

"AN ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE PAPER mentioning that the gov't. would not issue any more visas to the Mormons, Jehovah Witnesses & those of the Bahai faith. We feel this could be the beginning of the end of our freedom to litness & witness openly, as it seems to be the church-inspired persecution against sects in general."—Simon & Linda; Thailand. (It may be in our favour by reducing the competition. We don't have to get missionary visas like the organised religions so they can't stop us unless they stop us on the streets. And when they stop us, then it's about time to go. Frankly I think we've gained official favour there & have friends in high places protecting us. Don't run every time the Devil says boo. Go on the attack & double your lit output. It shows we're succeeding when the hit dogs howl. The persecution & bad publicity in Spain over the FOL literally doubled our lit output & our personnel & we're stronger there than ever.—Dad.)

JOKE: "One businessman to another: 'I finally taught my son the value of a dollar. Now he wants his weekly allowance in Swiss Francs!'"
—Clay & Brunhild; Caribbean.

FROM JOSH: "Dear Dad & Maria, GB&KY continually. I'm very sorry for not writing

or sending you pictures for such a long time. Please forgive me. We really need your words & I'm thankful for all your help & love for me. The Lord is so kind & patient. We really want our children to know your Letters & love & follow Jesus.—Your son, Josh." (PTL, Son! GBY!—We've missed hearing from you & still remember fondly our good ol' days together! GBAKY&CTMYAB2 Many!—Love,—D.)



Heidi & Josh & children David & Maria-1 (& another due soon!) In the Pacific. Photo by Ephesians.

"WE WROTE A SHORT LETTER WITH SOME PICS OF US SINGING & sent it to a list of restaurant-clubs here from which we got some good responses & now have some good places to play here." (Great idea!)
—Joash & Rachel; Europe.

"TWICE WE DIDN'T TITHE THE VALUE of the free rent of the house at the beginning of the month when we usually put the Tithe away. And during the month the owner of the house decided she needed the house for her family. After we repented of our mistake, the Lord gave us back the house & we will be sure to tithe the rent value at the very beginning of the month!"
—Simeon & Trust; Indonesia.

"OUR NEW BABY BOY WAS BORN WITH A CONGENITAL DISLOCATION OF THE HIP BONE. Doctors said he might have to go thru an operation. We prayed that the Lord would put his bones together even before the baby's first 2-week visit to the doctor. When the doctor checked the baby he was all normal! God is still on the throne & prayer changes things!"—Daniel & Ruth; U.S.A. (now in S.E. Asia).

"WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND BRETHREN COMING TO THE TROPICS that the best type of clothing, both for outer wear & underwear, is cotton. Also leather is preferable for shoes as it allows the feet to breathe. We have seen brethren come here with almost 100% synthetic wardrobes (even underwear), which is extremely uncomfortable & unhealthy in these very hot & humid climates." (AMEN!—D.)
—Thaddeus & Crystal; S. America.

"AS A SINGLE BROTHER I WANT TO KNOW IF IT'S ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO GET HOME SUPPORT before heading South to Latin America. So many single brethren are perplexed because it's getting difficult to raise home support, & yet would it be wiser to go to a foreign field by faith without home support & survive, or remain here & die because we couldn't raise home support & didn't go? I can understand large families needing home support, but what about single brothers like myself?"
—Laz Comforth; U.S.A. (Pr. 18:16—Many field Homes are begging for helpers—workers! —Mt. 9:29.—D.)

"WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW DAD'S OPINION ABOUT 'WYING' here in Thailand. 'Wying' is when you fold your hands like you pray to the person you greet. They do it here to show respect or thanks. Most people expect us to do this when they give the kids something. Is this 'becoming one' or is it against our belief to only worship God? Buddhism teaches there is no God but that we thru doing good become gods."
—Silas & Faith; Thailand. (It is a common courtesy expected there & no worse than saying thank you!—D.)

Love, Not Law, Can Save Society!

LEGAL SECRETARY LEAVES ALL TO FOLLOW JESUS, THE REAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY!

From Jael; Europe:
I GREW UP IN A MIDDLE CLASS FAMILY IN TEXAS. My parents were both college graduates; my father was an engineer & my mother a geology teacher. We 3 children always knew we would also go to college, as no other alternative for our future was ever mentioned. Getting an education was the road to success & happiness.

ALTHOUGH MY PARENTS RARELY ATTENDED CHURCH THEMSELVES, they always saw to it that we went to Sunday School & church every Sunday without fail. I remember my father joking, "Well, I don't believe in religion, but maybe you can pray for me to go to Heaven." However, the Protestant church I attended didn't teach much about Heaven, prayer or even Jesus!

AS I BECAME A TEENAGER, the church & my friends there became the centre of my social life. I played the piano for Sunday School, sang in the choir, & went to youth fellowship meetings every week until I left home to go to college in another city.

JUST BEFORE I LEFT TO GO TO THE UNIVERSITY, I attended the college students' Sunday School class. They were reading the Bible together, in the Book of Genesis. This was a shock to me, as I had never read the Bible in any Sunday School class before. I asked the teacher how he could actually believe such stuff, & was told you have to believe it by faith. This answer made me so mad that I angrily left the class & never returned to that church, which I had attended for 11 years.

AT COLLEGE I BEGAN MY STUDIES IN CHEMISTRY, Biol-

ogy, physics & calculus. I studied hard & made good grades. I also dated some (mostly study dates), & one fellow talked to me about his faith in God. We had quite a few arguments about God, but he finally gave up as I stubbornly stuck to my declaration that I had no need for God in my life, & I couldn't believe in God.

DURING THE NEXT FEW YEARS AT THE UNIVERSITY I realised that I wasn't really that interested in a career in scientific research, or in finding a job in a scientific profession. What I wanted most of all was to find a suitable husband & to get married.

WHEN I MET JIM, we clicked right away. He was very intelligent & was much more socially aware than I. He was involved in campus politics, the civil rights movement & protesting the Viet Nam War. (This was in 1964.) I was fascinated by all these new ideas & went with him to meetings & discussions & marches. We soon got into drugs as well, hallucinogenics & marijuana, & became commune-dwelling, drug-taking, hard rock music-listening members of the "counter-culture", in a word: hippies!

WE BOTH MANAGED TO KEEP OUR STUDIES UP SUFFICIENTLY TO GRADUATE. Then Jim decided he should go to law school, as the draft was in effect for the Viet Nam War, & law school afforded him a 3-year deferment, compared to normal graduate school's 2-year deferment.

WE DID GET MARRIED, but continued to live communally most of the time while he finished his 3 years of law school. We continued to take drugs regularly also.

WHEN LAW SCHOOL WAS FINISHED we moved to Oklahoma

where he'd gotten a job as a government instructor in a small 4-year college. It was a very small town, & we really had to try to look normal & "straight", although we continued to take drugs. During this year my husband succeeded in winning a medical deferment, so we were no longer in fear of the draft. Immediately he began making plans to return to the big city to begin practicing law. Three years of law school had turned him into a lawyer.

WE MOVED TO DALLAS WHERE HE TOOK A JOB at first with a government-funded legal service to help the poor people with their legal problems. Later we helped organise & open a "law commune", consisting of 5 or 6 lawyers & their wives contributing all our resources to our law office, which would be able to engage in civil rights cases & help the underdogs of society legally for very low fees.

WE WERE VERY IDEALISTIC & PROUD THAT THRU COOPERATION WE WERE ABLE TO CREATE THIS TOOL TO FIGHT THE INJUSTICES of society. It was during this time that I met the family. Someone had directed them to our office when they needed help to legally fight the Free-COG group who were publicly televising outrageous lies against the family. My husband decided to take their case himself, for free.

PERSONALLY DURING THIS PERIOD OF ORGANISING & OPENING THE LAW COMMUNE, I was terribly unhappy & suffering from depressions. However idealistic our lives seemed to us & to our friends, I was not fulfilled. I didn't truly believe the lawyers could actually change society for the better or bring real lasting help to people.

ALSO, AS I BECAME A SECRETARY AT THE LAW OFFICE,

I saw continual personality conflicts, arguments & disagreement among the "commune" members, the lawyers & wives. Each person was living selfishly for his little world, in spite of our grand plans for brotherhood & cooperation in a common cause! It was very disappointing. For me it was like hell.

AS I GOT TO MEET MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY (who came to counsel with my husband about various legal matters), it became so obvious that there was quite a difference between our "commune" & their commune. In spite of our idealism, education & intelligence, we had not found the happiness that the family members always radiated!

I BECAME FRIENDS WITH THEM & looked forward to their visits to the law office. They were always faithful to bring someone to "feed" me spiritually during their meetings with my husband. Not long afterward, I asked Jesus into my heart, as I was so desperate I wanted to try anything which could bring me such happiness as they had.

MY LIFE WAS IMMEDIATELY CHANGED! I had finally found some meaning in my existence. I began to read the Bible & memorise scripture, & my depressions & tears vanished! The salvation they had told me of was real & present—not some far-off event to happen at my death!

FROM THIS TIME ON I BECAME VERY UNCOMFORTABLE AS PART OF THE LAW COMMUNE, for I now realised my place was with my true Family following & serving Jesus. I decided, however, that as long as my husband could help the family, I would stick it out—like Queen Esther had to live with a worldly husband,

a king, to help her family in time of need.

MANY OPPORTUNITIES AROSE FOR ME TO WITNESS to my friends & commune members. I even started a weekly Bible study which all the lawyers' wives attended. Different family members would also come to give me moral support & help us understand the Bible, as they had the benefit of the experience of actually living as the Bible taught. These studies were very exciting & the Word came to life! I also witnessed to my husband & prayed for him very much that his heart would change & he would learn to love the Lord as I now did.

TWO YEARS PASSED BEFORE MY SITUATION CHANGED, & these 2 years are very precious to me as I look back on them. During this time I was drawn closer to the Lord & learned to depend on Him. I learned how real faith is, & gained a new understanding of the faith that I had rejected in the church so many years before.

FINALLY, AS THE FAMILY MADE THEIR GREAT ESCAPE from America, the need for my husband's legal counsel was ended. I had asked the Lord to show me when it would be time for me to leave the lawyers & join the family, & I claimed that my husband would willingly accept it with no bad feelings. In fact, it was he that finally brought it up one day & suggested that I would be happier living with the family! Hallelujah! I knew it was the Lord's time, & though I was crying, I was beaming thru my tears with joy! The next day I moved in with the local family, on my 29th birthday—what a wonderful birthday present!

DURING THE LAST 7 YEARS WITH THE FAMILY, I've had the most exciting, rewarding & fulfilling life I could

have ever hoped for. The Lord has given me a new sweet husband & a little girl who also love Him & want to give their lives to Him. I've spent the main part of my time in the family working in various family offices. The Lord has used my secretarial talents to minister to sheep thru the mails, as well as facilitate communications between family members.

I'VE BEEN ABLE TO DO SOME EDITING FOR CHILDREN'S PUBLICATIONS, & recently have helped assemble statistics of our family's growth & spread thru all parts of the world. It amazes me to realise how the Lord prepared me so long ago thru science & mathematics courses in school to be familiar with & able to work with numbers.

AS SOMEONE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THERE IS A BOOK OF THE BIBLE CALLED "NUMBERS," & Jesus said even the hairs of our head are numbered! Hallelujah! I'm so happy to be able to use these talents to inspire the family worldwide with news of the great things the Lord is accomplishing thru us. "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad!" (Psalm 126:3)

I BELIEVE THE WORK THE FAMILY IS DOING to spread His Kingdom in the hearts of all men is having an enormous impact on the whole world. I'm so very thankful to have a part in this wonderful family, for I know now that the only way to truly change the world is to change the hearts of men with God's love. I love you all! Jael.

(Amen! GBY! ILY!—& you sure have! —You've even helped change the Family with better stain & your encouraging letters & beautiful testimony & example!—& lovely dances too! GBY! Thanks to much for all your love & priceless help! Hope our New TRF help you with your big job! ILY!)