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#### "Dave Barry Once Said..."

Well, Paul never said that, but he quoted comedians in his witnessing, which was equivalent to using Eddie Murphy or Jim Carrey's lines from movies, and some of the people he quoted were as fictitious as Mickey Mouse. That says a lot about his open-mindedness, which resulted in breaking away from Orthodox Judaism and winning first the Greeks, and then the world for Jesus. Paul is undoubtedly the most influential Christian activist of his time and the person who did the most to break away the early Christian Church from the confines of traditionalism. Look at how he won the learned Greeks to Jesus. He used their own popular writers and comedians to reach them.

Acts 17:28, "for we are indeed his offspring" is the former half of a hexameter from the astronomical treatise "Phenomena," of Aratus de Soli in Cilicia (315-240 B.c.). The same phrase occurs in a surviving fragment of Cleanthes, who was the head of the Stoic school from 263 to 232 B.c.. The Stoics explained away God through intellect, yet had a very high standard of behavior.

The Emperor Marcus Aurelius, who is shown in the movie *The Gladiator* as being very wise and

ABI, IN SENEGAL, WROTE US THIS ABOUT XN THE OTHER DAY: I CALL IT "NX," AS IN "ANNEXE" IN FRENCH. ... IN THE ENGLISH DICTIONARY IT SAYS: "AN EXTENSION OF THE MAIN BUILDING," SO THAT SOUNDS RIGHT TO ME! HA! SO GBY, NX TEAM. WOULD BE INTERESTING TO KNOW WHAT OTHERS THINK TOO. HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK IN THE POTK. - ABI IN SENEGAL THANKS ABI! AND THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO'VE WRITTEN US WITH REACTIONS TO XN! LET US KNOW WHAT XN MEANS TO YOU, AND WE MIGHT PUBLISH IT HERE!

> understanding, was a follower of Stoic thinking and wrote many proverbs.

There is some evidence that the Titus 1:12 passage, "The Cretians are alway liars, evil beasts, slow bellies," contains a more remote quotation from Epimenides, the half-legendary 6th Century B.c. Cretan poet and prophet from whom Paul quotes a complete iambic hexameter. In legends he is said to have lived 294 years and to have slept for 57 years straight to receive the divine inspiration that determined his future career. He went to Athens in 596 B.c. and supposedly stayed the plague by mystical rites and with Solon he reformed the Athenian constitution.

Then in I Corinthians 15:33, Paul quotes an iambic trimeter of Menander (342-291 B.C.), the Athenian comic poet, most famous writer of Greek New Comedy, quoting, "Evil communications corrupt good manners."

Menander wrote ingenious plays using love plots as the main theme.

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YEP, THAT'S RIGHT. I'VE TAILED THIS GUY FROM THE MOMENT HE GOT UP THIS MORNING AND BRUSHED HIS TEETH, THROUGH BREAKFAST DISHES, THEN OUT AND AROUT DOWNTOWN, AND IN EVERYTHING HE SAYS AND DOES, THERE'S NO DOUBT HE'S A TRUE PROFESSIONAL CHRISTIAN.



As Charged?

f someone came up to you and said, "Are you a revolutionary disciple of Jesus?" you would say yes. But what if someone did not ask the question to your face, but rather observed you unseen for one day and then drew their own conclusion? Would it be as clear cut? If they could see not only your actions, but also your thoughts and intents, would they know that you are a disciple?

It's possible. It's not unattainable. In fact, it's quite easy with all that Word you have inside of you. You of the second generation are powerful. I've always said so. Dad has always said so, and that's because it's true. You've been raised on the truth and it's all inside of you. Shake off that familiarity, that lethargy, and do something about all that truth you've been exposed to. You're one of God's Explosions, so get lit with the fire of My Spirit and make history!

#### QUOTE:

(Jesus:) The time will come when you, My brides, will be forced to give up all the extra System "fluff." The circumstances will dictate that you give it up; it will be a time of obvious war and you'll not have time or even the opportunity for such trivial pursuits.

But the catch is, My warriors, you can't wait until then. You can't just keep hanging out and then think you're going to forsake all when you have to, because the problem with that plan is that you won't be ready. You won't have the strength and spiritual training needed, because you will have frittered away your time when you had it and could have made better use of it, when you could have applied yourselves.

("Feast 2003: What Is Jesus Worth to You?" ML #3433:172)



#### (JESUS:)

E'RE HAVING A GRAND SHOW ON ICE IN HEAVEN, AND THE MASSIVE ICE RINK LOOKS LIKE AN AURORA BOREALIS WAS ROLLED OUT ONTO IT, LIKE CARPET. THERE'S A FAINT RUMBLE AS THE THOUSANDS IN THE AUDIENCE TALK QUIETLY AMONG THEMSELVES.

I MYSELF AM SEATED AT ONE END OF THE OVAL-SHAPED RINK, THOUGH THE PLACE IS ONLY LIT BY WHAT SEEMS LIKE STARLIGHT COMING FROM THE GIANT DOME-SHAPED CEILING ABOVE US, MY GREAT THRONE GLOWS WHITE AS THOUGH BLACK LIGHT WERE SHINING UPON IT. I MYSELF AM GLOWING SIMILARLY, AS I SIT IN ALL MY KINGLY GLORY.—I HAVE ILLUMINED MYSELF FOR THIS OCCASION SO THAT THE SKATERS CAN SEE ME CLEARLY, SINCE THEY ARE PERFORMING IN HONOR OF ME.

THE AUDIENCE HUSHES AS A COUPLE GLIDES SMOOTHLY INTO THE CENTER OF THE RINK, THEY ARE BOTH DRESSED IN WHITE, SO THAT THEY MIRROR THE EVER-CHANGING COLORS OF THE SPOTLIGHT THAT FOLLOWS THEIR MOVEMENTS OVERHEAD, AFTER BOWING LOW TO ME, THEY BEGIN THEIR GRACEFUL DANCE ACROSS THE ICE, THEY ARE AGILE, AND THEY DAZZLE US WITH THEIR COMPLICATED SPINS AND TURNS, THERE ARE FOUR LARGE SCREENS SUSPENDED OVERHEAD, EACH FACING A DIFFERENT SIDE OF THE RINK, WHERE THE AUDIENCE CAN SEE AN ENLARGEMENT OF THEIR DANCE.

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IN THIS PARTICULAR DANCE. AS THE COUPLE GLIDES SWIFTLY ACROSS THE ICE. SOMETIMES SINGLY AND SOMETIMES TOGETHER. THEY LEAVE BEHIND THEM A TRAIL OF COLORFUL SPARKLES. WHEN THEY LEAP INTO THE AIR AND SPIN AROUND, THE SPARKLES FOLLOW THEM. LEAVING SPIRAL TRAILS. THEN THEY CIRCLE EACH OTHER, MOVING EVER CLOSER. UNTIL THEY ARE CLASPING HANDS. SURROUNDED BY CONCENTRIC RIPPLES OF SPARKLES, THAT SLOWLY DRIFT DOWN TO THE ICE.



THE MUSIC PICKS UP IN TEMPO AND THEY EACH SKATE IN OPPOSITE DIREC-TIONS. CIRCLING THE RINK, AND TOSSING SPARKLES GALORE INTO THE DELIGHTED AUDIENCE. THE AUDIENCE BEGINS TO CLAP TO THE RHYTHM AS THE COUPLE SKATES FASTER AND MORE GRACEFULLY AROUND THE ICE. WHEN THEY MEET AGAIN. THE MAN LIFTS HIS PARTNER HIGH OVER HIS HEAD AND THEY SPIN AROUND, AS THOUGH IN SLOW MOTION. SMILING AT EACH OTHER. THEN HE PLACES

HER GENTLY DOWN, THEY SPIN AROUND ONCE AND THRUST THEIR ARMS INTO THE AIR AS THE MUSIC REACHES A PEAK, THERE IS SILENCE FOR A MOMENT, THEN A LONE SAXOPHONE SOUNDS, THE SKATERS MAKE WIDE SWEEPS OF THEIR ARMS IN OPPOSITE DIREC-TIONS, AS THEY DO SO, ALL THE SPARKLES THAT THEY LEFT ON THE ICE IN PATTERNS, RISE INTO THE AIR AND HOVER AT THEIR EYE LEVEL, AS THOUGH THEY WERE LIVING. THE COUPLE COMPLETES THEIR DANCE WITH EXQUISITE GRACE, TIMING THEIR MOVES PERFECTLY AS THE

SPARKLES SLOWLY DROP TO THE GROUND ONCE AGAIN, UNTIL BOTH THE SPARKLES AND THE SKATERS ARE STILL.

THERE IS A STANDING OVATION—THE CROWD IS GOING WILD. I STAND ALSO, IN APPRECIATION FOR THIS HEARTFELT AND EMOTIONAL TRIBUTE TO MY MAJESTY AND POWER. THE COUPLE STANDS AND THEY BOTH BOW LOW TO ME, THEN NOD AND WAVE TO THE APPLAUDING, WHISTLING AUDIENCE. ROSES ARE THROWN INTO THE RINK, AND LITTLE GIRLS ON SKATES WHIZ AROUND TO PICK THEM UP AND BRING THEM TO THE COUPLE. I MYSELF THROW TWO GLOWING ROSES INTO THE RINK, AS A SPECIAL LOVE-GIFT, AND WHEN THEY RECEIVE THEM AND PLACE THEM WITH THEIR BUNDLES, MY ROSES TRANSFORM ALL THE OTHERS TO GLOWING ROSES AS WELL. THEY LAUGH AND SMILE AND WAVE IN TEARFUL GRATITUDE, BEFORE GRACEFULLY GLIDING FROM THE RINK, NOW IT'S TIME FOR OUR NEXT PERFORMERS.

### IT'S ALL SUMMED UP IN TWO WORDS



PHILIPPE LA PLUME

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The Family's ministry is to be a *spiritual* ministry, first and foremost. Your main job is to spread the Word, to make disciples of all nations. And how can you accomplish this today? What is the main method the Lord has given you? What are the tactics He's asked you to use? It's all summed up in two simple words:







Because you are pleasing Me, you can enjoy all the blessings I bring your way—good food, beautiful places to visit, fun outings, fellowship with other believers—and all this without any guilt! You can enjoy life with My blessing.

ife is full of questions, but when serving Me, the main questions are answered and the remaining questions are answerable!

W hen you serve Me, you can have your own personal spiritual guides in the form of the shepherds in your Home. And don't forget the top personal Guru\* available to you—Me!

By serving Me, you have a common goal with thousands of other people, both in and out of the Family. It's a network of brothers and sisters who will be there for you when you need them.

B ecause of your missionary lifestyle, you're able to transcend all classes, to kneel beside the lowly beggar on the street and show him My love, and to then walk into a banquet hall and mingle with the wealthy, and show *them* My love!

reasons Serve Me

(\*Guru: individual's revered teacher and counselor: a teacher or counselor in spiritual or intellectual matters who is especially revered and followed by an individual.)



t might be hard to wait for your Heavenly rewards, but it's cool to know that you're going to get a whole heap of them for serving Me!

When you serve Me, you have My unending gratitude. I know it's difficult to serve Me—that's why not many people do it. From My heart to yours, thank you.

Now that I've gotten you going, why don't you ask Me for a personal list for yourself of good reasons to serve Me!

I promise you will never regret serving Me. Through hard times and easy times, on the mountains and in the valleys of life, serving Me can give you satisfaction, meaning in your life, and purpose like nothing else can!





#### TO TACOS LAMIAN ONIGIRI JI

(Xn: If the Lord gives you a personal list of reasons to serve Him, feel free to send it in to the Xn team! There are *many* more possible reasons, and we'd love to hear yours!) ATTHEW B.F.



<sup>44</sup> the word is me. it is my spirit, it is my life. i am the word."

> If My Word is Me; if it is the most powerful truth; if it is strength, life, peace, the link to My mind, and the key to using heavenly thought power; if My Word is all these things I've mentioned, and more; if absorbing and applying My Words to your lives is the most important thing you have to do, then ask yourselves: Are you allotting sufficient quality time for the single most important thing in your lives?—Jesus

> > ("Feast 2003: What Is Jesus Worth to You?" ML #3433:64–65)

> > > xn ad

#### **111** Spirit Helpers

(Xn: This message was originally received for someone's birthday.)

(Jesus:) All the currents of your life are known to Me: the crevices, sparkling shores, deep waters and shallow reefs. You are like a mermaid in spirit and fashioned after them.

These are not creatures of fantasy, or myth or legend, but they exist in the spiritual realm and have been seen by mortals when their spiritual vision was opened. They are spirit helpers; beautiful, angelic and so much like the Holy Spirit Herself.

The mermaid spirit helpers are lovely, gentle, giving, and have the ability to flow with the current. They are never in a hurry, pressured, but always seem at ease, serene, and peaceful.

They are very sexy, inviting, and almost shy. They are very charming, sympathetic and helpful, and are surrounded with a touch of mystery. Sometimes evasive, but always there when you need them most.

When you pass through troubled waters, I will send you one of these helpers to aid you. She will navigate you through rough waters or spiny reefs. She will help you to be at peace and at ease.

She will help you become a mermaid yourself, one that is lifted on the currents of the water of My will. She will help you to be washed, renewed and finding pleasure in the treasures of My ocean of love for you.

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(*Xn*: If you're passing through troubled waters, you can specifically ask for one of these mermaid spirit helpers to guide *you*!)

(JESUS:) WITH THESE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM THAT I HAVE GIVEN YOU, YOU MAY ENTER THE REALM OF WHAT YOU CONSIDER FANTASY, AND PULL DOWN THE *REALITY* OF ALL YOU DESIRE. ("WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS, PART 3," MAL 3354)









#### The Heavenly Man A Promotion and a Challenge

#### Part 5

efore long, Yun was promoted to monitor of number two cell. One day, the supervisor of the warden's office came to take him to the administration office.

> They told him, "We know that you have a good heart. Today we have a job for you. There is a murderer locked up in cell number nine who has tried to commit suicide daily. Today we are transferring him to your cell

so that you can watch over him. Don't allow him to kill himself until the day of his execution when he must be handed over to us in a state of good health. If you are careless and allow him to commit suicide, you will be totally responsible."

Yun sensed that he was not only being given a man's body to take care of, he was being given a precious soul as well. Therefore, he committed himself to this task with determination. Returning to the cell, he discussed the matter with the brethren there and they were all willing to help.

This man was only 22 years old and was named Huang. He had not only murdered someone, but he had raped, robbed, and committed other crimes. His father, who had a very high position, was ashamed to visit. his criminal son. But he sent him a shirt on which he had written these words: "Beloved son, I am now unable to see you, but I will see you at the mass meeting [meaning the day of his execution]!" When Huang read it he was heartbroken. So every day he looked for an opportunity to kill himself.

In number nine cell Huang was mistreated by the other prisoners. They ate most of his food,

(Courtesy of *Lilies Amongst Thorns* by Danyun.)



leaving just a little for him. Then they would deliberately pour food all over him. His clothes were always covered with food stains.

Every day they would tie his hands behind his back and lock his feet in metal rings, clamped so tight that they cut into his flesh. But he was not afraid of pain and continued to move around his cell. His cellmates were afraid he would kill himself and they would be held responsible. Still, they continued to beat and humiliate him. One day when they were not looking, he rammed his head against the wall.

adversity" looked at him with a sympathetic, friendly smile as if they were welcoming a friend.

Yun, in a gentle voice, urged him to have a seat, and to remain still and not move around lest the feet-cuffs caused his feet more pain. Yun brought out some hot water, and after cooling it, washed the wounds on Huang's feet.

Soon it was time for the midday meal. Each of the brethren ate a little less rice and they gave Huang half a bowl more than his ration. As his hands were tied behind his back, they fed him one mouthful at a time. The meal that evening



for Huang. Then he broke off one-fourth of his *mantou* to eat and kept the remainder in his shirt pocket. thought the previous night's meal was too extravagant, and therefore they decided to reduce the rations for that day's meals.

"My brother, I am a murderer whom everyone hates. Even my father, mother, older and younger sister, and fiancée don't want me. Why do you love me in this manner?"

That afternoon, Huang was taken out by several policemen and transferred to number two cell. When he entered this cell, he could feel the atmosphere was totally different from that in number nine cell. Here, the "brethren in 20

happened to be the one in which they were allowed to eat a mantou (steamed bread). Only once a week were they given a two-ounce mantou. Yun told all the brethren to eat their mantou, but to leave an extra bowl of vegetable soup The next morning, breakfast consisted of a noodle soup in which a few strands of noodles were boiled in water. It was extremely watery. Looking into the bowl you could see the reflection of your eyelids very clearly. The authorities must have The brethren agreed that each of them would share a little of their soup with Huang. Yun fed him some rice, and then, with his back towards Huang, he broke up the remainder of last night's *mantou*, put it in Huang's bowl and radicals unlimited continued to feed him. At that moment, Huang's hard heart melted. He suddenly fell on his knees and began to sob aloud.

Weeping, he said, "My brother, I am a murderer whom everyone hates. Even my father, mother, older and younger sister, and fiancée don't want me. Why do you love me in this manner? There is no way I can repay you now, but after I die and turn into a ghost I will find some way to repay your goodness toward me!"

Then Yun was filled with the love of the Lord and turning to Huang, said tearfully, "You should thank Jesus, for we believe in Him. If we didn't believe in Him we would have treated you the same way as the prisoners in cell nine. Today we love you because of the love of Jesus Christ. Also, after you die not only can you not repay us, but your soul will enter eternal hell and punishment. Therefore vou should repent



and believe in Jesus, for He is the only One able to save your soul."

Huang immediately and very sincerely said to the Lord, "Thank You, Jesus, for loving a sinner like me."

Yun comforted him. As he fed him he told him about the birth, death, resurrection, ascension, and the second coming of Christ. He also explained salvation.

Huang listened as the light of the Holy Spirit slowly shone in his black heart. He could not control himself and knelt before the Lord and cried out to Him with repentance and confession of sins.

Huang's story unfolded. After he had graduated from middle school, Huang worked as a technician in a power plant in a certain city. His parents were both Party secretaries in two large work units. His family enjoyed a superior lifestyle and both his parents especially loved him. Huang was engaged at this time and his fiancée loved him very much. Still he did not seem to appreciate any of these

things. His closest friends were a group of degenerates in society. They "lived it up," got drunk, and got into fights in which they injured people. They even put some dynamite together to blow up several people.

It was for this crime that the PSB arrested them. But because of the influence of his parents, this serious crime was dealt with leniently and he was only given a two-year term of labor re-education. He was to have been released on May 1, 1983. Who would have thought that on the night before his release, he would run into a friend who had also been sentenced to labor re-education.

As the two of them began to talk, all kinds of negative things came out. They talked about their future and how they both felt so empty, insignificant, and hopeless. Later they started drinking to kill their boredom, but the more they drank the more morose they became. As a result they made a pact.

"If we cannot live together, then tonight

we will both die together," they decided.

These two degenerate men then went to the warehouse and stole two metal truncheons and more than ten pounds of dynamite. Then they swore to Heaven that if one of them was killed by the other, the one who was still alive must take the body of his dead partner to a power transformer where he would set off the dynamite. The living one would embrace his dead comrade and in that way that night both of them would die together.

Fach of them began to viciously strike the other with the metal truncheon. Huang was the stronger of the two. During the third round he fatally struck his friend on the head. As Huang was carrying the body of his friend, he was discovered by a cadre from the labor camp, who immediately fired a warning shot. Realizing that he would not be able to follow through with the original plan, he dumped the dead body and escaped from the camp.



He went to another district, changed his mind and decided not to kill himself. He decided to travel to every major city in the nation, visit all the well-known attractions and enjoy all the pleasures of life. Then only would he return home and end it all.

He purchased a flashy sharp knife and used it to rob In fact, he felt even more pain, torment and hopelessness. He climbed many famous mountains where they told him his fortune and he worshipped Buddhist idols. But this brought him no peace.

In desperation he bought a box of safety razors and, unbuttoning the collar of his shirt, hung the razors all around his neck. suicide. However his plan was foiled. As soon as he got off the train, PSB officials apprehended him.

But that day in prison with Yun and the others, Huang surrendered to the Lord and Jesus saved him. Huang then allowed Yun to remove the razor blades hidden under the collar of his shirt. He had a great hunger for

Day and night he sang at the top of his voice, "I love Jesus..." It was strange, for none of the guards paid any attention.

countless numbers of travelers and commit many other crimes. He traveled to all the cities, famous mountains and places. But giving in to sin and lust still could not satisfy him. Then, using his knife, he went to a drugstore and stole two bottles of sleeping pills. After that he boarded a train to return to his home, where he planned to commit the Word of the Lord and constantly asked Yun to teach him the Bible. He also loved to sing choruses. Yun taught him to sing "I love Jesus." He sang out constantly: "I love Jesus, I love Jesus All of my life I love Jesus;

Love Him in the sunshine hour,

Love Him when the storm clouds lower,

Every day along my way,

Yes, I love Jesus." Generally, control over the prisoners was very strict. Anyone caught making a noise would be severely punished. At the bottom of the cell door there was a small hole just large enough for a man to put his head in. The police would stick the heads of those who violated the regulations in that hole and then kick them or use the butts of their rifles to beat them. Most prisoners kept quiet out of fear. Who would dare to talk or sing carelessly? Though the brothers in cell two usually sang most of the time, they did so in a soft voice, or they waited until there was no guard at the door before they sang louder.

Huang was still a prisoner on death row. But he had no fear of death. Day radicals unlimited and night he sang at the top of his voice, "I love Jesus..." It was strange, for none of the guards paid any attention. The courage of the brothers greatly increased. This prison cell was filled with singing, prayers, and meetings every day. Huang had a great desire for the

Lord's cross, and he earnestly implored Yun, "Brother,

please draw the Lord's cross on the wall for me. If it is discovered by the prison police, I will take full responsibility." Yun could not bear to disappoint this new believer who was soon to die. Whenever they were allowed outside he would look everywhere for broken glass or iron nails so that he could etch a cross on the stone

wall of the cell for Huang.

This wall was made of concrete and was extremely hard. With great effort Yun spent his spare time working hard until a tall, large cross was eventually etched on the wall. Under the cross he drew a picture of the world and over that these characters were written, "God so loved the world."



Huang was so happy he began to cry. He also asked Yun to chisel out a grave right below the cross, with a gravestone in front and to write on it the words, "The grave of Huang who has received grace." The more Yun etched, the more strength he had. Eventually the cell door and the four walls of the cell were covered with, "The prodigal has returned," "In tribulation trust in the Lord," (John 3:16, Romans 3:23–24) and other Bible verses.

Though he did all these things, not one guard discovered it and from that time on nobody ever came into the cell to investigate.

The cross and the Bible verses remain in this cell to this day. Every prisoner sent to that cell can read them and many have repented and believed in Jesus.

(*Xn:* Coming next: "The Heavenly Man, Part 6: Imminent Death Penalty.")

#### Message from Jesus

All the angels in Heaven rejoice when one soul is brought into eternal salvation, no matter how depraved, how black that soul once was. My love reaches into the darkest corners of humanity and shines a light on the most unlikely candidate. It's like a fairy tale in a sense, where the ugly little shoeshine girl becomes the princess. I long to take those who have been devoured by the fury of the Enemy, and to transform them into beings of light and love!

The Enemy walks about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour, so that he may have another convert, another depraved soul who will spread his darkness and hatred and wickedness. But none can ever sink too low that I cannot reach down, down, down into the depths and pull them up and out, and wash them and make them new creatures.

When Yun looks back on his life, he counts his entire ordeal in prison worthwhile, even if only Huang had been redeemed for Heaven. And yet many, many more were saved during Yun's time in prison. So do not fear that hard times equal punishment from My hand, for I may just be leading you on a path of many more souls than you ever dreamed of. (End of prophecy.)

Avail yourself of the keys of anointing so that any task or responsibility of leadership will be blessed with greater understanding, discernment, and insight.

Just as light dispels darkness, so the keys dispel evil.

I have chosen and ordained you to bring forth much fruit. Claim My keys of salvation and fruitfulness and go forth to conquer the land and reclaim the souls of those whom the Enemy has taken captive.

Stir yourself up! You can be an instrument to save someone's life, to give them new hope, to bring that one into My arms and My service! As you call on the keys, I will empower you as never before!

F irst off, a great big thanks and appreciation for those who put this wonderful program together, and for those on the field who process the information and see it through to completion. CVC makes it easy for you to be good!

I don't feel I have anything to boast about as I only put my mind to the task two years ago, when I could have taken advantage of it when it first came out seven years ago. The breaking point came when I realized that I needed to have some documentation for my education, particularly a high school diploma, as that's a general must.

I started by working toward my junior high and high school diploma. And since you have to earn 20 credits in both Christian and vocational studies in order to get a high school diploma, I was able to put those 40 credits toward two other certificates (Bible Knowledge and Baby Care) at the same time. After that was taken care of, I applied for two certificates in Childcare and Food Services.—Two areas I had lots of experience in, as I'm sure most young people in the Family do. It was only a matter of reading up on the material and getting my CVC supervisor to verify it and the hands-on experience I already had.

Presently I'm working on finishing two other certificates for Childcare to add to my certificate folder. One plus point for me is that the CVC Word studies are terrific and already made, especially if you use the CD. You can brush up on your Endtime studies, for example, while earning credits toward a diploma on Bible Knowledge.

Some folks may not feel CVC is adequate proof of their education, but once you delve in and check it out, you'll see it's tremendous! And when you have a full-time ministry without a lot of time to get in hours of bookwork and studying, CVC is a wonderful way to put on paper just a very small part of what we have learned and experienced in the Family.

I would like to add that my little tiny bit of effort was worth it all, as now that I have CVC records and proof to show for my life and experiences, it's pretty inspiring and encouraging to look through. Better late than never! cvc ad



By Dorisa (23), Thailand

## with your Angels

(Angelic being speaking:) I'm called Arielle. I'm a guardian angel. I was elected to speak on the behalf of the others. They want and will speak to each of you whom they are so close to, if you'll give them the chance.

There are very few people in this life that you can count on absolutely, knowing that they will always be with you. But if you knew that there were people like that, wouldn't you really want to try to get to know them and work towards developing a personal relationship with them?

The Lord of course is with you always, He's your Best Friend who will never leave nor forsake you. But there are others that He has entrusted with that responsibility as well. Can you guess who I'm talking about? Yes, that's right, your guardian angels.

As you may well know, the primary purpose and job of a guardian angel is to always be with you, to keep and protect you from any and all spiritual and physical harm. But another, very important part of the job is to try to lead and guide you, to steer you away from danger or would-be traps of the Enemy. Being a guardian angel is an awesome responsibility, one that is taken very seriously.

Of course, it goes without saying that we need your cooperation in order to do our job. The Lord's given us, His guardian angels, charge over you, to keep you in all your ways, to hallow you round about, to protect and deliver, but we are limited by you and vour faithfulness to listen and to follow, by your obedience to stay within His will.

We in essence work for you, like bodyguards, but what we really like is to work with you. In order for us to successfully do our job we not only depend on your cooperation, by your staying in God's will and under His protection, but we also rely on your being

in tune with us and our checks. We want to speak to you and to have a personal relationship with you. If you take the time to listen to us and to try to get to know us better, naturally this will heighten your awareness of our presence, resulting in your being more inclined to ask for our help throughout the day, either for yourself or your loved ones. When you're faithful to ask for our protection it allows us to use all the power available to us. You in effect are helping us help you, making it a teamwork effort-us helping you,

while you're helping us—enabling each of us to more effectively do our jobs and fulfill our purposes.

So, what do you say? Will you make the effort to listen to us and to get to know us in a more personal way? We look forward to speaking to you. We love you.

(*Xn:* For a refresher on specific roles of your guardian angels, see "Action Through Prayer, Part 2: Prayer Angels," ML #3325:32–38.)





# You're Near Me Today

(Jesus:) Don't worry about being successful or trying to do everything just perfect. You wonder if you'll be able to stay faithful. But My dove, if you just keep looking up to My face moment by moment, casting your cares on Me, and putting your heart into My hands, I will teach you all you should be. I'll guide you through your life, and no matter what you do, where you go, or the things you see and experience, I'll be helping to make the best experiences possible, for we'll be doing it together.

I treasure you, My flower. I'll put you in a vase today, and set it on My desk so I can see you and gaze at you and be refreshed by the loving looks that you give Me. I'll pick you up and

gently smell you, then put you down in the refreshing water again. Please know that you are near Me today.



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Battles are a way of life. Every one of you who is progressing and moving forward in the spirit goes through spiritual battles, simply because the Enemy fights your progress.

You should be proud of friends who go through tests and trials and who fight on, Keys Promise: Even though this battle is manifested in the physical, it is a spiritual battle and can only be won in the spirit. Call on the power of the keys and intercede on the behalf of those who are struggling, and a great victory will come about through your prayers.

because you know that they're growing and winning victories. Their faith is being fortified; they are learning to have a spirit of desperation. Their closeness and connection with Me is being strengthened, and their dependence on Me is growing. All of these things are blessings from My hand, My touch of love, because I plan to use these vessels in even greater ways. faith, more mature, humble broken vessel are worth it.

ones being tested and

going through battles,

encourage them to

hang on because

the victory and the

greater strengthen-

ing are just around

the corner. You can

be proud of them

and happy for them

because even though

it's difficult to go

through, the end re-

sults and good fruits

of a stronger, full of

Remember that I'm nigh unto them of a broken heart, and the things you can't give—the comfort, the strengthening, the encouragement that your human words can't offer—My Spirit and My Words are able to give them.

## Active members?



After two children and two marriages, both of which ended in divorce, I found myself a single mother without a job. My life was empty. I didn't know what I was missing. I wished for a family—a nice warm place to call home.

Then the war came. I felt lost. I had no regular income. I cleaned houses. I experienced hunger. I couldn't even buy a litre of milk for my kids. I tried to find spiritual guidance through Yoga and Eastern religions. I didn't believe in Jesus.

I began doing humanitarian work, supplying refugees with material, food, and counsel. That year I met the Family. Immediately I fell in love with them.

Little by little I became a believer. I didn't know a lot about the Bible, but the Activated magazine had a great effect on me. I was especially touched by the stories of other common people who had met Jesus, and how He made their lives better and happier. I liked the

Treasures, Reflections, and From Jesus–With Love, which is like a second

Bible to me. It is food for my soul, healing for my wounds.

When I realized the greatness of the Bible—when I found the link between events and prophecies fulfilled, when I realized the power of prayer and the importance of closeness and communication with God, and when miracles started happening in my life—then I finally found myself. I became what I am now.

-Lidija, the first Croatian Active member, an active witness, and president of Koraci (volunteer humanitarian organization)



The power of the keys will enable you to make disciples of all nations! It will give you power and wisdom as you draw them to My Spirit, and help them to choose My way. 30



(Jesus:) An era of no limits is what is being brought to life right now. No limits of spiritual power. No limits on your ability to defy the impossible. No limit on your ability to change your life through My Spirit. No limit on the strength of My Spirit that can reverse and counter the hold of the natural that would try to hold you down.

It is the era of no limits, a time when anything is possible, when you will see the manifestation of this era come to life in your very own, in the lives of those around, and in the tasks you have to accomplish. Call on the keys of the kingdom and watch.

