

Expecting Miracles Builds Kid Power

"TRY & KEEP TRYING" PROVES TO BE GOOD COUNSEL IN STARTING A KID POWER GROUP!

From James & Charity;

Thailand:
AFTER READING THE VERY INSPIRING & HONEST TESTIMONY IN MAG #1 OF NICHAN & DEBORAH & THEIR KIDS' SINGING MINISTRY, we feel led to share ours about the kids' singing in hopes it will inspire others in this tremendously fruitful & inspiring ministry.

OUR KIDS' SINGING MINISTRY STARTED ABOUT A YEAR AGO as out of desperation for new inspiration & ways to reach the locals here we headed to the zoo with the kids (3 then, ages 4, 3 & a baby).

After having practised a little at home, we went to the zoo & started singing. Of course the songs were all in English, but we instantly gathered a crowd & they got the point anyway in the form of the lit!

IT WASN'T TOO BAD, but we wanted to reach the people more in their language, so we got really desperate with the Lord, & thru loving encouragement from some of the family here we were soon learning some very basic songs & even actions. We practised each new song several times & then went out once or twice a week.

WELL, THE KIDS SORT OF LOST THEIR ZEAL AFTER A WHILE, & our 3-year-old would sometimes start crying. We soon saw that dealing with him with bribes was a disaster; he'd whine just so that we'd bribe him! Boy are they clever! ("Child Psychology") --What a great letter, as well as Mo's excellent counsel, & Dad's "Kid Power" letter sparked a new flame under us all.

WE TOLD OUR 3-YEAR-OLD THAT HE COULDN'T SING ANY MORE UNLESS HE GOT A BIG VICTORY ABOUT BEING SUCH A BAD SAMPLE--boy, were we embarrassed--so Daddy



Charity, Daniele(4) and Davide(5) sing in park where several souls were saved. (Photo by Joshua)

even took him home once & he wasn't allowed to sing any more, & that brought the victory! He never did it again but really saw that singing for Jesus was a privilege, & Mommy's & Daddy's attitude had so much to do with it--whether we'd just make excuses like, "He's shy" & "He's not talented" & "He's this & that", or whether we would expect miracles & results.

THE KIDS SENSE OUR SPIRIT & HOW IMPORTANT WE FEEL THIS SINGING & PERFORMING IS. So after many trials, failures & successes, the kids have really blossomed into good little performers who sing when told & can really shine for Jesus, & it's such a testimony.

TWO MONTHS AGO WE WENT TO ANOTHER TOWN & did a total of 4 shows in schools, leading nearly 1,000 souls to the Lord! The kids were really the key, knowing 6 songs in Thai as well as lines in a simple heart skit where our precious Thai national, Lek, was

Mr. Heart. With the key of love, we all grabbed the lit to distribute to everyone. In the same town we sang in restaurants, provisioned meals & performed in the park where others were saved also.

THE POWER OF OUR KIDS, ESPECIALLY IN THESE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES, IS PHENOMENAL & a real result of just being obedient to Dad's loving example. It truly revolutionised and changed our lives.

THE KIDS ARE NOW SINGING REGULARLY AT SHOPPING CENTRES, the zoo & frequently at amusement parks. Last weekend we provisioned our way into the largest and poshest amusement park where we sang, distributed lit & the management was so turned on that they took photos for publication. There are thousands of upper class people there every weekend.

SO, THE BEST COUNSEL WE CAN OFFER TO FAMILIES IS JUST TRY--& keep trying--it's really a fight in the beginning but really has a tremendous pay-off in the end! It's such a miracle: "Little is much if God is in it." So even if folks have only one or two kids, just be faithful & the Lord will bless it!

WE'RE GOING TO BE MOVING TO SOUTH AMERICA SOON, as the doors for us are closing here, and we're so anxious & excited about using the kids in this same way on our new field.

WLY&P4Y: "SO YOU WANT TO BE A LEADER" REALLY APPLIES TO KIDS SINGING, as no one will ever know about the years & tears & training behind it all--only Jesus... & that's whom we're doing it all for anyway. PTL!

(Amel HALL-YU! 67 4 KOPS! PTL! GARY!)

Teaching On The Road

—Tips from a mother of six!

From Esther O.; Europe:

THE FN MAG IS SO EXCITING, packed with so many jewels of Mo Letters & inspiring testimonies that I really prayed, asking the Lord what I could share too. So I'd like to share some tips that I've learned that have brought much fruit teaching our children since we've been on the road. I hope they'll inspire other families with many children that going on the road for Jesus & teaching your own kids is possible! We love it!

AT FIRST WHEN WE TOOK THEM OUT OF SCHOOL to go mobile (the oldest was in 2nd grade), I went thru a big trial because I didn't think I'd be able to make adequate progress teaching them, considering all the other children we have (we are 4 adults with 9 children, 5 of whom are still in diapers!). But we wanted to obey God & get a caravan & van & get mobile for Jesus, so we took the plunge.

WE LOOKED INTO VARIOUS CORRESPONDENCE COURSES but found them demanding too much time each day, leaving almost no time for the Word & witnessing, as well as other duties. Besides that, much of the required courses were subjects unnecessary for the kids. Maybe we will reconsider it again when they are older, but the Lord has showed us a good plan for their present ages.

ALTHO' THE LORD DID USE THEIR PUBLIC SCHOOL DAYS for some good, such as helping them to learn the local language & becoming one with other children, it also took a heavy toll on their sweet spirits & they picked up a lot of bad habits from their aggressive, violent peers. We noticed an immediate change after we left on the road & had more time to fill them with a godly spirit from



Mommy Esther gives Devotions!

studying God's Word. EVERY MORNING AFTER BREAKFAST the 4 oldest (ages 7½, 6, 4½ & 3) are responsible for cleaning the breakfast area thus freeing the two Moms to potty the younger ones & nurse the babies. Without this help & more from them throughout the day, we probably wouldn't get much time to teach them, as there is so much physical work involved in caring for small children.

AT A CERTAIN TIME EVERY MORNING (we've found that in the mornings is when the children are most receptive), we stop work & I take them to a private corner where we do our devotions & memory work. I never try to hurry their Word & review time because they need to know it's special & the most important aspect of our lives where we get our strength & inspiration & purpose. During this time, the other mother usually takes the little ones for activities & other housework.

IN THE PAST FIVE MONTHS WE'VE WORKED CHRONOLOGICALLY THRU' THE ENTIRE BIBLE using the comic-strip version published by Cook which was recommended in the FN. The kids loved doing this. And they really got a good understanding of the Bible & saw how God was teaching His people to live. Now we're working thru

TK Vol. 1 in the same way, & it's really an eye-opener for them to be seeing how the Family began as we read some of those old leadership Letters which they never heard before!—The children are our LTs! I've found it's better to do studies, as the lessons or stories stick much better than just reading a story from here or there.

FOR VERSE REVIEW, WE MAKE A CHART with 4 columns, one for each child, with 10-15 spaces each. This makes about 40 verses reviewed unitedly each day! As each child finishes he can have a little free time while the rest finish their columns. This gives them incentive to do a good job. Using this method of review faithfully for 4-5 months now, the oldest children are taking the initiative to learn new verses they find at the end of the TKs that they read in their freetime. It's giving them such a hunger & understanding of the Word as we talk about the verses they learn & we learn new ones often to keep them inspired.

AS FOR TEACHING THE 3 Rs, again consistency is very important. Without consistency or doing a little every day or very frequently, it could even do more damage than good, as it makes learning hard & they become bored because their accomplishments are few.

WHEN I HAD JUST ONE

A Lesson On Discipline!

A sobering true story on the importance of consistency in discipline!

"For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, & stubbornness is as iniquity & idolatry..." (1 Sam. 15:23)

From Lydia Lightman; MWMI:

ZACHARIAS & I HAD BEEN MARRIED ABOUT 2 MONTHS, when the Lord told me that He would give us a son named Johannes (Norwegian for John). It was one day after we had a heavy argument I ran to our room crying desperately out to the Lord to help me as our relationship was not so good at that time. The Lord comforted me & told me to open my Bible, which I did.

MY EYES FELL STRAIGHT ON THE VERSE IN LUKE 1:13 which says, "Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; & thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, & thou shalt call his name John". It was as though the verse came to life & struck me right in my heart with such power! My system name is Elisabeth, so you can imagine my astonishment as it fitted us so well. I of course got the victory instantly & praised the Lord through my tears.

WE HAD GOTTEN MARRIED TOTALLY BY FAITH as the Lord had clearly shown & confirmed it to us, but for me it was totally against my natural feelings. My Sagittary blue starry eyes were always looking dreamingly toward the horizon, expecting my Knight in silvery armour on his white horse to appear! Hal At that time I could not see how Zach could be that knight, but I got scripture upon scripture where the Lord said He would do "a new thing... & make a way in the wilderness, & rivers in the deserts." (Isa. 43:19) And "make a tender plant grow, as a root out of a dry ground". (Isa. 53:2)

THIS REALLY GAVE ME FAITH that God could plant Love in my heart for him if I would only believe like a child & obey. I did, but it took about half a year before the Lord could come through my pride & make me yielded enough to receive & give the Love He had promised me. God bless Zach! He really schtuck, as it was not very easy to live with me. And He did, not only with the love which He gave us for each other (& still today we are madly in love, 7 years later, TYJ!), but also by giving him a child, which he had been longing for for such a long time. (He was 38 years old & I was 23.)

SO THE LORD HAD HEARD HIS PRAYER & I should bear him a son. It was very encouraging to me, but I did not tell it to him as I decided to still stay in my shell! How could I? I just kept it in my heart, & 3 months later I got pregnant. On the 20th of May 1975, our little double Taurus was born. Yes, it was a boy & we were so happy! I still didn't tell Zach that I knew his name as I gradually had been convinced during all these months that "Johannes" was a rather long & old-fashioned name. Besides, "names could not be so important; I'm sure I could find a better name for him". GHM!

BUT THE LORD IS FAITHFUL & after a couple of weeks; & me busy searching for other names, Zach came home from litnessing with a happy, glowing face, saying that he knew what we should call him. On his way home from town there had been a girl with a little child sitting beside him on the train. The young mommy told Zach that the boy's name was Johannes. Instantly the Lord warmed Zach's heart, & told him that that was to be the name of his son.

YOU CAN IMAGINE MY SURPRISE & shame when Zach told me what the Lord already had revealed to me 12 months ago. Thank the Lord for His patience & mercy! I of course agreed & felt a big burden lifted off my shoulders, PTL! I include all this in Johannes' story just to give you a clear picture of how his life got started, & how that always has given us faith for him, even through the hardest times, knowing he was truly sent to us from the Lord. TYJ!

JOHANNES GREW UP & WAS AS HEALTY & LOVING AS HE WAS STUBBORN! —HA! When he reached the age of 2-3 years, we used to be very loving, but very strict with him, requiring total obedience through the 1-2-3 method. However, he was so strong-willed & stubborn at times that we felt very incapable of raising him. I know now that the biggest mistake we made was that we were not consistent enough, as we let things slip by as it suited us, & that is the worst thing to do at that age.

AS A RESULT, BOTH HE & US LOST THE CONVICTION OF HIM BEING OBEDIENT, as we sometimes tolerated it when he

CHILD I was able to give him a lot more individual attention & he is more advanced than the others in these areas. But I am happy to see that the others want to be like their big brother & it gives them an incentive to know they can do it too, even tho' I can't give them such as much personal attention as he got in the beginning. He's the bellwether whom the rest follow!

SO, AFTER REVIEW WE DO READING. In between their turns reading with me (either from Ladybird readers, FC material or TKs) they work individually on their arithmetic & writing lessons which I prepare ahead of time. This "juggling" method works very well & enables us to get more done. I give them

each something to work on in between their turns with me. This way I can teach 3 at once & now the 4th (3 years old) is starting to be worked in too. By doing these things consistently every school day (about 4-5 days per week), they are making so much progress that I never want to go back to my old method of "sometimes this, sometimes that".

FOR THEIR SCIENCE, NATURE & HISTORY LESSONS we have three good children's encyclopedias which we use to look up things to answer their questions when they ask them. For example when they asked their Daddy why he put oil in the van, Philip was able to take the book & give them a simple

class on the basics of friction & motor vehicle engines. Of course that went on & on until they had covered all kinds of subjects, such as how oil is pumped out of the ground, different energy sources, generators etc. Kids never stop asking questions!

IDEAS WILL BE USEFUL TO OTHERS, that large families can travel for Jesus! We love it, & the kids love it too! Also, as we decided to get mobile the Lord started using the children in a singing ministry as well as their litnessing, which is really exciting to all of us. So we're just seeing a lot of good fruits in just trusting the Lord & following where He leads! WLY! Love, Esther O.

RECOMMENDED: Curriculum & Slides!

Word-based! Cheaper & less time-consuming than other correspondence courses!

From Telerisha Psalms; U.S.A.: I'D LIKE TO LET EVERYONE KNOW OF A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CURRICULUM that I recently discovered. I was one of the first to learn about the Calvert School of Correspondence about 4 years ago in the U.S. But recently I heard of the "A. Beka Book Publications" in Pensacola, Florida.

THE WHOLE CURRICULUM REVOLVES AROUND GOD'S WORD—everything from phonics to science. Scriptures are throughout the children's work & the reading books teach Godly lessons. But what is also good about this program is that it is not just a correspondence course for only one child (altho' they have that too), but is a teaching curriculum that can be used with as many children as you like of each grade level for as many years as you need to.

YOU NEED ONLY BUY THE MAIN TEACHER'S CURRICULUM BOOK at a cost of \$100 for that grade level & then you can teach that grade level year

after year, only having to repurchase the workbooks for the individual child, which costs from \$40-\$80 depending on how many courses you choose to teach your child. For my family of 5 children I ordered the 1st & 2nd grade, plus a few teaching aids, plus a few kindergarten materials, all for \$290. But the beauty of it is, we can teach 1st & 2nd grade as often as we like now & to as many as we want. You can order as many or as few courses as you want for each grade level. We picked out phonics, language & math only for now as we usually don't have time to give the children school for more than 3 hours a day, if that!

IN ORDER TO GET THIS CURRICULUM YOU MUST BE A SCHOOL. The representative we spoke to said that anyone can be a school (pick your school name), but it helps, if they ask, to tell them you have at least 5 students. They do have a correspondence course, for grades 1-6, at \$285 per child per grade,

as opposed to the other program costing \$40-80 per child after you purchase the initial curriculum guide at \$100 for each grade.

THEIR ADDRESS IS: A Beka Book Publications Pensacola Christian College 125 St. John Street Pensacola, Florida 32503 U.S.A.

P.S. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE SLIDE PROJECTORS, you can obtain beautiful slides of the Old & New Testaments to share with Family & friends by requesting a catalogue from the following address & then choose whichever slides you would like to order:

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WE'RE LEAVING FOR S.A. IN 4 DAYS so we'll be writing again from down South. Hallelujah! Love, Tele & David Psalms