

Happy In The Father's House!

The thrilling story of a family's return to full-time Service!

From Jerry & Gentleness Crusader; MCV: Dear Family,

GBY! WE ARE SO THANKFUL TO BE HERE AT MCV, working in the father's recording studio! Miracles are being done with only 4 channels, some of which you should have heard with your own ears by now. It's hard to believe that only 7 months ago we were in Laredo at the meeting of the prodigals, & exactly 7 months today that Singing Sam arrived there for a short 2-day visit & ended up back in his Father's House again too! TTL! It seems like a dream that we're even here at all, it's such a dream come true. Of course, it's not the physical location we're in as much as it is knowing you're in His will doing your best for Him & others.

ONLY 8 SHORT MONTHS AGO WE WERE IN MEXICO at wits end corner trying to figure out how to get back into full-time service. We had come to Mexico in '78, just after the RNR & the family had received some severe persecution & the work had been nearly ended, almost all Americans deported & the national brethren scattered & unsure of what to do.

WE WEREN'T TOO SURE OURSELVES WHEN WE GOT THERE! We had wanted & needed a change drastically after 4 years of being in the "show" group in Brazil. We had wanted to get to the field & really be missionaries again, living by faith, seeing the Lord supply. We realised upon arriving in Mexico that it wasn't going to be easy! We didn't have home support, had only \$40 left when we arrived in the capital city & with no one there to meet us or help us on arriving! And there was definitely no possibility of witnessing there in the capital as the memory of the Family, "those bad people", was still very fresh & strong in the people's minds. We sang in restaurants, Gentleness being 7 months pregnant & myself with our then 2 kids & provisioning every meal & staying in hotels the first weeks we were there.

THEN ONE NIGHT GENTLENESS MET A LAWYER while hitch-hiking to the Sheraton, who invited us to come live with him in his little 2-bedroom apartment. He was single & seemed to be a real sheep. We were desperate, so we gave it a try. Well, GBH, he really came through & became a real friend for

years! He even took in Gideon & Sara when they arrived about a month later with their 2 kids. We had our 3rd child while staying with him. He helped us get started!

GIDEON & I BOTH DECIDED THAT WE WOULD START OFF AS ENGLISH TEACHERS & got jobs at a very prestigious language school. It was a very good front for meeting people & this enabled us to establish some good friends & contacts while getting a little income. But the Lord never allowed me to prosper too much at it & He later opened the doors for me to start making some support & developing my talents in the music field. That's how we got started & set up in a nice apartment.

TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT, I went from working nights singing pop tunes in a small group combo to working in recording studios doing arrangements & recordings to finally working with one of the top singers of the country & continent as musical director. Things were really looking up for us materially as we were getting really established there. But, something was missing—that satis-



Gentleness & Jerry at MCV!

faction that comes only from serving the Lord full-time & seeing the world really changing by your efforts.

WE WERE PERSONAL WITNESSING, Gentleness & I both had a few good fish on the line, a couple of souls, the kids even fished their own 29-year-old childcare worker & who is now tithing from there in Mexico City, a very precious brother named Manuel, whom we pray the brethren there will be able to get in touch with as he desperately needs fellowship.

ANYWAY, WE WERE ALWAYS TITHING but were never really doing our best for the Lord—so caught up with the affairs of this life that it choked out our witness. Watch out for compromise as Dad says. The Devil slips in so subtly & little by little whittles away at your convictions here & there without you really realising it till you're not the witness you know you ought to be & not the missionaries you read about in the Family News. Each mailing was always so convicting 'cause it was as plain as day that we were missing the mark. We knew the children were really missing out, too, in not getting the real spiritual training they needed to be revolutionaries for Jesus! We were a far cry from that!

I ENJOYED USING MY TALENTS TO THE FULLEST, but the system only uses, & more often abuses you & its only rewards are some material recompense (& even that was hard to get in those big companies!) or the satisfaction of getting your name known for all the wrong reasons. At one point my goal was to be the best & most called on arranger in Mexico City...what deceit! What I do see in all of that, though, is what Dad said in "Abide In Your Calling", how the Lord used this in further training, & preparing me for the job He has me doing now here for you & the lost, & to also rub our noses in the mud & mire till we were sick of the system music world & were convinced by where it was NOT at, & this gave us a burning desire to just dedicate all our time & talents to the Lord's music, never to desire the ways of the world again!

OUR GOAL NOW WAS TO START MCV THERE IN MEXICO. Dear Solomon had started us on the idea, but we soon saw the Lord wanted us to really get to work on it, but if it hadn't been for him, we probably would have taken even longer in getting done the little bit that we did get done. I was making good money & in January of this year my father helped me finance the TEAC 4 channel & mixer we

are now using & Gentleness & I started rolling!

WE BEGAN RECORDING SOME OF MY SONGS using some of our system musicians friends, & I thought for a while maybe we'd get something done. But, even tho' they loved us & sympathised with what we were trying to do, even donating their time to us in recording sessions in a primitive recording studio, we set up in the drummer's rented office, they all had their own interests & we just couldn't get enough of their time that we needed to produce the music we needed. And, by this time, we were fed up & desperate for a change & wanting to get out of our situation—trap—into one where we could really produce the music needed for the Lord's work.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHEN FAITHY & JUAN CAME & we had our chance to leave & come here to MCV which is another whole story of its own, as God did miracle after miracle to get us here including my father forgiving a \$4,000 debt we had to him! Aside from helping on the studio equipment, he had also lent us money to be mobile, GBH! And He has! (He was our first parent to come & visit here; & he was greatly honoured & very much impressed & happy about our rededication to the Lord's full-time work! Hallelujah!) When you are working for yourself, no one will have mercy, but when you choose to serve God & put yourself at His mercy, the Lord never fails & things work out. We weren't even sure we had the faith to ask him to forgive the debt, but we did & he came through!

SINCE WE MADE THE CHOICE TO WANT TO GO BACK TO HIM & His full-time service, it's been an up-hill climb, but He's opened the doors all the way, which shows He really gives us what we ask for & have faith for, God takes us exactly at our word. He's given us the desires of our hearts for sure! We're so thankful that while we were yet so undeserving of a chance, He reached out to us & picked us out of the slimepit we were in, cleaned us off & deposited us in the father's house. And He even used beautiful Faithy & Juan to do it! We love them so! Thank you, Dad & Maria for knowing us, reaching out to us & giving us a chance to serve you & Him in such an important place! We pray every day that by God's grace we will not fail you & the Lord in the job you've given us to do. Thank you! GBY!!

Love in His service forever, Jerry & Gentleness. (PTL! GBY! Welcome home! WLY! KGFG! - D)

Weary Of Running!

A LESSON ON SPORTS THAT ALMOST COST THE LIFE OF ONE OF OUR MCV WORKERS!

From Tiras Seeds; At MCV:

I WANT TO SHARE A BIG LESSON I RECENTLY LEARNED WHILE BUILDING THE NEW MCV STUDIO. While in Greece at MWM,

I started running a lot for exercise, though sometimes I really over did it. (Scorpio extremists, LHM). Well, the Lord began smiling me loud & clear, even smiling my leg one day after a long run of 25 kilometres. He was trying to show me that I needed to channel this energy more into the work.

AFTER THIS LONG RUN, I felt I had a torn ligament, & I had to stop running altogether for a couple of months. During this time I sure had a lot of new responsibilities at the camp, & the Lord kept me quite busy. PTL!

THEN OFF TO PUERTO RICO, & I began work on the new MCV studio. With such an important project that was going to help reach millions via the music, the Enemy really started attacking me in the physical & tempting me to run again. Soon my leg was healed, & off I was again running a lot each day. The next thing I knew I was entering a marathon race of 10 km. in San Juan on Oct. 4, just to see how I'd do with 2,000 other runners.

EVERYONE FELT GOOD THAT I'D DO OKAY, so the day soon came. I put a sign on my back that said, "Dios es Amor!", wanting to be a testimony to all the people who were watching. (Here I want to add how the same morning that I was to run, Faithy & Juan counselled me not to hurt myself if I still felt led to run. Faithy said how I was winning the most important race in the Spirit & that I was needed to finish the studio.)

THE RACE WAS HARDER THAN

I ANTICIPATED, as the other 2,000 runners were "professionals". So of course I paced myself too fast, & I could feel that it was going to be hard to finish the race. At the 9th km., I was so exhausted that I totally collapsed & had to lie down at the side of the race course. I must have blacked out, & the next thing I knew, someone was holding me up about 100 feet from the finish line, & he wouldn't let me stop. It was horrible; I pleaded for these people to let me alone, but they wouldn't, so I just took off running to rid myself of the blood-hungry demons.

THIS WAS WHEN I REALISED THAT I WAS IN TROUBLE, having trouble breathing. I



Tiras in photo taken by Dicon Spencer at MWM.

saw an ambulance, so I pushed my way thru the crowd and jumped in on the floor, as there were 2 runners already being cared for. As this van took off with the sirens screaming, I cried out to God not to let me die just for a race. I prayed too for the other two guys, & then my breathing became more & more difficult, & my body was getting stiff. Then I asked someone to pray for me, & someone did, an angel named Jose who came along

for the mcv. I asked for oxygen, & I couldn't breathe, & I was so sorry for running as I lay there helpless & with no family members. ("Woe is unto him that is alone when he fall-eth, for he hath not another to help him up!" How true!)

AT THE HOSPITAL, they put me on a stretcher, & I thought that they were going to cut my body open. They asked me my name, & I gave them my System name; then another doctor came up & asked me my name, & I told him, "Tiras Seeds". Then I must have become unconscious, & I had the most shocking spirit trip I ever imagined.

I FOUND MYSELF WALKING DOWN A LONG CORRIDOR, & people behind me were calling me to come back to them. But before me was the Lord calling me, although as I walked to Jesus my legs & my entire body was becoming paralysed, & I couldn't walk. Then I'd hear these voices calling me back, & when I would stop my legs were okay. But I knew I had to keep the faith even if it meant being paralysed.

THEN I SAW A SORT OF GLASS CAGE BEING PUT AROUND ME, & I felt as though I was going to be made a sample for all eternity of what not to do. I asked God, "Why me?", as the tears flowed down my face. Everything became dark, and I screamed out to God; then all stopped, & I heard a voice say, "Look at the halo over his head!" Somehow I knew I had died.

NEXT I FOUND MYSELF WALKING BACK DOWN THAT HALLWAY SAYING HOW I WOULD NEVER RUN AGAIN. I was praising God & thanking Jesus! Then I must have come back to my body, because the doctors were throwing water in my

face. As I lay there, I knew that my physical condition was serious, & I knew I might go to be with Jesus. So, I began giving my testimony & preaching against sports. If I died for some damn race, I wanted the world to know that it isn't worth dying for. I then told the doctors present how death was beautiful & nothing to be feared.

BEFORE I FELT I WAS GOING TO BE WITH JESUS THAT NIGHT, so I was really socking it to them. I said, "Okay Lord, I'm ready; I want to go now." Immediately my body got stiff & my jaws, & I could almost feel that "sting of death". PTL! Then miraculously the Lord gave me a check, showing me how I was leaving the studio unfinished. There was a choice, & I felt that I had to be faithful, so I said, "Okay Lord, I'll stay!" Then immediately as I made the decision to stay, my health returned & I sat up, ripped the needle out of my arm & told the doctors that I wanted to get out of there. TY!!

THEY THEN ASKED ME WHERE I LIVED, & I said I was a gypsy missionary with no home, for security reasons. Then, awhile later that angel Jose drove me near to our house. The next day I told Faithy & Juan, & they were happy that the Devil didn't kill me.

MAY GOD & YOU, DAD, PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR MY STRAYING AWAY FROM YOUR LOVING COUNSEL that teaches us moderation in all things. I am a cured runner, & now I am back on the wall putting more into the work, & the new MCV studio is finished! TTL! PG!

WHAT A SEVERE CRISIS THE LORD LET ME EXPERIENCE to teach me a good lesson "the hard way", LHM! And He is teaching me; I am learning so much now from the many

beautiful testimonies in the Mag. I pray that this lesson in over-doing will help someone else in the family to avoid the same pit-falls. The Lord's mercy is so great; I'm so thankful to be alive. All I want to do is serve Him! TY!!

ALSO, I'D LIKE TO ADD THAT AT THE LAST WHEN I FELT I REALLY WAS GOING TO DIE, I felt so very much love for

you, Dad, more than ever before in my life. I know you are my real father in the Lord; you've given me so much, & I feel so loved here at MCV! Thank you for trusting me to work so closely with F & J. Their sample of love & concern for us is heart-touching. Juan is such a good Papa here; I really love him so! (PTL! Love in His service forever, Jerry & Gentleness.)

Visiting Nicaragua

FRUITFUL FAITH TRIPS TO A POOR WAR-TORN COUNTRY!

From Josué & Abigail;

Central America: **WE JUST CAME BACK FROM NICARAGUA** where we stayed for one month in that beautiful country that is now run by communists. We believe that what is happening there is exactly the way things will be when the Anti-Christ starts taking over the whole world. The Letter "End-time Whispering Vision" really describes many things that are happening there where the government is trying to push its religion (anti-God communism).

IT REALLY BROKE OUR HEARTS TO SEE SO MANY WOMEN & CHILDREN ALREADY INVOLVED IN THE ARMY, carrying big machine guns, when you can still feel in the air the spirits of the thousands of young people who were killed in the recent war. **NEVERTHELESS, THE PEOPLE ARE SO BROKEN & RECEPTIVE AS NEVER BEFORE,** & they are hungry for the Lord's words. The seeds of love of the Words of David are well received in their hungry hearts, even as rain is well received in a dry summer. They suffered a big earthquake in 1972 that killed thousands of people & completely destroyed the capital city, Managua, & a few years later they had a bloody civil war.

IN THE MONTH THAT WE WERE THERE, we were able to give away thousands of TKs such as "Why Disasters?" & "Love is the Answer" to the hungry people. We also sang to them & 60 souls were saved. **WE REALLY BELIEVE THAT THESE ARE THE LAST DAYS TO REACH NICARAGUA OPENLY** while there is still a little bit of freedom. The main problem is getting a visa, because they only give 30-day tourist visas & it is almost impossible to renew it unless you hold an important job, & that is why we had to leave the country.

LIFE IS VERY CHEAP THERE, especially housing & basic food. We were living with a couple of American brothers who have a nice house with a small swimming pool outside the city & only pay \$15 a month for rent. They have given out thousands of letters in the streets during this year & have found many sheep.

AS THIS FIELD IS SO NEEDY & THERE ARE SO MANY SHEEP, we are planning to keep sending road teams from the Central American country where we are based. Since Nicaragua is extremely poor & home support is necessary, we would like to ask everyone who has a burden to help to send donations for this field thru your Reporting Office. Checks can be made payable to Miguel Rios Zertuche. GBY! WLY! (Amen! Holy Ghost GBY!)