

THE TEEN REVOLUTION!

TEEN TRAINING AT DAD'S HOME!--MOLDING THE FUTURE FOR US ALL!

By Sara D.

4/86

This Teen Training Revolution has been one of the most exciting, lesson-filled challenges we've ever experienced since being in the Family! It was Dad & Maria who had the inspiration, vision & faith to take some Family teens into their own Home to teach & train & firmly ground them in our basic Family beliefs & leadership training with God's Word! Over a period of about eight months' time, we worked with ten different "teens" (including our three older children here), who were willing to first of all accept the teen challenge, & unlearn some old & relearn some new in order to really grow up & newly dedicate themselves to the Lord & His Family! We all learned together, that's for sure, as here in our Home we'd never before had much experience with teenagers, & thus the Folks wanted to have these few come visit & give them every opportunity to learn & grow, plus help & love them through every trial, test & lesson learned, PTL!

We & those young people who participated in this training want to share with you now some of the Word studies, lessons & victories we've learned together.—Lessons on leadership, on receiving correction, on understanding why different things are required of us, on inspiration & praise & prayer, on the importance of having a strong foundation in the Lord & His Word, on communicating with one another, on initiative, on researching Word study themes from the Pubs, on diligence, faithfulness in the little things, respect for adults, redeeming the time, fighting contentions & justifications, on teen ministries, i.e. motherhood & childcare, etc.—Lots of lessons which we are sharing with you here mostly from the teens themselves!

Perhaps I, Sara, should begin with my apology & confession to all, as it seems I had more to learn than the teens did! The Lord made sure to teach me to put aside my old "childcare routine" & look to Him & the Letters for His guidance, love, mercy, & understanding. (See article, in this mag, "Prayer for Sara".) When I first began this Training Program as its main overseer, I didn't realize the Lord was going to remake

us all! He made sure to take full advantage of our time together to retrain us & show us the seriousness of our service to Him & others! We learned that when yet a child, we speak & understand & think as children, but to become more adult for the Lord we must put away childish speech & thinking & ways, & really get envious about true Revolutionary Discipleship! (Read "Revolutionary Discipleship!" G.I. Faith)

Your Decision to Join the Lord's Army!

That's what the Teen Revolution is all about.—It's a graduation or a complete turnabout from childhood, making a whole-hearted decision of really "marrying" this Family & falling in love with Jesus & His Word like never before! It's your preparation & "Boot Camp" for joining the Lord's Endtime Army as a dedicated young soldier, ready to live & fight & win & even die for Jesus! It's what will keep you, our new generation, going for the rest of your days & all Eternity! PTL! HAL!

"Our children are going to be the salvation of the future! They're going to be God's terrorists of the Tribulation!—Rising up in opposition to the AC government & defying it & performing miracles & God doing mighty signs & wonders to protect them & keep them & help them to continue to preach the Gospel in spite of everything! God's going to take care of them right through to the end & they're going to see Jesus when He comes!"—MOP 9:210

We hope, through these Teen Mags, to offer every one of you teens the opportunity to fully benefit from this Teen Training Program. We hope it ignites each of you with the vision of what you're in the Family for, & why the Lord even created you to be such a needed part of this Family. We hope it helps you learn to look to the Lord & His Word in every aspect of your life, & to prepare you for leadership & to be able to teach others to do the same! Are you with us?

You are our Family's "firstfruits", the proof that our Godly way of life is blessed & ordained by the Lord! You are proof of that to not only us, but especially to the

whole World! (See "What Is That In Thine Hand?", ML No. 315.) You've got years of experience in the faith life & that invaluable experience has taught you a lot about trusting the Lord, a very needed leadership quality! So would you like to do something with that Godly heritage? Are you ready & willing to "get on the go" for God now & fulfill the most exciting future ever promised to anyone—to be strong & do exploits in the power & name of Jesus? (Isa.8:18, Da.11:32) Then this Teen Revolution is for you!

Lessons to Benefit Young & Old!

Just as the whole Family was greatly purged & strengthened by the Honesty & Obedience Revolutions, as a result of lessons learned & shared by visiting leadership to Dad's Home, now not only you teens, but everyone can likewise benefit & grow from the "Teen Revolution" because of our teens' & pre-teens' visits here.

The Family everywhere is now learning some vitally important lessons of putting the Lord & His Work first in their lives & depending totally upon Him & His Word, learning the importance of united, desperate prayer, learning about honesty & humblings, learning to love & share lessons together, learning to forgive & to confess our faults one to another & pray for one another that we may be healed & better used of the Lord!

We know & realize, as Dad has said many times, that you teens are our future! Most likely the lessons & tests that we adults are now going through & have gone through in the past are in many ways for your benefit too, so that we can teach & train you to the fullest in the short time we have left, even sometimes in a more intense & purposeful way than the way we've learned over the years, so that you can carry out the Message with full vision & courage & strong faith to make it to the End!

"Most 12-yr.-olds are smarter than people that are 50! It's an age of looking honestly at everything & not accepting everything you're told, an age of choice, an age of decision, that's when most people accept the Lord."—MOP 9:28

Finding His Direction for Your Life!

You teens are not children, & neither are you full-fledged adults, but you're right at the age of decision. As Dad has so clearly pointed out in GN 206, you're deciding what to do with your life! It can be an age of great uncertainty & you need a lot of understanding & encouragement, but, as Dad says, you sometimes can be pretty difficult

to live with at that age. The System has great difficulty raising their teenagers, because many just rebel at conforming to the System rules & ruts, as did we adults when we were System teens! We were seeking something to live for, something worthwhile to dedicate our lives to, we were rebels without a cause 'til we found Jesus & the Family—or they found us!

But you Revolutionary Family teens have your cause! Your life's ideals & goals are all laid out for you by the Lord & His Word & within His Family, & we adults are really striving now to help & envision & train you to be able to fulfill those hearts' desires & special missions for Jesus! You've got it made, & you can't lose, as long as you cling real close to the Lord!

Here's what Dad says is the the solution to your growing pains & trials & decisions: "If you really know the Lord at those crucial turning-point ages, you early teens, I believe that is of course your real salvation. He really can help you understand & comfort you & give you answers & reasons & purposes & get you over the hump. You're apt to be more cooperative, more obedient & have more incentive to obey & do right because you know it's the Lord & it's His way & His law of love (the Word!). There's nothing like the Lord to help you make it through." (ML "The Early Teens", #2062, in GN 206). Do you know & really deeply love Jesus with all your heart & soul & mind & strength? Do you want the great crown the Lord wants to give you & even created you to wear, if you're willing, faithful & obedient, revolutionary disciples & soldiers? You can learn to know & love the Lord through His Word! (Jn.1:1)

Dad continues, "You want leadership, you want direction, you want others to tell you what to do, & you want them to catch you if you're bad or wrong, you really want help! You know you need help at this age, you don't always want to receive it, but you want them to try to give it to you at least, & often you'll make the right decision after you've made the wrong one. You'll make the right one with a little love, patience & counsel.

"Often you yourselves don't feel very good for anything, but if you can find something you feel you're good for & something that's worth fighting & even dying for, you'll do it! You're beginning to sort of harden into a mold, into the shape that you're going to be for the rest of your lives. But if they can mold you at this age with love, sympathy, understanding, direction, the Lord, the Spirit, prayer, the Word, teaching & put you in the right mold & the right direction, then you will grow into

the kind of adults you should be & really become good citizens of the Lord's kingdom.—Responsible, worthy citizens, good soldiers, good witnesses, serious-minded & willing to live & die for the Lord & souls." PTL! That's you teens' Great Commission!

Putting the Word First!

It was definitely the Word that really turned these teens who visited our Home on to the Lord! Even though they'd had plenty of reading & TK & Bible Studies, etc. before, especially when younger, they weren't continuing to really study the M.s & Bible or memorizing faithfully daily, but were barely keeping up with the recent GNs. We found they didn't genuinely love the Word & thus had a very weak, distant love relationship & fear of the Lord. Even if assigned good M.s to read on their own, or in private reading of the GNs, they just weren't "turned on" by God's Word as His Truth & life-giving Spirit & Voice, His Love Letters for us to feed & grow by daily! They lacked a healthy desire for the Word, & reading it had become merely a routine chore of just glancing through the text.—Just as ordinary & dull as "homework"!

The problem with uninspired laziness & lack of vision & initiative even in their physical work habits all stemmed from a weak diet in the Word! Difficulties in getting along well with others, in receiving correction, in self-justification & daydreaming & wasting time, lack of conviction & drive were all results of just not loving Jesus & His Word more!

Many of us adults had had the same symptoms & spiritual problems crop up in our lives too, which were wonderfully healed through united prayer for deliverance & some mighty daily doses of the Word to restore our souls! So we could understand that that dry, shallow ground in the garden of our teens' hearts also needed purging & plowing & weeding, a total extermination of the Devil's pests.—Lots of time & lessons & prayer was given to each "garden"! But once they saw they really needed help & wanted to change for the better, once they accepted that "Teen Challenge" to give Jesus their best, the seeds of God's Word were then received with gladness! Their hearts were wide open & fertile & soaking in the frequent waters of His Word daily, loving it & wanting more! The Word by His Spirit bore fruit!—The Word worked the wonders! And now these kids are Wonderful Warders! Glory to God!

Word Study!—How We Did It!

Our morning M.L. Study Time, Right after

breakfast & devotions daily, was the foundation of our whole Teen Training! The Word had to become alive to them, it had to be read to them in the Spirit, & the teens themselves learned to read it aloud in turn with real deliverance tool (See "Dad's Wise Word of Introduction", Vol.1 in black MO Volume for a meaty vision-increaser on "The M.s!—How & Why to Study!") Mark, my fellow adult Teen Trainer & wonderful strength & counsellor, would start us off with a few rousing songs & praises.

"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom: teaching & admonishing one another in psalms (songs) & hymns & spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord!"—Col.3:16

Whatever it took to stir 'em up, we'd do it—even singing in tongues, we'd do it to plough the ground before sowing the Seeds! We'd go right into prayer, & claim a few promises for receptivity & blessing on our study, then sit down & dig right in! (Mat.5:6; Psa.119:9,11,18; Psa. 107:9; Isa.55:2b,3)

We chose specific spiritual themes to study together in areas that we needed to work on, PUBEX categories such as the Word, Praise, Prayer, Little Things, Holy Spirit & Gifts, Prophecy, Relationship with the Lord, Love One Another, Leadership, etc. We also really enjoyed studying basic Bible chapters & marking our Bibles together, i.e. Eph.4-6, Phil.2, 1 & 2 Timothy, & the Parable of the Sower—Luk.8 & Mat. 13, on receptivity, etc.!

Apart from this morning Mo Letter time, the kids all had about two hours in the afternoon for resting & reading up before continuing their work for the rest of the day. They always have steady Word projects to read through, from the 11st in the Teen Mag, (FSM 25, pg. 49), plus new GNs, "Heaven's Children", & new "Life with Grandpa" TKs. If one particular teen was going through a special lesson-learning time, we would assign them specific Letters to study on their own & to tape reactions on. They also usually had about 30 minutes quiet time right before lights out at night to do their Diaries & take Temple Time in the Word & prayer.

The Word was the hook, the key, the spark, the answer & "the secret to total victory!" It was thrilling to see it work miracles in changing their lives! We strived to teach the teens most of all to put the Word first & to make it a daily habit, just as they eat physical food on a regular basis, & to never forget or lose that good habit for the rest of their lives!

Our "Pow-wows"!

Personal Application of the Word!

The "pow-wow" or sharing time after each daily spiritual feeding served to be a very important necessity, to help us assimilate & digest the Word. In open discussion each child was encouraged to open their hearts & voice their questions & reactions, as well as receive & learn from others in a group.

These "pow-wows" made the Word studies more meaningful, more personal with specific examples brought out as to how the lessons could be applied in each of their lives! Each heart was personally touched by the Word this way. We also made some practical studies together at pow-wow on public speaking & communicating, & how to give their testimony to the Family at night after dinner, on manners & serving others first—"preferring the brethren", on leadership & shepherding, how to lead a group at Sunday Fellowship or morning devotions, how to lead a united prayer for deliverance, as well as have prayer themselves for specific victories! PTL!

Several adults who visited us during the Teen Training Program commented that this intimate pow-wow time after our morning Letters was exactly what was needed in their Homes, to not just talk to, but with the children, hear what they're learning, & really learn & grow together in the Word. It drew us together more than anything else, as we sang, prayed, laughed & cried, apologized, encouraged & learned to love one another & the Lord more & more! Whatta Family! TYJ!

A New Life!

We do hope that everyone can benefit from the many lessons that we learned & that it will pump people power for you all to share your teen lessons in the FSM as well. Our Teen Training was an experiment—now "Tried & Proven"—so that we could get to know the teens better & see how they feel, what they need, what makes them tick & what ignites their fuse to explode for Jesus & get others on fire to explode along with them! So by sharing these lessons in the Mag, we hope that you can likewise experience & join the Teen Revolution—adults & teens & pre-teens alike!

And guess what?—The Teen Training is by no means over! What we told our visitors (teens & 3 overseeing adults) would happen eventually did: They've now branched out into other Homes & Units, carrying on what they've learned in bigger jobs, & are still learning & growing for Jesus! Their new lives have just begun, walking in

"newness of life", really turned on to the Word, challenged by their exciting future ahead, & striving to teach others by a sample & not a sermon, PTL!

Just a word to all parents—please remember that it's those early years of training your children that can make the difference whether they're going to be a teen leader or teen terror. One of the most important lessons we learned, apart from loving the Lord & His Word first, is the importance of doing whatever it takes to deeply root & ground all our Family children from their earliest years in these same basic disciplinary, discipleship & spiritual lessons! They won't have the time later to unlearn things, so Lord help us to train each new disciple from early childhood with the best we can give them—the Word & witnessing & a life of faith & loving others!

So to all Family Teens & Pre-Teens, now is your hour, this is your day! The future is yours & you are our future, & we pray these teen lessons will inspire you to get down to serious business with the Lord, dedicate your lives & hearts & minds to Jesus & His Word completely & inspire you to teach others to do the same! God helping us, we adults want to help & strengthen & encourage you all we can along the way! We love you & need you!

DAD'S FAREWELL COMMISSION TO THE TEENS!

(From Dad on the night of the Teens' Farewell Dinner:)

"You young teens have a tremendous ministry ahead of you! You'll all be mightily used in the future! I think we ought to ordain these Teen Queens who are going out to teach others, like a commission—ordained to bring forth fruit!

"You are top quality material or you wouldn't be here!—You are children of leadership & you owe it to them to really make it! Compared to the System teens, you're real angels!—More mature & wise than some grown women! I believe you're going to be a great blessing wherever you go!

"Tech's been singing me to sleep at night singing Aaron's songs! Faithy & Mark taught her! Aaron is really interested in this Farewell Dinner tonight because he always had a burden for teens!

"I believe in you! You're going to be real leaders! I had a burden for you! I searched you out & now I'm sending you out to search others out! You're my talent scouts! It will thrill others to see how grown & matured & obedient & helpful you are! ILY! XXX!"