

♥ LOVE LETTER TO MARIA! ♥

Dearest Maria, 31 Jan. 78

I love you!
Well, I've tried 5 or 6 times
To write you a letter
But my pen is confounded
And not getting better!
It's really quite crazy,
Completely absurd!
As I want to say something,
But can't find the word.

I've always had problems
Expressing in ink
What I feel, my open heart,
What I really think.
Perhaps it's been fear
Of being refused
But my power of "sharing"
Was not fully used.

But you've amazed me
At how so freely you share
And you've opened to me
Without worry or care.
It's a real kind of love
I'd never felt before,
Like footsteps that lead
Through a very special door.

So I wanted to thank you
For opening to me
A world of communication
Where my spirit can be free!
Thank you for teaching me
How to be open
Showing unselfish love
And I'm only hopin'...

That I'll live it and give it
And share it with others
So they'll be free as well
And be sisters and brothers.
Love, Shaul.

P.S. Maria, your little visit with me the other night helped me so much. I felt so close to you and Dad, as almost my biggest trouble has been opening up to others on a personal level, though I've wanted to so badly.

Latin America needs that sample so much of 100% total love and sharing, and I know I've failed in really showing that 100% concern for others that I should have. So Lord forgive me!

But this is honestly one of the first Homes I've ever been in where I can feel right at home just being me and knowing I can be open and honest with everyone. Thank God for His "Green Shirts"!

Your and Dad's love and concern are the most beautiful and perfect sample of genuine love that I've ever known!! And you were the sweetest, most sincere little lover, I could hardly believe it wasn't all a dream after you left. It's all been making the Letters become so alive to me, they're so real, so wonderful! GBY! ILY! Love, Shaul.

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THE FAMILY NEWS OF LOVE! — BY YOU!

Vol. 1, No. 10 D.O. Edited by Maria & the Zs.

Tenerife: Church of Love!

The fantastic results, after re-
turning to Dad's original
"Church of Love" vision!
—A report to Dad!

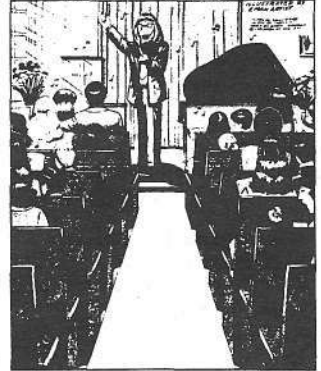
Last week we had a meeting about the Church of Love, as for a while now I haven't really liked the way we've been doing it, but I didn't want to change things if everyone else liked it and thought it was what we needed. So we had a big conference, and everyone had a chance to say what they thought of the Church of Love the way we do it.

We all agreed together that it wasn't churchy enough to really reach the women and the people we need to reach here. So, we have completely revamped it!

We went back and read your original dream and did it that way, the best way, the Lord showed us first. Last Sunday afternoon was our first real Church of Love, and it was fantastic! I'm enclosing the bulletin (see page 2) for you to look over to get an idea of the order of things and what we did. The picture of Jesus is hanging on the fireplace, so we had flowers on the fireplace ledge, and Juan sat right below the picture, and it really created the

THE CHURCH OF LOVE!

—A DREAM? — BY MOSES DAVID



right atmosphere.

The people were all so much more reverent. Amanuensis played the piano, and we cut out the puppets and theater, which had made it all more like entertaining and PR than worshipping in church, and had a little church meeting.

Everyone commented on how different it was this week and how much more they liked it! So, praise the Lord, I feel like we're finally

on the right track with the Church of Love. We have all learned that it pays to do things the Lord's way and not waste His time doing our own thing and getting off the track. It's not that it didn't bear fruit the other way, the old way, but it just didn't bear the fruit it could bear, it didn't really reach the people it needs to reach and who need it.

We all now feel like we really missed the mark by not just following the Letter to the last little detail in the first place. (These skits and puppets and all came about, by the way, when I was visiting you and someone else was in charge.)

So, we just want to testify that the original way is the best! It definitely is the best for our friends here who need a "church" to go to, and the other that we offered them was not churchy enough for them, which may be why we had such a big turnover each week, without really building up a congregation of faithful attenders. We are so thankful the Lord didn't let us be pleased with second best, but helped us see where we were falling short in meeting the needs in His Work here. We still have a long way to go in polishing the details, but we all really liked the basic way things went last Sunday.

We started the service with just the piano play-

ing, until everyone was seated. Then we all sang Psalm 121, which we had typed out on the attached songsheet. (Next week we're going to use thicker paper, so we can type the songs on the back side of the bulletin.)

After the song, we had united prayer led by our preacher Juan. After the prayer, he welcomed everyone to the Church of Love and said that if anyone had any special prayer requests, they could write them on a piece of paper (which we had stuck in the bulletin) and put it in the offering plate as it was passed, and then at the end of

the offering we would have special prayer.

The piano was playing softly in the background all during the offering, and people were praying silently. Then Juan prayed a special prayer for each prayer request. The prayer requests were pretty Catholic, but it was the first time some of our visitors had come, so they didn't know what to expect or anything. But three of the six visitors made special requests, so we thought that was pretty good. TYJ! They also put 1,750 pesetas in the offering plate! PTL!

Then Juan introduced the reading of the Letter, saying that today's reading was the first in a series of 31 writings of Father David on our spiritual life and walk with the Lord, entitled "Squeeze Don't Jerk". Then he read the Letter, which was really well received. The people were so reverent, not just politely listening, but really respectful! TYJ!

Then we sang together the Family song Psalm 139, and afterwards two of the Family gave little testimonies of something the Lord had done during the week. (We'll use that time to give personal testimonies, litness testimonies, etc.) This week, Lee told about a man in the market who always gives us real good food, and this week he received Jesus; so he's helping us materially and we're helping him spiritually, a good exchange! Then after a few testimonies, we all sang together the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi, and then prayed together the Lord's Prayer to close the service. Afterwards, we fellowshiped together with all the guests.

We had a Sunday School and Bible story time for all the children (four new ones plus Betty's three) out in the cottage during the Church service. The children loved it, the adults loved it, and we loved it, the way the Lord used it, so everyone was happy! PTL! We hope this thrills you too! This week it really seemed to feed the ones who need a little church, and the Lord really blessed it. TYJ!

You can see at the top of the bulletin we have placed a Bible verse, mainly to give them something to think about before the service starts, and also to set a reverent and prayerful setting. At the end of the bulletin, there is a section "Meditation for the coming week", a verse they can think about during the week between services, which also relates to the next Letter we'll read. (This week we put 1Sam.3:9 to relate to "Stop, Look and Listen", which is the Letter for this coming Sunday's service.)

We have really learned a good lesson from our experience—and that is, if something doesn't go right, don't go off in some new direction and fall into the trap of "let's try this" and "let's try that", but go back to the Letter and see what it is you're not doing that's causing it to not go right! Amen! Love, Sally.

("THE CHURCH OF LOVE!"... a whole new possibility of reaching a whole new sector of the population that we have left almost untouched! Help us to do it, Lord, to reach them before it's too late! In Jesus' name, amen!—"The Church of Love!" No. 617:64,65 by Moses David.)

CHURCH OF LOVE BULLETIN, TENERIFE

SALMO 121:14

"Sean gratos los dichos de mi boca y la meditación de mi corazón delante de tí, oh Señor, roca mía y redentor mío".

IGLESIA DEL AMOR, 15-1-78

- 1.- Cantando al Señor: Salmo 121
- 2.- Oración de unidad
- 3.- Introducción
- 4.- Lectura Bíblica: Salmo 19
- 5.- La Colecta
- 6.- Lectura sobre tu vida espiritual con el Señor: "Con suavidad, no bruscamente".
- 7.- Himo de alabanza: Salmo 139
- 8.- Testimonios
- 9.- Himo de gracias: Oración de S.Francisco
- 10.- El Padre nuestro (oración)

Meditación para la semana:

"... HASLA SEÑOR, PORQUE TU SI ERVO OYE". (1 Samuel 3:9)