their customers, they should keep it up! Congratulations!!!

Jim, USA – I have recently obtained a book called the Basic MO Letters. It is very interesting and through much searching I finally found your web site. Can you please tell me how I can obtain a complete set of the MO Letters? I have downloaded the ones available on the web site, but would like the remainder. Can I purchase the book or books from you right here?

David, India – I have met members of the Family and enjoyed speaking to them. In fact, a couple of them are my very good friends. Genuine, simple, charming and full of faith, enriched with God's love—the list can go on. While browsing through your web site, I saw how the Evil One has time and again tried to hinder your work, but you have come out triumphantly. It's a God-oriented work and "no evil shall befall you." My continuous prayers are with you as you strive to expand His Kingdom, a Kingdom of love. Who knows? Someday, I would be a part of you—at least I wish I was. Praying about it. Do pray for me too.

Cindy, San Diego, California – Hi, thanks for the information. I have not been a member of the Family before but heard about the Family through the Internet and was interested in the type of representation the Family can offer others worldwide. I am 27 years old and I work as an Executive Assistant. I am thankful for the newsletters I receive. The more I know the better, as I believe in helping others and spreading the Word.

I was affiliated with a local church in my area but I just don't see the type of fellowship I would like so I was interested in searching and finding something better suited for me. I like the idea of having a small group of people who can really get to know who I am. Thanks for your responses and I look forward to staying in touch with you and the Family.

Samaria (former member), California – Thank God for people like you who are on the Internet to respond to so many sheep. I loved the newsletters you sent. It was great to see after so many years what the Family is doing. I still hear the old songs in my head all the time. I wish I could find the old music book.

Could you send me again the Letter, "Look of Love?" By the time I retrieved the info it was unavailable. I would really love to read this Letter

again. It has to be my favorite MO Letter!

Carolina, USA – Hello! I'm sitting here looking at your home page, and I'm overwhelmed with tears. I don't know why. I grew up in the Family till the age of 13 when my family left. We are still a strong believing family, and because I grew up with the words of David and the Bible, I still truly believe.

God bless you for still going on with God's Word and for helping so many lost souls, cause God knows there are a lot. If you would please answer me it will be so nice to be in touch with the Family again. I truly miss it. TTL I had the privilege to grow up with you.

Linda (former member), USA – Greetings! I joined the Family in 1975. My Bible name was Joy Miracle. I've been out of contact with the Family since about 1991 when my teens were getting into some trouble that made continued membership impossible. My time in the Family was a wonderful, continual learning and loving experience. I would very much like to regain some form of contact for communication, and would appreciate an address I can tithe to.

I have two teens left at home, 16 and 18 year old girls. They are sweet girls with mostly warm Family memories. The youngest still shows the videos to friends, especially *Countdown to Armageddon*, the elder often uses what she learned from the Word through the Family in discussions with friends, and has repeatedly stuck up for the Family to unfavorable family members, other ex-members, her siblings and her father, also an ex-member. I am starting my last year of nursing school to complete my RN by this time next year. Lack of Family contact has left a huge hole in my heart. Churches just do not fit the bill! Thank you so much for being there and having a way to contact you. Hope to hear from you soon!

happenings—

[Miracle globe]

Pandita and David, Japan: We've needed a globe for our children for some time. There are so many cheap globes but usually they are in Japanese. We needed one in English. We prayed about it, and decided to ask one of our friends in the States. Our friend asked a sweet lady who is really concerned about children to send us one in December of last year by airmail. We waited a long time, but it never arrived. A month passed. Our friend called and asked about the globe. We told him that we hadn't yet received the globe, and he was quite disappointed. We told him that we were praying for it, but after some time, he was sure it wouldn't arrive. We continued praying for the globe every morning at devotions. Two months passed.

One day the mailman came and delivered the globe! We were very happy to receive it and our friend was very surprised and it encouraged his faith. God's delays are not denials!

[Our special friend]

John, Jacintha, Marie and Juan, New Delhi, India: One day before going out witnessing, we prayed to meet somebody special. Lo and behold, the Lord answered our prayer with the most outstanding person we've met in many years in this difficult field of India. After picking us up in his car, Mr. G. showed a special interest in our work, but mostly in Jesus, which for a Hindu is very unusual. He was even more receptive after we had said the salvation prayer with him. He understood the meaning of salvation in a way that not many people do. He would not stop saying how he believed that we were "sent" by God.

When we first met him, he was going through a lot of confusion in his life and was searching for the "true" God. Now he is one of our closest friends. He wants to know more about the Lord, he reads the Word with us every week and has started to pledge monthly. Recently he told us that he had a vision of Jesus embracing him. We are in close contact with him and he is becoming a king.

The Lord has been taking very good care of him as recently he had a terrible car accident when his driver who was going over 100 km/h had a

head-on collision. He came out with only a scratch on his head. Before he had told us he needed to see Jesus' power in some tangible way, but now he is convinced that it was only Jesus that held and protected him from dying that day.

The most amazing thing happened when a few days later he found out that the son of his business partner, while in Europe, also had a car accident the same day he had his. He phoned him right away and shared some words of comfort that he had found in his *Daily Bread*. He also faxed him some *Reflections* which we had given him. Only two days later this boy came out of the hospital doing much better, against all odds.

Mr. G. is a real witness and sample of someone's life changing for the better. Please pray for him and that many more can meet Jesus as their personal Friend too.

[Mail ministry is the way]

Pandita (of David), Japan: Seventeen years ago, I decided to go to China as a missionary. I teamed up with another Japanese sister who also had a burden to go to China. At that time we were FFing. We needed to raise a good amount of money but we decided to put souls first and we trusted the Lord to take care of us. Whenever we went FFing, we always tried to win souls.

One day we met a gentleman at the bar in a nice hotel. I made an appointment to meet him the next day. He got saved and was very thankful to learn that Jesus loved him. He left to his country and we kept in touch by mail. But this is not the end of the story.

While I was still single I used to write him once or twice a year. After I got married, my mate (Greek David Searcher) who happened to be and still is a very faithful mail ministry person, took over his follow up. David started writing to him even though he hadn't met him personally. David regularly sent him feeding material. This friend is a very open minded man. He was happy to hear that I had a mate and

was thankful to receive mail from both of us. He highly respects and appreciates the Family.

He is growing through the mail and after 17 years we still communicate. Our children write to him as well, and that has really touched his heart. As a result of faithful follow-up, he has decided to play the role of the grandfather to our kids. He doesn't have any children and his wife passed away five years ago. Four years ago he started sending our children any recommended movies that they asked him for. As a result, our Home has been benefiting from watching healthy and recommended movies. He faithfully sends us a monthly donation which we use to cover the cost of the kids' excursions and mission field trips. We are sold on in the power of the Mail Ministry.

[Follow-up, Word and prophecy]

John, Jacintha, Marie and Juan, New Delhi, India: Recently we asked the Lord for some more specific instruction about our follow-up with our friends, pledgers and contacts in the city. He showed us to use the Word more and feed them on a regular basis. We've started to have regular Word and Bible classes for those who show more interest in the Word, Endtime, etc. However we try to always read with all of them even if only one quote, verse or the *Daily Micht* for the day.

Since some of our close friends had heard of our use of prophecy, a few of them asked us to "get something from the Lord" for them. On one occasion the departed saved son of a lady friend spoke and told his mother how happy he was in Heaven and that in the "accident" in the swimming pool he was being "taken" by the hand of a spirit helper to Heaven to be with Jesus. Our friend was touched by the message and realized what a privilege it is to have Jesus and to be saved. Prophecy is a sure way to feed our friends.

Grapes

To my sweet mate, Julie, and all Home members who stay by the stuff and make it possible for me to go on long fundraising trips to another country. Thank you for your sacrifices.

—JAMES, PAKISTAN

Ray of Hope 1999 highlights

Bringing
Clothes and
shoes to
orphanage



Gloria, painting a child's face at a fundraising event for a kids' cancer hospital in Szczecin.



Buskerbus
international
festival of
street
artists



Helping the
foundation
for homeless
and poor
people with
donated
clothing.



By Grace, Gloria, Matthew, Steven and four little munchkins, Poland

Szczecin (city in northwest Poland) has never had a permanent Family Home, until we opened ours in March of 1999. Our team consists of Matthew 24 (British), with his lovely wife Gloria (a Pole) with two little munchkins David (2) and Ania (3), plus a third on the way. Then there's Steven Don Quixote (a nut case in a nutshell) with his sweet wife Grace, plus two little love bugs Natalia (4) and Agnieszka (2) (all Polish).

At the start of our pioneer venture, we had no car of our own, not much furniture, not much funds, but we had the Lord's promises of supply. We borrowed a vehicle and off we went house hunting. Within 10 days we found an apartment that is still serving us well.

Most of our time has been invested in a local orphanage. From the start we brought them clothes and shoes from Leland and Grace in Berlin. We made friends with some of the kids and took countless trips with food, clothes, toys, etc, to help them as much as we could.

Since we arrived, we have been on local TV three times, once with our puppet show with a mass witness of over 104,000. We've given out over 10,000 pages of lit and witnessed personally to over 1,200 folks.

In December we delivered to the "girls-group" in the orphanage very nice clothing that came from Sweden, from Caleb's and Rejoice's provisioning. God bless them!

During our first three months we were struggling without a car. But the Lord helped us to meet a few friends that would deliver things from the market to our Home. Sometimes we had to go by taxi and it was costly, but the Lord never failed and always supplied. By a miracle Gloria's dad offered us a vehicle. We were so thankful.

We had a chance to take part in BUSKERBUS, an international festival of street artists and buskers in Poland. We mostly did face painting and it was a great way to raise support, but also a fantastic way to witness to people who came from around the world. The Lord also opened doors for us to perform as clowns at parties, supermarkets, etc.

The Lord supplies our funds every month here from the most unusual places! The miracles of provisioning were very inspiring—a refrigerator and a deep freeze from one man, and the list goes on: a brand new TV, phone with answering machine, cozy living room furniture, a few wardrobes, kitchen equipment, laundry machine, beds, kids clothes, computer parts. We have a regular bread, fish and meat contact. Our internet accounts are free! The list goes on and on. The Lord is so good to us!

Ratings

Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up

INSTINCT (1999)

Anthony Hopkins, Cuba Gooding Jr., Donald Sutherland
Drama/character study about a young psychologist who is assigned to assess and write a report about a man who spent two years alone in the African jungles before being found and returned to the United States.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

IDEAL HUSBAND, AN (1999)

Cate Blanchett, Minnie Driver, Rupert Everett
Romantic comedy/character study set among the London aristocracy of the 1890s. Based on the play by Oscar Wilde. A fun and insightful combination of wit, intrigue and romance.

Movies Rated for JETTs

ANNA AND THE KING (1999)

Jodie Foster, Chow Yun-Fat
Lavish, dramatic adaptation of "The King and I" story, involving the interaction between the king of Siam and widowed British schoolteacher Anna Leonowens during the 1860s, and the subtle romance that develops between them. Not completely historically accurate, but many good points for discussion.

Movies Rated for OCs and Up

SEA GYPSIES (1978)

Robert Logan, Mikki Jamison-Olsen
Adventurous drama about a widower who sets out to sail around the world with his two daughters. They are joined by a female reporter and a young stowaway, but they meet with unexpected complications along the way.

Non-Recommended Movies

INHERIT THE WIND (Jack Lemmon, George C. Scott; 1999)

(Jesus speaking:) Avoid the devoid—this is mockery of the Lord and His people and His Word. Pass by this pool, for the waters here are not good to drink. Their names are doubt and disputation, confusion and mockery. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

LIMBO (Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio, David Straithairn; 1999)

(Jesus speaking:) This movie is dark; dark in its understanding of life, dark in the wisdom and the advice it tries to offer. No solutions for those who are lost, just more and more problems. Though a somewhat accurate description of the world today, my children need not wallow through the misery Satan causes to those who know Me not. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

LETTERS FROM A KILLER (Patrick Swayze; 1998)

(Jesus speaking:) The days are getting worse and worse and the love of many is waxing colder and colder. There is no need for My tender brides to see more horror of the world. The only things portrayed in this movie are the fruits of jealousy and deceiving. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

NOAH'S ARK (Jon Voigt, Mary Steenburgen, 1999)

(Jesus speaking:) This movie is blasphemous, unscriptural, anti-religious and mocks My Word, truth, wisdom and justice. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

Moving Missionaries

Be proud of what God has given you

By David Apostle, Spain

We had an exciting trip from Astrakhan (Chechnya) to Spain (where we want to sell our equipment and fly to China, as soon as we can find work there). We traveled 5000 km, crossing Russia, Byelorussia, Poland, Germany, France, and finally Spain. A nice tour and very educational for all.

Here in this little town of 2,000 people (the town I joined the Family from 20 years ago), we are very busy with the adventures of everyday life—taking care of the kids' school, witnessing, puppet shows, and having meetings with former members, in an attempt to inspire them to get closer to the Lord. We just got two young live-outs and have regular classes with them.

Everyone, from the Mayor to city officials to old friends, have welcomed us to this town, and encourage us to stay as long as possible. As they put it, "we need people that think like us." The people in this town closely followed the persecution in Spain with all the lies, and the kids and our family sample and way of life had won in their eyes. People commended us for having such beautiful kids, well mannered, educated, and a good sample.

Some people might think that a big family is a big burden, potential security breach, a hassle, or a bother—as we've heard sadly in the Family. I can testify that this is nothing close to the truth, as the kids and the sample of our families are the real fruit of what we preach and believe.

Remember God's first commandment. Just because a few are low on faith, or you hear off-key comments, don't let you and your family be put down or on the defensive. (This is a note to the big families!) Be proud of what God has given you, because it is godly.

Reviews

Instinct

(Jesus speaking:) Truths that can be drawn from this movie:

- ⌚ It shows the bestiality of man, and how heartless many have become.
- ⌚ It exposes the System and how they seek to control people's bodies, minds and lives.
- ⌚ It brings out the importance of letting your loved ones know how much they mean to you, and not ignoring relationships because of busyness.
- ⌚ It shows how, with determination and true concern for others, you can reach and learn to understand anyone. Nothing is impossible and no one is beyond help.
- ⌚ Many people in the System think they're free when they're really not.

to man evolving from animals that are, of course, false.

- ⌚ It misinterprets the meaning of freedom. This man did not know what true freedom was; he only knew what it wasn't.
- ⌚ This movie shows that the System is lousy, but what it promotes is not that much better, nor a true solution. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

An Ideal Husband

(Jesus speaking:) *Ideal Husband* is well acted, cleverly written and not without its lessons for those involved in any type of relationship. Though portrayed in a light and humorous manner, the situations these people find themselves in are very real—the temptations, the choices and the consequences they can have. But even more real is the power you have through prayer and

Ungodly messages in this movie to beware of:

- ⌚ Cruelty to animals is not godly, but the fact is that I gave man dominion over animals, and this movie preaches against that.
- ⌚ There are subtle and obvious references

kidbits

- ⇒ **Francisco Pedro**, born to **Vicky and Eliseo** on June 26.—Brazil
- ⇒ **Ryan Aneja**, born on October 22, 1999, to Jonathan and Abigail.—India
- ⇒ **Daniel**, born to **Maria and Paul** on January 22.—Romania
- ⇒ **Sasha Edward**, born to **Comfort** on January 28.—Germany
- ⇒ **Richard Andrew**, 2nd child, born to **Sharon and Andrew Wright** on January 29.—Italy
- ⇒ **Jonathan**, born to **Charity and James Servant** on January 29.—South Africa
- ⇒ **Esther Victoria**, 5th child born to **Johanna and David Lovelight** on January 30.—Croatia
- ⇒ **Terrence Daniel**, born to **Esther and Timothy Daniel** on February 1.—Russia
- ⇒ **Emily**, 6th child, born to **Suzanne and Luke** on February 1.—England
- ⇒ **Robert Gabriel**, 2nd child, born to **Becky and Sam Aquarian** on February 8.—Hungary
- ⇒ **Kaitlyn Sarah Rose**, born to **Ruth and Timothy** on February 9.—South Africa
- ⇒ **Michael**, born to **Clare and Stephen Trust** on February 10.—Russia
- ⇒ **Kristen Brooke**, 2nd child, born to **Leina Morningstar** on February 15.—USA
- ⇒ **Christopher**, born to **Dana and Tim** on February 18.—Russia
- ⇒ **Kyla Shalene**, 4th child, born to **Sharon and Philip** on February 19.—Middle East
- ⇒ **Richard Ethan**, 3rd child, born to **Tirzah and Ben** on February 22.—Malawi
- ⇒ **Claire Angela**, 4th child, born to **Marie and Sam** on February 25.—ASCRO

Letters to the Editor

Re: The world of keys

Dear Grapevine,

Recently I have encountered a little problem in the wonderful world of HomeARC, pub keys, keyrings and etc. that I would like to tell you about.

I had a letter that I wanted to send to a certain individual living overseas. Now this person had sent me their Home's key in case I ever wanted to send an encrypted letter to them, but when I went to find that key, to my dismay I realized that I couldn't distinguish it amongst all the crazy keys which had accumulated there.

We had amongst the nature ones a "Green Forest" key, "Red Trees Home," "Rainbow1" and "Rainbow2," "Droplets," "Cedars" and some more. Then there were also numbered keys such as "bs123," "aka1978" and "four-and-a-half." I also found some "hearts," "diamonds of dust," "future" and "love." There were others, a little more intelligent, but just as difficult to understand, like "p&c," "E&D," "Jn-Ar" or "ABM," etc.

I'm writing to you in hopes that you could publish a little something along the lines of: PEOPLE; PLEASE MAKE YOUR KEY NAMES IDENTIFIABLE AND EASY TO TRACE BACK TO YOU!

Thank you!

—JONATHAN

Re: Every Family e-mail address in Brazil

Dear Grapevine,

In a forwarded message we just received from another Family Home we were astonished at the tremendous breach of security. We're amazed that they continue to circulate within the Family, especially after the notices WS has published against them, and with the S2K again highlighting our security in communications.

If you look at the message header, you can find the e-mail addresses of virtually all the Homes in Brazil together with their location (city) and Family name of most likely the teamworks of the respective Homes.

Could you again publish something against these types of messages? It compromises the security of so many brethren. For now we'll be keeping a copy of this message in case we want to contact anyone in Brazil in the future!

—ROBIN, PORTUGAL

seeking Me to give you the answers to problems that arise.

Those who have been hurt or who have hurt those they love through dishonesty will relate and draw lessons from this movie. The characters are not role models by any means, but on the overall it's edifying and worth watching. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

Anna and the King

(Jesus speaking:) While not entirely historically accurate, this movie has a clear and wholesome spirit. Older children can see it, but only if they watch it with a teacher or parent or someone who previews it beforehand and can explain things well during the showing. There are some very complex issues that are brought out in this film that might not be directly relatable to My children who have grown up apart from the world. JETTs would be able to understand this in the form

the movie brings out, whereas those younger would need to have guidance and not just watch this for entertainment.

The lessons of understanding and becoming one are sober lessons that can benefit the children greatly, for children live very much in their own little world sometimes. This movie can be a treasure chest of good principles and lessons if presented prayerfully and the lessons applied in a form that they can understand. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

(Dad speaking:) I always loved this story and thought it very courageous of this woman to step out virtually alone and to make this journey of faith in a new strange land, at least strange to her. She was not only a teacher, but also a type of missionary, although this movie can't show that too openly. Granted, she didn't always go about things with the Lord's

wisdom and leading, but she did the best she could in a difficult situation, plus she herself had a lot to learn.

It is a story of love, a beautiful one based on her own diary, worthwhile viewing and well done. Love helped to overcome, to conquer, it changed lives and history. (*End of message from Dad.*)

Sea Gypsies

(Dad speaking:) This is a movie that will be fun and exciting for young viewers. It's a wholesome adventure, without the negative behavior and bad language that permeates so many modern movies today. It's got a few scares in it, so it wouldn't be good for very little children, but I think it can be enjoyed by many.

Watch this movie with your children, and I think you'll find a lot of points for discussion. There are a few things that can be brought out, such as the

behavior of the little stowaway boy and how his asking the little girl to lie brought bad fruit.

There are also some unpleasant things that are mentioned in passing that could be explained to children so it does not cause them questions. Overall it is a fun and enjoyable movie, and a fun way to spend an evening.—And love conquers all!

One important point that would be good to note with the children is what would happen if members of our Family were in a situation like that—how hearing from the Lord is such a powerful weapon, and what a help the power of prayer is, not only to keep us from disasters and bad situations, but to help us if we ever get into them. You could prompt a lively and fun discussion about how things could have turned out differently if the main characters could have used prayer and prophecy while they were on their trip! (*End of message from Dad.*)

Theory to practice

—how the Word is being applied in your Homes

S2K AFTER-EFFECTS, from a Home in India

19-year-old female

The “Ask Me Everything” series was a little bit hard to comprehend, and all the young people were kind of like: “How on earth is this ever gonna work?” But now that we’ve all had some time to get used to it, we’re starting to see the benefits and understand a bit better. Of course we’re far from having “attained” but you can tell the difference, as it’s become a very normal phrase for one of us to say, “Can you guys pray with me about whether I should go to the shop now?” etc.,

It’s really nice that all the young people have accepted it and are trying to put it into practice. (Not that the adults aren’t, but usually it’s the young people who have more doubts, so it’s nice to see that since the S2K things have improved.) Though we’re far from perfect, at least everyone is really trying, so the gossip, System music, and ungodly conversations have greatly diminished. The System novels are gone, and people are much more serious about serving the Lord.

Ever battling and never having a break?

By Angie, SGA, Europe

I am the kind of person who seems to always be having a trial or difficulty of some sort. Whenever one is finally over with I find myself with a new one! It’s been like that for the past couple of years and though I’ve always been told to “hang on and just trust the Lord,” I began to weary of it and wonder if all those trials and tests were really that necessary. I don’t know why I never asked the Lord

about it; maybe I was too into myself to want to give it a try.

Finally, however, I decided to ask Him and He gave me something that was encouraging. Here are a few excerpts of what He said, “You are like a diamond, a rare and special diamond. I have blessed you with much extra polishing, cutting and grinding. I want to make you beautiful. I want you to glow and sparkle in a special way so all who see you will know that you have gone through the fires, testings, trials and pains and made it through.

You have wondered many times why your life seemed so hard and continues so, and the battles never seem to go away. Well, the secret is: that’s how special and precious you are. The longer the pain and trials and polishing, the more beautiful you will become.”

I thought this might be encouraging for anyone else who feels like their life has been one hardship after another without much peace in between. If so, the Lord sees you as a rare jewel! So don’t despair at the extra long cuttings, grindings and polishing, cause when it’s over you will be totally beautiful!

Carrying the burden of judging others?

By M. (male), Hungary

I learnt an important lesson that has hindered my relationships with people in general. The beginning of the GN “You Can Make It” Part 1, talks about how the Lord forgives us and doesn’t hold our sins against us. Well, I wasn’t following His example, but would sort of watch people after they would make mistakes and show various weaknesses. I would sort of judge them and accuse them of not forsaking these sins.

I wasn’t aware that I was doing this and only just realized what I was doing as I seemed to always get negative with people I was living with and be sort of watching their souls. Though I loved them very much, this self-righteous judgment of them was tearing away at our love without me even realizing I was forming such presumptuous judgments in my mind. It’s been such a burden to carry this around, as it’s not even a burden that God carries. I feel so light and at ease now without having to suspiciously worry about others.

What “skin” meant to me!

By Libby, 17, ASCRO

‘Kay, I’ll be honest—it has taken me this long to fully realize what the Shake Up meant for me personally. I know that sounds pretty dense, but as a “younglette” living behind the scenes, I wasn’t too concerned about feeling any trembles or shakes in my personal life. As far as my decision to stay CM and the actual signing of the contract, I was totally for it and signed it in all fervour. But having the Lord slowly put the Shake Up into effect in my life was an entirely different story, ha.

My initial test was along the lines of forsaking all. I’m a second-generation member and I’ve never had to forsake everything that I called mine. The Family is mine and it’s always been. I know that because of this, I get familiar with the fact that I’m in the Family and I don’t value it and see it as the privilege that it really is. Then when I lose something or when life gets extra tough, I start looking at what I don’t have and complaining about sacrifices I’ve had to make for the Lord’s service.

I never thought of this before, but last WNR, after reflecting on the Shake

Up, the Lord showed me how distorted my perspective is. He told me to go back and reread the Shake Up and other recent Letters. I read through the pages with a more desperate attitude this time and it was so convicting. There's lots in there on commitment, loyalty, getting back to the basics, yielding your all—and so much more. I feel ashamed when I think of what my priorities were this past year—personal desires, relationships, personal happiness.

My priorities in life were based on "what's in it for me." The Lord told me that I can't go on like that, because it's the SHAKE UP, ha. He said my priorities needed a metanoia, and that I'm here to serve Him and others no matter what the cost. That's total commitment and I know the day-to-day sacrifices are the killers. But the Lord gave me this incredible prophecy the other day about how a life of unreserved, fearless giving isn't a life of "toughing it out," but rather one of complete fulfillment and beauty and that you can never out-give Him. It was so encouraging!

Anyway, the Lord's "put skin on" these principles in my life recently. My props have been taken away. The futile things that I considered important and that I hinged my happiness on are

gone, and I'm having to face the reality of giving it all I've got just because He's asked it of me. It's making a change in my attitude and outlook. But like He promised me, this unreserved, fearless giving is liberating and satisfying. I don't wake up anymore feeling heavily burdened by the trials and problems that are just part of life. They're minuscule when compared to what we're here for and what my goals in life should be.

Someone was telling me the other day how for some of us younger folk, the basic yieldedness and discipleship principles maybe aren't as etched in our minds as some of the FGAs, who have learned through experience that it's only humility and yieldedness that count. All our other pride trips and hang-ups don't matter or truly satisfy.

I know for me personally, being an energetic, assertive young person, I put too much emphasis on opinions, ideas, ways of operating, personalities, etc., and I get set in my ways, thinking I'm right. I've always secretly admired certain FGAs who have obviously gone through the fires of humblings and breakings and who have this beautiful strength of character, or peaceful aura around them. It's like they've surrendered everything—a picture of total yieldedness and a useful tool in His

hands. When I look at them and see how mightily the Lord's using them, I realize that that is how the Lord wants us all to be—not full of ourselves and our trifling trips and shallow existence.

The New Wine is a perfect blueprint for me, especially the latest Feast counsel on hearing from the Lord about everything! It was definitely a hard saying at first, but I've found when I do stop throughout the day to listen to Him instead of frantically working in the arm of the flesh, all high-strung, like I am 95 % of my life, the Lord moves in the spirit. He gives fresh input and makes life so much richer!

We've also started having a "back to the basics" devotions once a week where we read different ancient MO letters, and that's been real envisioning! I used to have this saying stuck on my computer, as the key to success: "Work hard, hang tough and never say never!", but the Lord told me to change it to the real key to success: "Time is short, so don't take your time debating in your mind if hearing from Me in prophecy about something is necessary. It is!" I know I've got a loooooong way to go, but I'm willing to give it my best shot.

forum

[On-line follow-up]

By Andreas, Chrys and family, Blue Forest Home, Japan: Have you ever thought, "Wouldn't it be wonderful if somehow we could really open the vast resources of GP and follow up material stored in our Home Libraries?"

I have been thinking a lot about ways of doing this. Having been in the Family and studying God's Word, old and new, for 26 years really puts me, and for that matter anyone in the Family, on the forefront. We are light years ahead of anyone in the knowledge of God, His true nature and His wonderful love and plan for mankind.

The bottlenecks in the past were in the area of finding the right material or the appropriate quote for a specific person. Many times I found myself staring at the Home Library, scratching my head and wondering, "Where is that particular quote I'm looking for?" Besides that, I don't even remember the exact words or what pub to find it in. That scenario is now

a thing of the past, thanks to the HomeArc. These days things are quite different. Taking full advantage of the HomeARC's wonderful capabilities I can easily search, copy, paste and send via e-mail tailored and Heaven made answers and inspiring things to the many sheep that we have on the line and are actually on-line!

As in any new ministry I am learning a lot as I go. Here are a few points.

- Pray desperately before you go into any chat room on-line. Ask the Lord to show you right away if there is someone worth it as otherwise chatting can be a time waster and expensive.
- I keep a record of the materials sent, the date and other information as well of key points from the sheep's reactions.
- Whenever I receive a prayer request I make a point to pass on the request so that the whole Home can take time to pray during united prayer times.
- It's always good to counsel and

hear other people's opinions regarding your follow up.

■ I have made a point to always ask the new sheep that I meet for their e-mail. These days most people are on line.

[Plain old friendship]

Home in USA: Something that the Lord has laid on my heart this month and which I feel is a very big need for both our younger generation, and the older ones that are supposed to be the example for them to follow, is just plain friendship. I think that a lot of us FGAs got so into the sheep/shepherd relationship, that "I have called you friends" has lost a lot of its meaning.—Learning to be the kind of friends that share their hearts with each other and that would die for one another is such a big step from just being hirelings that don't care for the sheep, although they supposedly care for them in the physical. If it doesn't come from the heart, voluntarily, it doesn't count.



The account below is very sobering. The robberies and attacks that this team suffered were extremely serious, and we can only thank our wonderful Husband for His divine protection. Despite how bad it may sound, it could have been much worse. The Lord kept them alive and for the most part unharmed. Even though one of their guards was killed and another wounded, the house damaged and their money and goods stolen, He kept them under the shadow of His wings. Thank You, our wonderful Protector!

Please pray for this dear team, as they find new housing and seek the Lord desperately about these incidents. Uphold them during this trying time.

When we asked the Lord about whether or not we should publish this account, He gave the following message. When you read it, please apply it to yourself. The team involved is learning their own lessons, but the Lord has lessons for each of us that He wants to get across.

And remember, there's no need to fear. The Lord is in control and has promised us His protection. Of course, we have to do our part and abide under His wings and stay in close communication with Him. Nevertheless, we're His children and He loves us dearly. He's not going to let a hair of our heads be harmed as long as we're striving to stay close to Him, and are heeding His checks. He's cared for us all these years, and He's not going to fail us now.

I pray that this message from the Lord convicts you and strengthens your faith. It should help you to see the wonderful protection and care that the Lord spoils us with, and should also motivate you to be more prayerful, and fervent in prayer for your brethren on dangerous mission fields.

Love,
Mama

(Jesus speaking:) My children are so often spoiled by My protection that they are careless and lackadaisical and take My guardianship for granted. In such a dangerous country as Africa, this cannot be. These were on guard and on their toes in many respects, yet they fell short.

The attack was not caused by their own fault only, for there were outside attacks. Sometimes despite

which the Enemy tries to attack them, still My protection and love is complete. Though a house be torn down, though your body and spirit be shaken, still I hold you and preserve you complete. Though you be tested and tried, and though your faith is put through hot fires, still I can keep you.

Until this time you have looked outward at these evils in the world and have not seen yourself as going through any of these troubles, for you think they are reserved for the wicked. You believe that your Family has special protection. It is true that I do protect you especially, for you have given your lives to Me. While there are lessons to learn for those involved, there are lessons for all My children, for each member is a part of the great Family, and when one suffers, all suffer. When one is threatened, all must pray diligently and fervently.

It is a call to greater prayer, greater care and watchfulness, greater understanding of the Enemy's attacks, and greater vigilance in keeping your heart, mind, soul and spirit right with Me. It is a call to utilize the new weapons to their full capacity, and to not let a check or an impression of My Spirit be blown off without stopping to ask Me about it. These days of the End run on small checks, small leadings, small whispers. Neglecting the voice of My Spirit or turning instead to your own carnal reasoning can bring about great setbacks.

There is no need to fear, My children, for you shall always have a place of refuge. No harm shall come to you as long as you remain under the shadow of My wings. But a much greater protection can be given you if you not only abide under My wings, but you remain fully alert and in tune. This gives you wisdom, forewarning and insight. Even still, the Enemy lashes out and seeks to attack, to destroy, and you must stand on vigilant guard. Do not be lulled to sleep by false pretences—living in a safe country, resting on the devices of

man or the sureties of the System to protect you. I am your Protector. I am your Deliverer.

So pray, and let this be a reminder and lesson to all. The Enemy goes about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour, and you must stand strong, as one body, in order to defeat him and persevere in your commission to spread the good news of the Gospel to every creature!

(Jesus speaking:) I've told you to publish the glad tidings but there's also a time to publish sobering tidings, which this is. This is important for the Family to know and be aware of for it is a very serious incident and I wish to get all the mileage I can out of it. I am doing that partly in the lessons the team is learning from it, but I also wish it to be something that will spur my Family on to pray more desperately and fervently for My missionaries, both in Africa and other dangerous and tough mission fields.

They've heard the testimonies and the victories. What they've heard from the work has been quite victorious, but this will serve as a reminder and confirmation of what I've said in the Word about the sacrifice and dangers of working on this field. It will serve to heighten the awareness of the need to pray fervently for My children in Africa, to uphold in their prayers My missionaries and other children, many of whom are in very tough situations. ■



your caution and prayer and attempts to stay within My will, the Enemy is allowed to test, to try, to torment, to purge you. This is also for the purpose of making you white. There is much ahead for the Family in Africa, and they must be prepared, tested and purged in every area. That is one reason why the hardships of that land are so great; because the victory and the fruit to come will also be so great.

The publishing of this account will be helpful to many, for it will stir My Family up and would cause them to sit up and take notice. There are many desperate happenings around the world, Christians being tortured and tormented, famines and pestilences, hundreds of thousands being killed and driven out of their homes and lands, and yet you live in peace, prosperity and plenty. Still, many of My children complain and are unhappy with what I have given them.

My children should lift up their eyes to the field and see the blessings I have given them. Despite their own failings or mistakes, despite the great fervor with

P

lease pray for our dear Home members in Lagos, Nigeria. Within a four-week span, armed robbers attacked this all-SGA Home twice, and I'm including their firsthand accounts here. Understandably, the team has been very shaken by this.

Since the second attack, they have all moved from the house and have been scattered around, living with friends and contacts. Many lessons are being learned and they are looking for a new house. Please pray that they will find a suitable one shortly.



Prayer Request

ARMED ROBBERY IN NIGERIA

By Lisa

First attack; excerpts from the team in Lagos, Nigeria (January 22):

We had a very serious break-in. TTL no one got hurt and we didn't lose any lives.

The night began as usual with folks watching their weekend video, then going to bed. Our house is in a deserted area with no central electricity and no phones (although we have a radiophone and a generator that we run nightly.) By 2:30 a.m. some folks heard small noises like smashed light bulbs and our guard shouting (I say small noise as it's hard to hear anything over the generator). Within minutes we realized what was going on.

Everyone other than Josh (VS) and one of the boys visiting sleeps upstairs. Our house is well guarded with double sets of bars downstairs on all windows and doors and single sets upstairs. The phone however is in the office downstairs right next to the window they decided to enter. Since the eight men attacking were armed with automatic weapons, Josh could not grab it or call for help on his way dashing upstairs with Caleb before they got in. We quickly shut and locked the iron gate at the top of the stairs once the two boys made it upstairs.

Thank the Lord they made it up safely as the men were firing shots at them as they ran for the stairs. The house was securely locked up, so they proceeded to

smash the whole wall down around the small entrance window until they could remove the bars and enter. They came onto the property at 2:30 a.m. and entered the house at 3:45 a.m. They shot twice into one of the upstairs windows, where someone was, but we thank the Lord again for His miraculous protection.

We were all now upstairs and prayed desperately for the next few hours. We could hear them downstairs going through the rooms (they took over \$1,000 in cash and another \$2,500 in equipment). We have a very loud siren that is activated from upstairs, which was going for the next three hours, but because of the noise of ours and the neighborhood generators, no one heard it. We prayed and heard from the Lord about what to do if they came upstairs, and He showed us to try to talk with them and witness.

Everyone was initially very afraid. Being woken up with something like this is a very scary thing! Thank the Lord, He came through and filled us with His peace. Hearing from Him also really helped, as you know He is right there with you. After a while we didn't hear any more noises from downstairs so thought that they might be gone, but we didn't know for sure. We heard from the Lord again and received more promises of His

protection and safety. We spent the next hour reading prophecies on protection from the *From Jesus with Love* book. It was so good to hear His Word!

At 6:30 a.m. the guard shouted to us from downstairs to tell us they were gone. They had tied him up but thankfully he wasn't hurt. The attackers had been sitting downstairs for over two hours, just waiting for us to open the iron door so they could get upstairs. Since we didn't and it was starting to get light, they eventually left.

The same day we got the window and security bars repaired and have had police security every night since then. It was a shake up for us all and we are still recovering. It was a great miracle of the Lord's protection as it could have been a lot more serious, as the armed robbers here are very ruthless and don't just steal.

Please pray for us that we will have full faith and peace in the Lord's protection. It is a bit of a concern with us because they are sometimes known to return. Even though we are doing everything we can to safeguard ourselves, we know it has to be the Lord. We are continuing to hear from the Lord and look into ways to prevent this from happening again.

Second attack; excerpts from the team in Lagos, Nigeria (February 11):

On Friday, we were attacked by six armed robbers for the second time in four weeks. This time was more serious than the first as they killed one of our guards. They got to us upstairs and demanded all the money and other valuables we had, or threatened some people would die. We gathered all the dollars we had which included the HER which made them happy and they calmed down. Shortly the police came and they left with speed.

They came into our house at 2:30 a.m. and killed one of our servants and wounded another. They then broke down our wall to get into the house and broke down the walls to get into our upstairs floor. Thank the Lord we were able to call the police before they got into our room, so they were only in our room for

around fifteen minutes and left when the police were outside. It was such a miracle and the Lord really protected us, as they did not hurt any of us.

It was the same group of men. This time it was much worse as they knew the house well by now and got upstairs within 20 minutes.

Thank the Lord this time we managed to call the police before they got to us and then hid the phone so they did not find it nor expect we had called. They all were armed and put the boys on the floor face down. The three boys received slaps, hits with the butts of their gun and some small lacerations. They ordered the boys to get the money and valuables. Our HER was stolen as well. They stripped everyone of all jewelry, watches etc. They

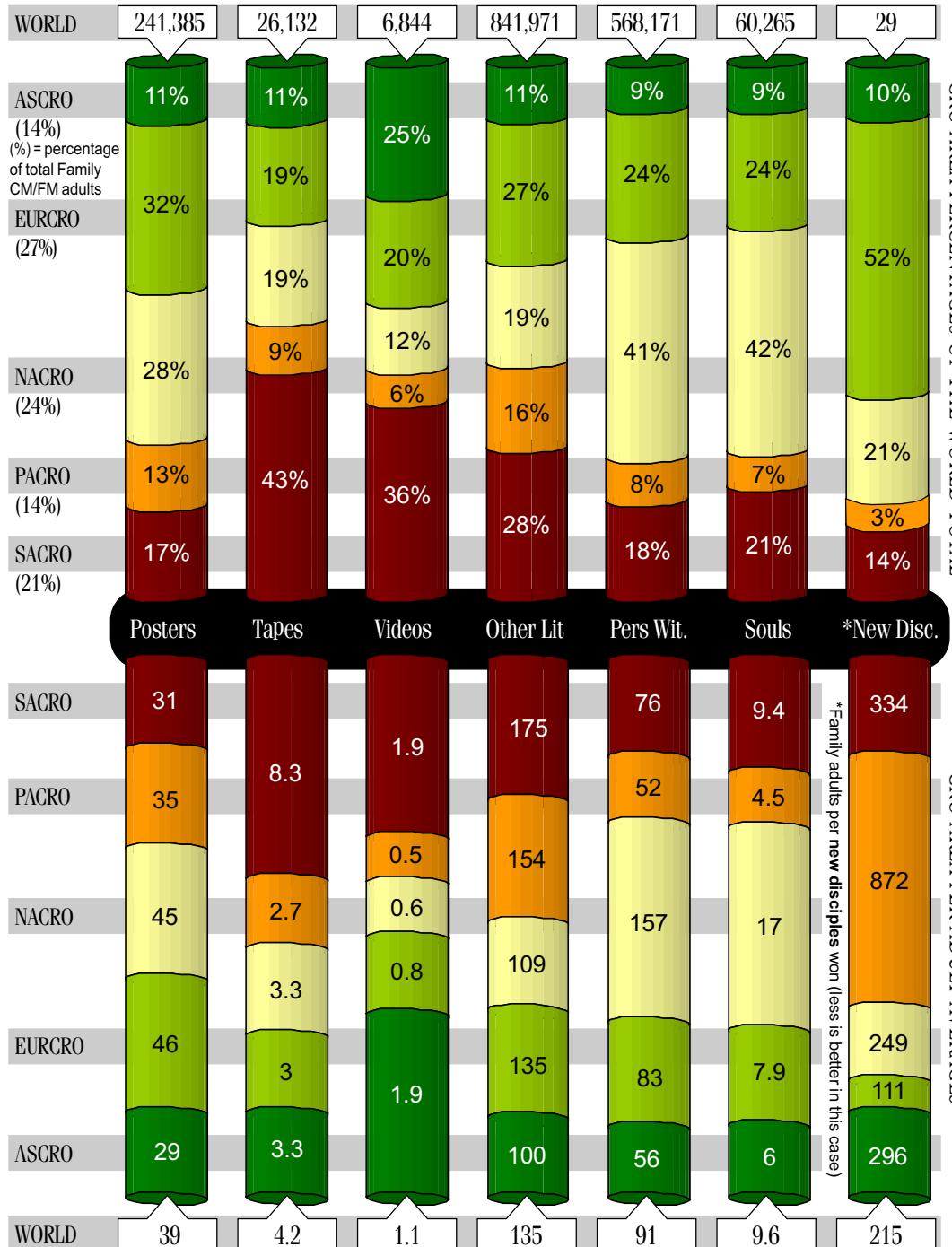
grabbed the baby as if to throw her, then left her alone.

Then the police arrived and they all ran. There was a shootout that we heard but none of the robbers were caught. They caught only the man on lookout for them who was by our gate. Our house is quite destroyed now. They seized all our house help for questioning, as they are suspects since both nights we were robbed it was the same night some other people arrived at our house from overseas or from Port Harcourt. The robbers were asking for dollars and passports so the DPO figured it had to be an inside job. All of our servants have been released except for one, who we and they feel had a hand in it.

FAMILY STATISTICS

Stats by CRO Area

Compiled from stats taken from the February 2000 TRFs.



Rating

1st Place (54 points)	EURCRO
2nd Place (53 points)	NACRO
2nd Place (53 points)	SACRO
4th Place (32 points)	ASCRO
5th Place (21 points)	PACRO

Note: Rating was derived by giving points (between 5-1, higher being better, i.e. the CRO area with the most souls total would get 5 points for that stat, the one with the 2nd most souls would get 4 points etc.) to each CRO area for each of the seven stats listed above. Points were given for both percentage of total and per adult averages, to be fair to large and small CRO areas, and then were added to determine placement.

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 Copyright © 2000 by The Family

Personals

Mark David is looking for **Louis**.

E-mail: Marcopolo18@hotmail.com.

Esther (of Summer) is looking for **Pandita (of Tim and Joy)**. We lived together in Ukraine. Will you get in touch with me? E-mail: koltes@mediashake.be.

Celeste would like to get in contact with **Mariana W.W.** and **Almendra** at e-mail: cell_phase@hotmail.com.

Where are you? **Jacques Elan**, **Cheryl** (English YA), **Mike R.** I miss hearing from you. Contact me at: E-mail: abiffr@yahoo.com.

Daniella (of Stephano), where are you?? (Last met in Rijeka.) This is Angelina (in Africa, of Andrew and Miracle) looking for you. Please write. E-mail: familycare@intnet.gq

If anyone knows how to contact **Marisa (of Dan and Faith)** and **Aaron**, or girl if you're reading this, please write!!!—Angelina. E-mail: familycare@intnet.gq

Michael and Rebecca Daysman, Sharon (Abby) would like to get in contact with you a.s.a.p. e-mail: familycare@intnet.gq

Sam and Sherrie, where are you? You disappeared. Please write Lauren at: e-mail: familycare@intnet.gq

I, Francielly [10 y.o.] Brazilian, daughter of Mari [formerly Maria] am looking for my Daddy that was in Brazil, in Porto Alegre, 10 years ago and went back to the U.S. His system name is **Norman Jack** and in the Family it was **Eleazar**. If anybody knows him or hears from him, please let me know. Contact me through the South Brazil ABM. Thanks. Love, Francielly.

Virginia Smile (Venezuelan) would like to get in touch with Peter and Johana Canadian. The last time we met was in Switzerland in 1988. e-mail: bamfam@etheron.net or virginiacook77@hotmail.com.

Joan is looking for **Robin** (Australia)! I met you in Japan. You were passing thru on your way back to Australia from Russia. How are you? E-mail: janu37@hotmail.com.

Rexy (Jessica) of Jesse and Joy, looking for **Rachel (Primavera)** and **Pedro and Aurora, Paul (of Esther)**. Cryssy, last heard from you before you went to Mexico. And **Abigail Canadian or Steph**. We lived together in Curitiba, remember? E-mail: REXACID@hotmail.com or br1@secrel.com.br; Add: Cx. Postal 649, CEP. 60001-970 Fortaleza-CE.

HOMES/POPULATION STATS

	February 2K	+/- Since S2K
CM Homes	809	-60
FM Homes	596	+42
Total Homes	1,405	-18
CM population	9,514	-728
FM population	2,990	+147
Total population	12,504	-581
CM Adults	4,731	-348
FM Adults	1,515	+94
Total Adults	6,246	-254
CM Children	4,783	-380
FM Children	1,475	+53
Total Children	6,258	-327