

Why The Family?

A FURLOUGHING FAMILY FINDS OUT THE HARD WAY!

From Marcos & Tabitha; Switzerland:
Dearest Family,
GIVE US A PRAY THAT THIS TESTIMONY OF HOW HE'S CHANGED OUR LIVES WILL BE A HELP & an encouragement to all of you who are in the same situation. DURING THE RNR, WE LEFT THE FAMILY & went home for a "vacation". In our hearts we didn't want to forsake the Lord or His Work, so we decided to become Catacombers. But we weren't willing to give our lives 100%, even in our everyday life for Him; & being with one foot in & the other out is the worst place to be!

FINALLY, WE LEFT OUR PARENTS' HOME & FOUND A JOB & a flat & began living our own private life outside the Family (with very little contact with it, if any). Even tho' we did want to be Catacombers & do something for Him, it was very hard!

LIVING A SYSTEMITE LIFE CAN EASILY LEAD YOU ASTRAY! It's like removing a burning coal from a fire & letting it burn separately until it cools off & dies; the fire itself also loses a bit of its power because it has need of this coal too. SO EVEN THO' WE WANTED TO SERVE HIM with all our hearts, we weren't able to accomplish anything because of the fact of living alone & having so many systemite tasks to do that we began to excuse ourselves for not doing anything for Him!

THEN THE LORD HAD TO BREAK US COMPLETELY so we'd again be a useful vessel. As Dad says: "God only uses broken men & women, no others will do." And what He used to break us was our dear little daughter Ana. When Ana (1½) was born, we promised the Lord to give all our life for His Service & to offer her to Him as Hannah had done with Samuel (1 Sam. 1:11).

BECAUSE OF OUR DISOBEDIENCE, ANA FELL VERY SICK & wasn't fighting against it but letting herself die instead. It was like a physical image of our spiritual condition as we knew we had to fight but we were letting ourselves die spiritually. The Lord showed us He was going to take her because of our

stubbornness. HE REALLY USED THAT TO BREAK OUR HEARTS & we had communion, asking the Lord for her healing & to get our hearts right before Him. Right after that we got a "greater victory" & the next day Ana was totally healed & a lot happier. PTL! TY!

THE LORD OPENED OUR EYES TO OUR NEED OF THE FAMILY, so we prayed that He would open a door wherever He wanted us to go & we began by faith to drop out

from all our system attachments. In a very few days we received news from a Home that wanted to work with us. Very soon we're going to move in & by the grace of God be what He wants us to be—"Real Fighters"!

NOW WE REALISE HOW SAD & UNINSPIRED & SELFISH WE WERE while living alone. But He's given us a great victory & happiness in His Service & the blessing of fellowship & sharing with our wonderful Family. "Even Jesus needed a family & so do you & I!—That's 'Why the Family!' Amen!" (752:39.) Much love in His Service, Marcos (Spanish) & Tabitha (Swiss)

OUR BABY, JOHN, IS SUCH AN ASSET ALSO when visiting people. He is only three months old but he has such a friendly, bubbling personality that people always comment that he is such a happy child. Then when Abigail tells them that she prayed before he was born for a happy child, people are really impressed.



Abigail, John & baby John, going for God in Holland!

THE OTHER LATEST LETTERS "Coming of Age" (No. 771) & "Maturation of a Movement" (No. 770) were also so helpful to us & made so many things clear. So many times we get a feeling or a witness in our spirit that we don't really understand, but a little while later we receive a new batch of MO Letters that makes it all clear & understandable again.

IT'S AMAZING HOW YOUR LETTERS ALWAYS COME JUST WHEN WE NEED THEM, & with the answer for that moment! The Lucas Letter ("Sorry Judas!—It's Too Late To Quit!", No. 772) also was so good for us. It seems we have been tempted so much more lately to give up the fight as the battle gets greater every day. Sometimes it just doesn't seem possible to go on, but then BOOM!—Another blast of the Spirit of God thru' your words & we have the strength to fight again! SOMETIMES WE FEEL WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING RIGHT, but as long as we can sit at your feet & get the MO Letters & share them with those around us, we are very, very happy. We love you both & pray for you & your new baby. Thank you for your faith in all of us, Dad. We love you so much & find it hard to express with our pen, but we want to show you thru' our obedience to "preach the Gospel to every creature!" Love, Jonah, Abigail & little John.

From Jeshua; W. Germany:
Dearest loving MO & Maria,
I JUST FINISHED RE-READING YOUR LETTER "DOOR TO DOOR WITNESSING". Wow! What an inspiration! The part that really spoke to me was about the Mail Ministry. In fact, this whole Family is held together by the Mail Ministry thru' your loving Letters that guide us! TY! For such a sample of faithful feeding of the sheep thru' the years! IT IS SO TRUE THAT WE HAVE SADLY NEGLECTED THE MAIL. I personally feel I have really failed the Lord in this area. For a while, I was being faithful in writing to all my contacts here in Germany. As a result, I won my wife to the Family! In the year-and-a-half that we corresponded before her joining, we only saw each other three times. But because many people I wrote to did not respond, I felt discouraged & stopped collecting addresses. & as a result, the Lord stopped blessing because of my lack of faith! Now your Letter has set the fire going again. I thank you very much! WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT DOOR TO DOOR WITNESSING & witnessing is so true too. In fact, for the past few months that's the only type of witnessing I've been doing & I'd like to share some of the marvellous blessings I've had as a result. While DTD'ing in Switzerland, quite a few times we'd be invited in by people "for a cup of tea" but they would

be so interested to hear more that they'd invite us to stay the night. One time, a schoolteacher invited us in & we ended up staying with him for three days as we went door-to-door throughout the surrounding area, as well as ministered to him & his friends.

ONE EVENING A BEAUTIFUL & PRECIOUS MIDDLE-AGED LADY invited me in. She had just received Jesus & was "bubbling over" & so hungry for the Word. Since then, I have visited her & her husband several times & given her copies of the "Daily Mights" which she takes to work with her. She has also helped with generous donations! These are just a few of the many miracles & blessings that have happened as a result of DTD'ing! I'VE ALSO TRIED & FOUND IT EFFECTIVE to stay in a town until all the doors & houses have been approached. It has also amazed me how in some towns where we have street witnessed a lot & which were supposedly "hardened" to our message, I have been finding many receptive hearts & a totally different class of people by the different approach of going DTD! I've found a lot of people in these towns who as yet knew nothing about us or our literature! As you said, we're not finished yet & it is by no means the end! So thank you, Dad, once again for that much needed Letter! Much love & prayers, Jeshua.

Our Standard-The Word!

by GRANDMOTHER

(From "The Standard"—MM 2:5.)

IT CONTAINS THE MIND OF GOD, the state of man, the Way of Salvation, the happiness of believers. Its Doctrine is Holy, its precepts are binding, its history is true, its decisions immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, practise it to be holy.

IT CONTAINS LIGHT TO DIRECT YOU, food to support you, comfort to cheer you. It is the traveller's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's comfort, the soldier's sword, the Christian's character. Here Heaven

is opened, the gates of Hell disclosed, & Christ is the subject & the Glory of God its end.

OH, FILL YOUR MEMORY WITH IT! LET IT RULE your heart & guide your feet! Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth & health to the soul & a river of pleasure. It is established forever!

IF YOU ARE TROUBLED TO-DAY, get some promise. Put your finger upon the promise & say, "Lord, you are no respecter of persons, this is for me." Read on & on till you find something that satisfies the hunger of your heart. God means it for you.

READ THE WORD: YOU WILL FIND THE ANSWER THERE. God bless you! He's still on the Throne & He'll meet you & He answers prayer!

From Jonah; Holland:

Dear MO & Maria,
"DOOR TO DOOR WITNESSING" (LETTER NO. 769) WAS SO ENCOURAGING! I agree with it wholeheartedly! One reason I was so encouraged by it is that I myself have been doing it for about the last four months.

I HAVE FOUND IT TO BE THE MOST FRUITFUL METHOD of witnessing & witnessing at this time. Everything you said in the Letter is absolutely true. I already have many contacts & appointments that my wife Abigail & I have on our schedule. Thru' door-to-door also, the Lord has supplied us with baby needs, a brand new guitar for our music ministry, many donations & over 20 souls since we began, precious friends, loyal converts & lasting fruit.

The Fantastic Fruits of "Door To Door!"

DYNAMITE DTD TESTIMONIES!

...and me so much & give me so much. I feel so unworthy of the love I received.

WELL DAD, HIS TIME & YOUR LOVE WAS NOT WASTED because the thing that I learned is just how much God loved me by your continual & never-tiring sample of giving & sharing & teaching. Pride comes before a fall & I tripped over my unprayerful actions & big mouth quite a few times. But sitting counting the now long-healed scars & heartaches, I can tell you your teaching was not wasted.

SO MANY TIMES YOUR PRECIOUS LOVE comes flooding back to me. So many times situations come up that I have already been thru', guided by your strong loving hands & sample. I feel so very privileged & unworthy of such love & want to do whatever I am able by His Grace to do for you & Him. I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK OF YOU WHEN I DO ANYTHING, because you are my yardstick, & when seeking the Lord's highest I think of your sample & guidance & look to you for direction. Knowing you & having your Letters to look to, I feel in so many situations that I know the way before I go in

to it. It makes me very thankful to know you & work with you for the same Boss.

SOMEONE WHO HAS BROUGHT ME THRU' SO MUCH & taught me so much, I can't help but love! Thank you for your patience & care! Thank the Lord for giving me such a good mama to look after me & keep me in check & love me into doing His highest.

DEAR BECKY IS AN ANGEL & such a wonderful patient, loving testimony of the Love of David. I'm sometimes overwhelmed by the way God has worked in my life.

IT'S FIVE YEARS & MORE since I met you both & so much has happened to me. We have just been blessed with another wonderful healthy baby boy, which makes it five now. Just a few short years ago I was so alone & miserable, but now—phew! I've got five beautiful children, a beautiful wife, a beautiful family—and you too!

WHAT MORE CAN ANYONE NEED OR ASK FOR? Hallelujah! Surrounded by a world with so much misery & greed, it's really a blessing to have someone to fight with & a real privilege to be helping as VS's, tho' we pray we can get

around quicker in the future.

EVERY DAY IS GETTING BETTER & BETTER with more & more to accomplish, & we pray for you always with your heavy but happy responsibilities. Your sample really keeps us going. Lord help us to follow closer & closer each day. I remember saying to Samson Warner in Italy once that I didn't think it was possible for all homes to be the same way as Dad's home, with the love & sharing & total One-Wife vision being lived out in love, but then poor ...

YOU HAD THE FAITH TO SHARE THE WAY YOU DO IT & it has changed the whole Family, giving us much more fruitful, loving & united residences throughout the world. Long live love! Long live the King of love! PTL! I'm so happy, Dad, thanks so much!

THANK YOU FOR TAKING ME HOME & going thru' all the unpleasant teething pains & cleaning me out with such devotion to duty & perseverance & unfaltering love! I pray I can show you a measure of Love by helping you in His work. Much, much love & many prayers for your continued health & safety —Art.

them said the next baby was indeed breech. At first my heart sank, but I remembered a verse we'd read earlier, "I keep under my body, & bring it into subjection..." (1 Co. 9:27). I prayed to relax. Meanwhile an intern pushed hard on my abdomen & in 5 minutes the doctor pulled out Michael (5 lb. 8 oz.) feet first—with no medication! What a miracle!

THERE WERE SEVERAL INTERNS WATCHING as it's uncommon for twins to be born naturally (here, at least). Later one of them came to tell me the birth had changed his life as a doctor because he learned the importance of the mother & father's mental attitude in birth & how little depends on modern medical technology.

HE SAID EVERYONE NOTICED HOW HAPPY WE WERE to be having two babies & how interested we were & cooperative. I was able to witness to him for over an hour about the Lord & the spiritual beauty of giving birth to a child & he was



Titus & Charity with 2-year-old Rachel & week-old twins Michael (left) & Maria!

very precious & receptive. Hallelujah! We are so thankful for such a wonderful Family. The verse we got for our twins is "Two are better

than one, because they have good reward for their labour; for if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow." (Ecc. 4:9,10)—Love, Charity.

TWINS:

"Two Are Better Than One!"

...because she has a good reward for her labour!

THE NATURAL BIRTH OF FULL-TERM TWINS IS A WITNESS TO MANY!

From Titus & Charity Rainbow; U.S.A.:

UPON ARRIVAL IN THE STATES FROM BRASIL I was 7 months pregnant, so we set right to work looking for a doctor & place to have the baby. The Lord led us to a nice clinic where it is fairly cheap. My first visit to the doctors revealed what we'd been suspecting since the beginning—TWINS!—PTL!

THE DOCTORS WARNED ME then that twins are almost always premature & told me just to go to bed!—But I'd read in Adelle Davis' "Let's Have Healthy Children" that this prematurity is largely due to poor nutrition of the mother—especially with twins. So I tried to eat

extra well, as well as get lots of rest. So with that & prayer I was able to carry them full term! PTL!

LABOUR BEGAN ON FEB. 8TH.

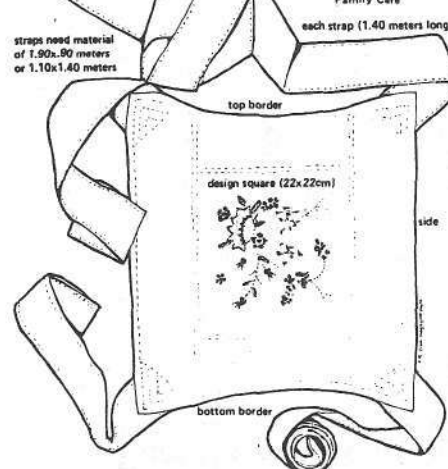
All day I had had light contractions but when I arrived at the hospital I found I was already 5 cm. dilated. It wasn't for two more hours that the contractions became strong enough to begin using the breathing techniques.

THE DOCTOR TOLD US THAT IF THE SECOND BABY WAS BREECH (feet first), I'd probably have to be put to sleep as they said few women could relax enough to help in a breech birth. Titus & I prayed for a miracle & at 11:30 p.m. I went to the delivery room.

BEAUTIFUL 6 LB., 15 OZ. MARIA ANGELOQUE WAS BORN 15 minutes later. PTL! The doctor

Make Your Own Baby Carrier!

From "100 Ideas" Magazine; France
Recommended by Family Care



USE A DURABLE, WASHABLE MATERIAL such as corduroy or canvas & sew seams & straps on very securely! For carrying baby on your back, you can tie on bottom around your waist & on top over the shoulders (like backpack straps). Or you can tie with crossed straps across your back to hold baby securely on your chest.



—Photo from "100 Ideas".