

in town who is really a systemite & of course hates the Family) we are really having to be careful. **MANY OF OUR NEW CONTACTS & FRIENDS HAVE BEEN SKEPTICAL** of our associations & even took Andrew aside one evening & gave him the "3rd degree". He was able to be truthful about our convictions & love for the Lord & told them we have fellowshiped with many different independent missionary families, different churches, Jesus People houses back in the early '70s, had a coffee house ministry in New York (the New York disco!) etc., but without giving any names, & we have been accepted.

OF COURSE WE KNOW THAT THIS POPULARITY IS JUST A STAGE & that it can't last too long. Already we had a close call when one of the couples from the main church we've been going to happened to pick up one of these families on the road during the hurricane scare & took them into their home. We got a call from this system Christian couple who said they had met some people who live just like us & are going to Central America, play music & witness etc. etc. We knew right away they must have picked up some Family members, & when this family got on the phone & talked to me they just went on & on saying, "Have you ever heard of the FOL? You know Adam & Carmel don't you? Our names are so-&-so but our Bible names are such-&-such", all right in front of this system lady. It was a very close call & I had to play dumb & actually say "no" to a couple of his statements because it would've been all over for us & our supporters because of the general attitude of American conservative Christians towards the Family!

WE REALLY FELT IT WAS

A WARNING from the Lord not to let our guard down for one second, & the meaning of "be wise as serpents & harmless as doves" was really brought out! Our little team here all got together & we really believe that if these church elders found out our associations, they wouldn't hesitate to tar & feather us as being "religious frauds" because of their pledged support & the financial support they have already given us. They probably wouldn't hesitate to turn us into the authorities & try to take the children as well. **WE FEEL THAT MANY IN THE FAMILY DON'T REALIZE THE DANGER** in invading the churches & how important it is to "become new creatures in Christ Jesus". We read "Prayer for Protection" & we wish that more Family members would read it & take it to heart personally. Paragraphs 6-11 are so heavy!

THE LORD APPLIED A LOT OF VERSES & QUOTES about "Don't Drop Out, Drop In" & many FF Letters to the church invasion ministry of ours. There are so many parallels. A good verse I found is 2 Cor. 6:3. "Giving no offense in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed." Also in verse 8 where it says, "as deceivers, & yet true". Also 1 Cor. 9:19-22 is so good & has been so encouraging to us about becoming all things to all men that I might by all means save some.

ANYWAY, WE'VE BEEN SO BUSY we've hardly had time to work on provisioning our needs, as our phone rings off the wall sometimes. We have been getting out an average of about 2,500 pieces of Jit each week & have won a little over 20 souls. The Lord is blessing us financially, slowly but surely, & we have been involved mainly in writing the Homes & being mis-

sionaries in our own backyard until such time as the Lord shows us specifically to leave the States. We still don't have tires, so we can't travel yet, but our mail to the brethren has been a blessing & we're hearing lots of inspiring testimonies from families of how the Lord is getting them all prepared to get out.

WE HOPE THAT THIS REPORT ABOUT SOME OF THE BRETHREN HERE isn't too negative, but we really do feel they need to be more security-minded. It's hard for a lot of families to get the vision when they get caught up in that "all things continue as they were" spirit of America. They really let it affect their vision of the changes in the Family.

ALL THESE NEW METHODS OF WITNESSING are just to get us prepared to be able to infiltrate & stay alive as long as possible, but we are still in to that old "hippie COG cult" image, it's pretty sad. It seems that so many are hanging on to "the bad habits & past sins of the former group" & don't realize "we're a whole new kettle of fish with a new name, new family, new policies & practices—totally new!" TTL for Dad & the Letters, for as time grows shorter they become so much more alive in every way. Love, Andrew & Mary. (P.S. They have some good long-time fruit from the churches, too—Zebulun Geppetto & his wife, our well-loved Family Care artist.—Maria.)

"...A whole new (old) ministry to the Churches that some of you who have had to go home can really make fruitful in souls, workers & support! Why not try it?—You might like it!—They need it!—Go ahead!—Let's hear your reports on Church invasions & infiltrations!" (834:7.)

"Drop-In" Fruits!

SEED OF LOVE BEARS FRUIT!

From Ado Benjamin; C. Amer.: Dear Dad & Maria, **BBY! I'VE BEEN WANTING TO WRITE YOU** about how your Letter "Millions of Miles of Miracles" (No. 897) has helped me. The part that really spoke to me was about your teaching experience in par. 71-86. Shortly after arriving here on this foreign field I got a drop-in job at a school as an English teacher. I too am teaching 7th graders (12-13 years old), a total of 240 students each day.

ALTHO' MY MINISTRY IN THE FAMILY FOR 7 YEARS WAS TEACHING at our various Family schools, this job has been an absolutely new experience for me. It isn't easy, but I'm learning a great deal from it. As a matter of fact, a few days before your Letter arrived I was really asking the Lord if He could have you write more about your experiences teaching junior high students. So when I came across that particular part about your teaching I was really excited to say the least! What an answer to prayer! **IN MY CLASSES I TRY TO DISTRIBUTE AT LEAST 1 MO LETTER A WEEK** which totals about 300 copies per week or 1200 per month. I use the Komix which are great for my students as I teach oral English & the Komix are simple enough for them to read, as well as learn new vocabulary.

The students like them & sometimes we read them in class or I assign a few short questions for homework to make sure they've read the story.

ALSO EACH DAY WE HAVE A "THOUGHT FOR THE DAY" written in English on the chalkboard. It is always a Mo quote.

We have a routine in class in which 2 students read the "thought" before we begin class. Often it opens up into a short discussion about God, faith, love etc. Almost all the quotes I use come from Mag 18 in which the children's quotes are printed. These are short & simple enough for my students to read & understand.

OH YES, I'VE BEEN ASKED SEVERAL TIMES TO GIVE DEVOTIONS for groups of students & professors & to give the closing prayers in assemblies of over 1,200 students.

So I am fairly well known for my beliefs. My guitar & singing has been a great asset in classes or devotions too. Recently I recorded several Family songs at the request of the Head of the English Dept. because she wanted to play songs for her students & let them write down the words from the tape as "good practice for listening skills"—& what a way to witness! Hall

SO THANKS DAD FOR SHARING ALL THOSE DETAILS about your past life. You'll never know how much they've encouraged me to keep going, even when the going gets rough. Love, you son Ado. P.S. It's a real miracle to be an "English Professor" because I have no degree at all! PTL!

THE SINGING PROFESSOR!

From Judy; S.E. Asia: **MORE THAN A YEAR AGO I STARTED TEACHING ENGLISH** to some Japanese families. I became very close with 4 of the families & taught their children for quite a few months, & had a chance to share with their mothers about my life & how the Lord changed me. Altho' most of them spoke very little

English, I found that my daily sample of happiness & love of Jesus spoke very clearly to their hearts.

AT THE SAME TIME I WAS ALSO WORKING WITH THE MANY REFUGEES, & the Lord inspired me to start collecting clothing from the Japanese community. This spread to many in the area & soon they were giving me boxes & boxes of good used clothes weekly. I took a few of them to visit the refugees, & some were moved to tears when they saw the happy smiles & laughter we brought to so many faces.

ONLY WHEN I LEFT THE COUNTRY DID I REALIZE THE EFFECT I HAD HAD on these families. On my departure they said, "We will never forget you because you taught us to love again. We forget to love in this world sometimes, but you showed us how again. You were always happy & smiling when you came to teach. We will never forget you."

A FEW MONTHS LATER when even more refugees came pouring into the country, they went to the camps weekly to volunteer, even in face of the opposition of their friends. When I became sick a few months ago they sent me a package with clothing, gifts, funds etc. It was so touching to see their immediate help in time of need. Since then they have met many of our Family & provided many fruitful teaching & witnessing opportunities. A few have gotten saved & are much more free than they used to be, all as a result of Love!

SO LOVE NEVER FAILS! "It may seem only a tiny bud at first, just one insignificant little green shoot. What is that to the forest that's needed? Well, it's a beginning. It's the beginning of the miracle of new life." (No. 365:70.) Try it! Love, Judy. ■

New Mommy For Sheba Bear's Kids!

God's great victory out of seeming defeat!



(l-r) Jeremy-2, Daniella Maria-2½, Sean-3½ & Job-6, children of Giacomo & Gypsy. (Indie Rose-1½ not shown.)

From Gypsy Rose (Jabalina): Canada:

MY OLD NAME WAS JABALINA (see my ad in Mag No. 21) but when I forsook my old ways I also got a new name Gypsy-Rose! By God's grace & mercy & forgiveness I was delivered from all unyielded areas in my life & the Lord gave me a whole heart & healed spirit—a testimony heavier than my "Healed of Cancer"—healed of the cause of cancer—healed of rebelliousness! **FOR 7 YEARS AFTER I FIRST MET THE FAMILY I REBELLED.**—I had no good reason to be only a catacomber except my stubbornness to yield! The Lord showed me how I had cancer for my rebelliousness & that He was taking His collection on the backslidden, half-hearted weak links, that He'd rather I be dead (as I was spiritually anyway) than living life unyielded to His Will, His Work, His Life & His Plans! Death was very close for me. An operation even killed my son Noah who only lived a few hours after they removed him from my womb. No blessings precede obedience! God dealt with me. I broke when I really prayed for Him to show me about my half-hearted rebelliousness! When I really wanted to know, He told me! **AFTER A MONTH OF ON-OFF FASTING** & the encour-

agement & prayers of a couple, Daniel & Crystal, who lived with me & stood firm with me in the power of God, I got a total deliverance by His Power! After many battles, breakings & weepings, many times alone, I got rid of my unyielded areas & the Lord gave me the Letters "The Rose", "The Phoenix" & "I Am a Toilet". It's so comforting to know you can never be too bad for Jesus & when I read how you failed at times, Dad, it encouraged me to attack, to keep fighting, keep learning keep growing & mostly keep close to the source!—The Words of David!

WELL, I PUT AN AD IN THE MAG looking for a place of full-time service (this was after my "Healed of Cancer" testimony had been printed). As a result, Giacomo, Sheba Bear's mate, wrote to me to say that 2 days before Sheba died (of a disease from which God mercifully healed me) she had read my testimony & was encouraged. TTL! He sent me a photo of their 3 children who looked lost, lonely & afraid. I wept.

ONE WEEK LATER I BECAME MAMA GYPSY TO 5 CHILDREN!—Mine, Job & Daniella, & Giacomo's 3—4 of them are under 3½! I'm so blessed! Learning lots too! I love being a mother! Giacomo is really changing since his letter

got printed, & Dad's reply showed us a lot of truth.

GIACOMO & I BOTH SAW THE SIMILARITIES IN SHEBA'S & MY LIFE, related to "Irrfers Beware"! Sheba saw a pic of me & my testimony 2 days before she died as if to acknowledge who would be with her children after she went home! I want to sthick until they no longer want or need me. I'm falling deeper in love every day with the children.

A FEW VICTORIES: Their children were all still using bottles, diapers & didn't know the Word. (Poor Giacomo was so worn out taking care of Sheba, but he has a special sticktoitiveness & love for the Lord & a special grace thru' these many years of patience thru' trials that has made him a soldier with much love, mercy & compassion—no wonder I'm in love with him!) Well the children are getting stronger in the Word; the Lord has blessed me with a lot of songs & ideas. They've forsaken diapers, bottles, are learning to read, sing, play & laugh. They called me Mama last week, ran to me & loved me up just when I really needed to feel that His love was transforming their hearts & spirits as well as the outward appearances. Please keep us in your prayers! Love, Gypsy Rose & family.

P.S. A FEW WEEKS AGO I CALLED THE CHILDREN BY A NICKNAME. When Giacomo heard me he laughed & said, "I know you're here Sheba!"—I had used the same nickname as Sheba had called them! PGL!

P.P.S. "SO IF YOU GO, GO ALL THE WAY!" Go for Jesus every day! Keep your eyes on the goal & the victory in your soul. If you go, go all the way!—That song helped me get the victory in my life! God bless you abundantly Dad! Maria too!—Love, Gypsy-Rose. ■

M&M Mail!

MONTHLY RECAP OF M&M MAIL MINISTRY!



Compiled by Keren-Happuch: **"MILLIONS OF MILES OF MIRACLES"** received a good response this month, with many thank-yous for its encouragement to all our growing families to keep going for God with "what is in thy hand".

"AMERICANS ABROAD" is also still receiving comments. One Mideastern Home that is planning to flee wrote: "It really woke us up to the realities of the time bomb we're sitting on here. Thanks for the warning you've given so many times. God help us to get out in time!" That was from Damien & Rain-bow.

MOST OTHER LETTERS THIS MONTH were expressions of personal love & thanks for all the WWWs in general. Good news from Leah of Ivan, who is now in England resting & recuperating from her recent illness before returning to the front lines.

PRAYER REQUESTS: From David Woods in France who is having painful problems with his kidneys. He & team are working hard to prepare to flee



Ahla! & 2-yr.-old Greta say, "Come to sunny South America!" Photo by Soa.

South but this problem has slowed him down a great deal. From Goia Heart in Italy, now a full-time disciple after being a Catacomber for 5 years.—She is suffering from low blood pressure & appendicitis which keeps her weak & dizzy when doing any hard work, like titnessing, for any length of time. **Soa & Ahla!** in South America wanted to mention that Ely, the friend & Fish they asked prayer for, went to be with the Lord on April 11th. "He got delivered & we're sure he understands things now. Our 1-mo.-or-so relationship was very intense. He spent nearly every free minute with us praying & reading the Word & sharing his burdens, especially how he wanted to live & be part of the Family. We learned some valuable lessons thru' it all about not living so much for the future & counting on the future. Like the song 'We've got no guarantee of tomorrow! Come on, let's go!

Start living today!" **I'LL END WITH AN INTERESTING RESPONSE TO "NEW MODELS"** from Ahla! in South America: "I just wanted to tell you that my grandfather was one of those sheriffs in Harlan, Kentucky that was shot during the coal mining disputes there & just about the same time you were going to school there! It's possible that some of my uncles were some of those bullies that beat you up. After my grandfather died, my grandmother put all of them in a Baptist orphanage—& they all turned out to be preachers!—Probably worse off now than they were before. They don't like the Family or answer our prayerletters. My other grandfather was also shot & killed in Harlan, & thank God they moved out there before I was born! Thank you, Dad, for pulling me out & reeling me in to the Lord's Family—to stay!" Love, Ahla!.