

I just stopped bothering to talk to them. I was so wrapped up in the swimming & practicing & seeing how well I could do in the races that I really strayed away & got into worldliness & the spirit of competition.

Also because we thought that we were such good swimmers we were disobeying the Family swimming rules. We would go there & swim as far as we were supposed to & doing it just like everybody else & there wasn't really anybody watching us in this very dirty swimming pool. It was very unhygienic.

We were putting all of our energy into the swimming instead of into our schooling & our everyday life & the Word & loving the Word. We would always drag our feet when it came time for school.

(Esther: When you first became sick & we thought you had the measles & we thought you may have picked it up when you were out witnessing, it came to me that it was when you were at the swimming pool. When I went along to watch you & be with you there, I saw that you boys were picking up more of the spirit of the other kids, & I got a check then that you were so weak in the spirit that you could pick up not only their physical diseases but perhaps their worldly spirits too.)

(You were being spiritually weakened & weakened physically, & also we as parents were weakened spiritually because we weren't as aware as we should have been of how much of an affect this was having on you, therefore the Enemy was really allowed to get in. So therefore the measure of protection that the Lord usually gives us when we're out witnessing in the System, was taken away from us because rather than our imparting our spirit & being strong in the Spirit, we were partaking of their bad spirit.)

Also I wasn't being very fair to my sheep. I was rebuking them & telling them off for things that I would then turn around

& do right in front of their eyes, & they would see. So they could see that I was really very hypocritical in those things. When they would correct me, I would tell them that they really shouldn't correct me. It was very unfair. I'm very sorry to all the boys that I offended in this way. I want you to know that I've really been wrong & the Lord is really spanking me.

One more very important thing is that I wasn't being very loving to the other teens & I wasn't showing them love. I wasn't really helping them & encouraging them to do better. I was just grumbling & mumbling around the house & being a very bad sample & discouraging. The Lord really showed me how if you want to be grumpy He can really make you sick & grumpy!

I also still had a problem being around the adults, that if I didn't get my way, I would become very rebellious about it. It was just like being rebellious with God, because if you're a little bit rebellious with anybody then you're being rebellious against God & God won't bless it.

No matter how high the fever was I just started praising the Lord & thanking the Lord & staying in a positive spirit no matter how high & hot & hard it got, no matter how many nights it went on, & finally I slept through half the night & I was so happy. (Esther: This came at a time when you had just finally learned to be willing & submitted & yield your heart, & you said that you weren't going to be pushy or trying to tell God when to heal you or how God should do it. At that point is when the Lord finally gave you the complete victory & released you from the fever. It didn't happen until that point, because even though you were learning the lessons, your spirit had to change.)

TTL for the victory! I'm thankful for how He has taught me so much! ILY! Love, Hosea (See "Is It Cool to Serve Jesus?" in this book.)

Be a Dropped-out Soul-winner!

FORSAKE WORLDLINESS & LIVE YOUR CALLING!

From Daddy Hosea

The thing that was coming to me when we were praying for Hosea & praying about what it is the Lord is doing, is it's because the Lord is dealing with him about his getting so tripped off in the things of this world & the affairs of this life instead of getting into the Word. Some of you teens are getting into the worldly through your contacts with the worldly people that you have supposedly been witnessing to. I wonder who is becoming more like whom? Are they becoming more like us or

are we becoming more like them?

It reminds me of how I got off the track hanging around with worldly people when I was in Hong Kong. Now you boys in different ways have been manifesting how much you have become like some of these System kids you have been with. Of course, being with them is for the purpose of being a witness. But when the means to an end becomes an end in itself & you get tripped off in it like "The Little Dog Dream" & you forget where you're

going, then that's a serious thing.

The World is so much the opposite of everything we are & stand for & believe & practice!

Right now everybody in our flesh family is isolated here together separate from the other Combo families. Do you know why we're isolated here? The reason why we're isolated & going to all this trouble is because it is a very real possibility that others of you are already infected with this same sickness that Hosea has, & you could come down with it & begin to show the symptoms any day. The incubation period's for two weeks or three weeks, we don't know yet. So any one of you could have the same sickness that Hosea has been through right now & it just hasn't manifested itself yet.

In the same way, there are others of you teens here who are having the same problems & are still off the track, still seeking after & hungering after the things of the World & acting very worldly. You have been infected with these things of the World. We don't know exactly how bad a case of worldliness you're coming down with, but it's a serious disease. At the same time you may already be infected with this sickness that the Lord is dealing with us through & you may come down with it tomorrow & be sick in bed just like Hosea. Except for the mercy of God, you could be sick & laid up in bed just like him. But the Lord doesn't have to put our whole family through that, Lord helping us.

The Lord is dealing with us about these things Hosea has confessed to us, particularly the worldliness & getting away from the Lord & the Word, & the Lord wants us to learn our lessons from these things, to really see it & repent & confess it & change! Otherwise, the Lord could easily have more of us get this same sickness,

until you're laid up in bed for days & days & all you can do is lay in bed & read the Word & seek the Lord for why you're sick.

The Lord is not only dealing with Hosea, but with the rest of us here, each one of you who have been guilty of the things he has confessed.—Getting tripped off with the things of the World & your System friends coming over to see you in your nice country situation & all your System friends in the swimming team. God is not pleased with that. You no longer go for the purpose it was initially intended for—to give you an opportunity to be a witness when you didn't have much other way to do it, & now it's gotten to the point where you're really into the swimming & you're into competing to win, you're into striving at it. You're really into training to be first, & you want to be in with those kids, & not just there to be a witness & able to laugh about the fact that you come in last every time & are still telling them about Jesus. You have gotten into practicing to win aces rather than practicing to win souls!

If you still have a hankering for the World, watch out! That's a fifth column in your own heart! That's a poison in your own soul! It's the Devil's own tool, it's a hole in the dike if you still have a temptation toward worldly things.

Those other kids are systemites, they're raised in the System, that's all they have, that's their whole life. That's the only inspiring challenging thing they have, to try to be "somebody" as a swimmer. They don't have any other avenue to be a somebody. But you already have a calling, you already have a purpose for your life, you already have something to do with your life, & it's not becoming a champion swimmer!—It's becoming a soul-winner!



Jeremy

The Lord has caused all of us to go through things in our life where we've had to make a choice to do the Lord's will, following the Lord & putting Him & His work & winning souls first, & leaving the World behind, & forsaking getting involved with the World. To really serve Jesus you have to forsake all! You have to leave the World & its folly behind. Jesus said, "If you were of the World, the World would love its own, but you are not of the World but I have chosen you out of the World, therefore the World hateth you." To try to become popular in this World is not what the Lord has given us a calling to do. You are different! Your calling & your ministry is different, God wants to use you to do something for Him!

You are a Revolution for Jesus, & you are a team of teens training to be soul winners & training to be prophets in this Endtime, & not just to spend hours & hours working toward the goal of winning a medal for swimming. That's ridiculous! Any worldly systemite kid can do that & you'd have to work at it for years & years to do that. That's not our calling & that's not why we're here. It may be OK for them, but it's not for you! That's how the Lord has dealt with me in the past & I have forsaken all & left the World & those things behind & I went on serving Jesus, & I sure am glad I did now!

God is to the point of dealing with you teens not just through me & my telling you what to do or my ordering you to do this or to do that, but God's expecting you to grow up & to tune in & to be receptive to Him & to learn to obey His voice & follow His calling for your life. And if you don't, He can very easily take your health away! I believe this is something each of us needs to be praying about. Look at Hosea & his being sick, & think, "There but for the grace of God, go I! I could be there just as sick as him." And then ask the Lord what is it that He is trying to purge out of him. What does He need to purge & cleanse out of you? What do you need to forsake?

I just wonder what it's going to take to correct you in these things in your life? You've got to have a change in your heart to not want the things of the World. You've got to change in your heart to want to get rid of those things of the System that you've allowed to begin to grow in your heart, so they don't influence you to become a Systemite.

One of the seeds the Devil can use is System girls, to be seeking after System girls without the right motive of really winning them to Jesus. If you're just using contacts with them as a cover for your

desire for worldly things, the Lord may let you be laid straight out flat on your back sick until you confess it & repent.

When we originally got involved with your swimming teacher & his swimming team, it was because we were witnessing to him & sharing the Word with him, & so we were wanting him to come over and spend time with us. So having him come over and help you on the swimming lessons gave us an excuse to have him come over so we could share the Word with him, so we could teach him the Word. In this past week I spent some time with him when he came to visit us, & I was really shocked at him. He has really become more of a systemite.

He has gotten more into the System, whereas before he was becoming more free & more able to become a disciple. He's only 19 or 20, the same age as Peace, our Chinese disciple here, & he could drop out & join the Family. But what is he doing?—Is he coming closer to us? No, he is becoming more & more involved in the World & in the System & he is cooling off.

You can always trust a Systemite to be a Systemite.

So the situation has changed a lot, & not for the good. He doesn't come over seeking for our fellowship & wanting the Word & to sit down & have a Bible study like before, he just passes by on his way to the swimming pool to see if you boys want to go to the pool, to take you away from the Family. He is not drawing closer to Jesus. He's had his chance.

This talk is to give you a picture of what the Lord is dealing with us about & what the Lord is trying to show us. You've all been exposed to it & we're waiting to see who comes down with it next, the same way as you've all been exposed to the System & we're waiting to see which of you are going to confess it & are going to ask the Lord to cleanse you of it and purify you & deliver you from it, so you don't come down with a case of worldliness, being a systemite & becoming like the World!

Where are your goals? What are the things that are meaningful to you? What are the things that you are training yourself for? —To serve Jesus, memorize the Word & seek the Lord? Are those the things that are the most important to you & that you want to do the most?—Or is it worldly things like the swimming team, System friends, the horse, the farm & all these material things? Material things don't mean anything! They're

only things that the Lord lets us use for a little while until He needs us to forsake them, & you just forsake them & go on & serve the Lord. So all these worldly possessions are things that we can leave behind at a moment's notice when the Lord needs us to.

If you still hunger for fellowship with the World, there's something wrong with you spiritually.

(Prays:) Lord, we know that You're speaking to us through this situation. You're trying to teach us some very important lessons here of hearing from You & seeking You & being desperate in prayer. Lord, we adults are a lot to blame for allowing this to happen & we haven't been taking this situation seriously enough. But Lord, most of all, we haven't been taking seriously how infected with the World we have become by hanging around with these Systemites, & how we have developed a taste for worldly things & the System, this spirit of competition & pride, Lord. Forgive us, Jesus, for allowing all this.

Lord, we pray that You'll now help the boys to take this talk to heart & to really pray & to seek you & to see where they have been letting these things happen in their lives. Jesus, we pray that You'll rebuke all the forces of the Enemy who have tried to work through these things & that we have allowed to get in, in Jesus' name & cast them out of our midst, Lord, & help the children to really submit to You & to Your Word & to Your counsel! We rebuke the lies & the things of the System, in Jesus' name!

I pray You'll really help each one of them to be praying & seeking You, Lord, about what & how to confess these different things. "If My people which are called by My Name shall humble themselves & pray & seek My face, then will I hear from Heaven & forgive their sin & heal their land." We pray You'll help them to confess their sin, Lord, as we've confessed ours to them, & to let You do this work in their hearts, in Jesus' Name. Hallelujah, TYLI

I want you boys to really be praying about this & reading the section in the "Back To The Basics" book called "Why We Must Drop Out!" It's got a lot of important things in there & we'll be going over these things together, & also the Book of Acts, why the Early Disciples dropped out. Also read "Listening or Lamenting". GBYAKY dropped-out Revolutionary soul-winners for Jesus! (See also "Revolutionary Discipleship" in GIF.)

THE BLESSING OF BEING

A TEENAGER IN OUR FAMILY!

More Teen Lessons from the Ho Family!

From Nehemiah, 16 yrs., Orient:

Dearest Grandpa & Mama, GBYI ILYSM. I can't tell you how thankful I am for you & the Family & the blessings we have in comparison to being a teenager in the System, with Systemite parents.

I am now going through some real changes in my life to make me more yielded & meek & humble to all those around me, so that I will not go around looking at everyone with a real holler-than-thou attitude that I have had, looking at everyone as though I work harder than them & deserve more.

I didn't even realize why the Lord had afflicted me with a serious crotch rash until Daddy (GBH) sat down with me & really laid it all out as to where I was at & how I stand from the Lord's point of view. He showed me that my rash was only the beginning of the Lord's dealings with me & there is no telling what the Lord might do to me if I didn't have a real immediate change of heart, as two of my brothers had just been in the hospital for not even as much as I was guilty of myself, because I am older & more accountable. I then realized how unworthy I am, that I was not even worthy of Daddy's time to sit down & show me these things considering how I had been with everyone else & what a sickening attitude I had.

Bearing all that in mind & more, I see what an indescribable & countless privilege it is to be in the Family & even to be here in this Home with such sweet, kind, considerate, willing, helpful, preferring & loving brothers & sisters in the Lord. I see what a duty I have to make up to everyone for my lack of these qualities of meekness & humbleness that only the Lord can give through staying in His Word. TTL for His Love & mercy, otherwise I wouldn't be here now.

I have really fallen in love with your Words & appreciate them & really want to live them to the full, & I pray I can with the Lord shining through me. I especially appreciate the GN about teens. I can't tell you how much I appreciate you & the Word in this Letter.

Love always, your "new" grandson,
Nehemiah. ILYI

"What wonder-kids God's given us!
They're gonna pass us up!" (MOP 9:50)